

TEAM meeting June 24, 2008 King of Glory

Attendance:

Sharon Bellak, Mae Haines, Joyce Cain, Hertta Holfeld, Gene Kortier, Sharon Griffin, J. C. Pontiff, Bill Boland, Pastor Sally Cook, Pastor Jerry Nordsiek, Darrell Hargreaves, Pastor Gary Logan, Bob Memoli

Bob: Introduction about how we have become very close friends through this process.

Pastor Sally: prayer

Questions which came up during the listening post sessions were discussed.

The following format will be used for the written ballot:

**West Pasco Resolution for Consolidation**

**yes**

**no**

Ken Aicher is being consulted about abstaining votes. Ken is also being consulted about whether a simple majority or a 2/3 majority is needed to pass the resolution. A ballot which has both yes and no marked is invalid.

**Format for the Congregation Meeting:**

People sign in and refer to a roster of members.

\*Prayer

\*Purpose and outline the procedures for the meeting:

Read aloud the Guiding Principles

Read aloud the Resolution

(We read these because of their significance.)

Vote on a time limit (15 minutes) for discussion.

Discussion

Call the question

Vote

\*Read aloud the Guiding Principles.

\*Read aloud the Resolution.

\*Verbal vote on the time limit (extensions are permitted)

\*Discussion -focus on the Resolution. (15 minutes)

\*Call the question.

\*Prayer.

\*Vote –ballots

Ask those not eligible to leave, and distribute one ballot each.

Silence during voting.

Minimum of 3 persons to count the ballots (2 non-council people)

\*Sing a song during counting.

\*As we share the results, stress the significance of this vote and be respectful of each others' feelings.

\*Closing prayer.

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Further comments:

It was suggested to use the ELW p. 317 for the prayer before the vote.

This process is similar to the blending of two families with a new marriage, and the people involved become stronger. The kids come along, and changes come right along with them. We are like new parents, who sacrifice for the sake of the family.

The office location will be chosen by the new council, according to efficiency.

Pastors will rotate north and south. Council will provide staffing.

Everyone in the congregation will be involved somehow – all have a gift to give.

We are birthing something new, according to our vision.

Share the excitement and joy, and show confidence.

Be sensitive.

Some people still are not informed.

Dream dreams big enough to include God.

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Closing prayer—Pastor Gary

The congregation meetings will all take place no later than 11:00 a.m. Sunday. Someone from each church should then call Bob on his cell phone 992-9898 with the results. He will let us know the totals.

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Darrell: party July 13<sup>th</sup>

J.C. :party August 3<sup>rd</sup>

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Here is the letter read aloud last Sunday in church at King of Glory, showing the excitement of new membership (edited so it can be shared)

June 15, 2008

Dear Pastor Gary

We are writing this letter to let you know how touched we were last week at the multi-church service. The service alone was most touching and inspirational but when coupled with the emotions and spirits around us, it was overwhelming.

We had planned to wait until the consolidation was further down the road before we made our final decision about joining, however, we have determined that, if possible, we would like very much to be members of King of Glory when the change comes through.

It was very sad leaving the church we had gone to for the last several years, and we didn't know how we were going to find what the future held for us, but as you said, "God takes us by the hand and leads us"; and lead us He did.

We are so excited and inspired and curious as to where this wonderful road is going to take us. We are so grateful to be a part of this great adventure in faith and truly look forward to being whatever help, in

any small way, that we can.

Sincerely

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

I asked their permission to read this during the sermon. It was extremely encouraging to the congregation to hear their words. After worship, another person came up and said that she, too, didn't want to wait any longer to become a part of our journey into the new church.

This is exactly the kind of excitement we are praying the consolidation brings. It's here. What a blessing.

PR Gary

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Here is the clarification of abstaining votes researched by Bill Boland:

From: Boland, Bill [mailto:BBoland@tiresplus.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2008 9:45 AM  
To: revjerryn@joyful-spirit.org  
Subject: From Roberts Rules Website/Model Constitution

The only reference to dissolving in the model constitution is:

C6.04. Affiliation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America may be terminated as follows:

- a. This congregation takes action to dissolve.
- b. This congregation ceases to exist.
- c. This congregation is removed from membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America according to the procedures for discipline of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- d. This congregation follows the procedures outlined in \*C6.05.

They then do not discuss how to dissolve or what "takes action to dissolve" is.

All references to voting majorities whether simple or 2/3rds uses language referring to "voting members present"

\*C6.05. This congregation may terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by the following procedure:

- a. A resolution indicating the desire of this congregation to terminate its relationship must be adopted at a legally called and conducted special meeting of this congregation by a two-thirds majority of the voting members present.

The wise and learned Pastor Gary is correct:

Question 6:

Do abstention votes count?

Answer:

The phrase "abstention votes" is an oxymoron, an abstention being a refusal to vote. To abstain means to refrain from voting, and, as a consequence, there can be no such thing as an "abstention vote."

In the usual situation, where either a majority vote or a two-thirds vote is required, abstentions have absolutely no effect on the outcome of the vote since what is required is either a majority or two thirds of the votes cast. On the other hand, if the vote required is a majority or two thirds of the members present, or a majority or two thirds of the entire membership, an abstention will have the same effect as a "no" vote. Even in such a case, however, an abstention is not a vote. [RONR (10th ed.), p. 387, l. 7-13; p. 388, l. 3-6; p. 390, l. 13-24; see also p.66 of RONR In Brief.]

Bill Boland  
bboland@tiresplus.com

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Respectfully and prayerfully submitted,  
Sharon Bellak  
TLC vice-chair and secretary