

The Election Meeting of the Congregation of the United Evangelical Church was held on Friday, November 25, 1977, with 47 voting members in attendance. The meeting was called to order by Council President George A. Tuerk, Jr. and opened with a prayer by Pastor Hengen. Gifts of \$1,000 each were received from Mrs. Claire Hengen on behalf of the Ladies' Aid Society and Mrs. Mildred Gronberg on behalf of the Women's Guild. It was announced that the profits from the all-church sour beef and oyster supper approximate \$2,300.

The minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on February 18, 1977 were read and approved as submitted.

President Tuerk announced the resignation of Mrs. Slechta as our church secretary, due to her husband's job. An ad is to be placed in the newspaper, and the person hired will be someone from outside the congregation.

Vice-President Louis Parker, Jr. presented the proposed budget for 1978. Changes over the 1977 budget are as follows:

- Salaries--up \$2,780, including the addition of an assistant sexton
- Maintenance--Church--up \$1,550
- Maintenance--Parsonage--down \$100
- Other Church Expenses--up \$1,620, including a new employee health insurance program at \$800
- Pastoral Expenses--up \$197
- Special Church Expenses--up \$200
- Benevolence--up \$700.

The total increase in the 1978 proposed budget was \$7,127. Additionally, it was recommended that \$5,000 for reupholstering the pews, and \$5,000 for repainting the sanctuary, be withdrawn from the Memorial Fund. Pastor Hengen suggested that an additional \$2,000 be added for the purchase of new hymnals, and he noted that 150 of these have already been paid for. There followed a lengthy discussion of the use and purposes of the Memorial Fund, including the recommendation that funds received in the Improvement Fund envelopes be used specifically for renovations and improvements. Earl Jackson pointed out that to continue to delay making the necessary repairs to our buildings merely makes the repairs more expensive when we finally do them. George Sauer moved that we borrow \$10,000 from the Memorial Fund to reupholster the pews and repaint the sanctuary; that a Challenge Fund be established to replace the money; and that all monies received in Improvement Fund envelopes go to the sanctuary improvement fund. Mrs. Clara Wise seconded the motion, and it was carried, with Mr. Single and Mr. Voelker opposed. It was the consensus of the group that the pews should be done before the church is repainted.

A motion by Mr. Bond, seconded by Mrs. Wise, to increase the music and choir supplies allocation to \$400 was defeated.

Margaret Myrick moved that \$50 be added to the budget for a program for young adults. Pastor Hengen seconded the motion, and it was carried.

The proposed budget as amended by the Congregation was passed by a vote of 27 to 10.

The next item of business was the election of church council members. Those elected were Earl Jackson, May Getz, George A. Tuerk, Jr., J. Edwin Myers, Louis Oberlander, and Margaret Craig.

Mr. Tuerk reported that Mr. Single is looking into a reversion clause on the deed to the church grounds, and he thanked him for the work he has put into this task.

Using two of the the three new overhead projectors purchased by the Church School, Pastor Hengen completed the presentation of the budget by showing how the regular line-item budget may be expressed as a programmatic budget, and how this programmatic budget fits the goals and objectives we have be developing and using. Members of the Congregation were given copies of the update of the goals and objectives. This updated reported is to be addressed more completely at the January meeting.

The final item of business was the presentation of a sound filmstrip on the proceedings of General Synod II held in July, 1977 in Washington, D.C.

There being no other business before the Congregation, the meeting was adjourned. Pastor Hengen led the group in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole P. Weidel

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Recording Secretary