

**Interfaith Action of Evanston
Delegates Meeting
May 11, 2009, 7:00 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church**

Minutes of Meeting

Diane Currano called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., after one-half hour of fellowship and refreshments.

Diane thanked Susie LaBelle of Trinity Church for the arrangements. She then explained Sheri's departure to California, Seth's departure from the board, Claire's move to Florida, and Theresa's marriage and move to St. Paul, Minnesota. This leaves several vacancies on the board that will be filled by the Nominating Committee.

Ralph presented the financial report and explained that there is a total of \$41,599 in the checking and savings account.

Sue described the Hospitality Center and the Warming Centers and reported on the number of guests visiting the Hospitality Center from 2006 to 2009. The numbers are increasing.

Renee Lanam described the Friday Sack Lunch Program at First Congregational Church. She encouraged groups and individuals to volunteer by either shopping, making lunches, and/or serving.

Diane described the IA committees and encouraged people to sign up for the Thanksgiving Service Committee .

Carolyn Gifford introduced the program by explaining the program series on Homelessness that has been presented this past year at Delegates meetings. This evening's program was on Housing and Homelessness, presented by Sue Calder, chair of Evanston Alliance on Homelessness and facilitator of Evanston Housing 4 All; and George Paul, MD., Connections for the Homeless board member and member of Housing Committee and Evanston landlord.

Dr. Paul spoke about his seven years as a landlord and how he barter low rent for services. He looks for property to purchase and manage as affordable housing, and wants to spread the word to other landlords that this can be advantageous to them.

Sue Calder spoke about her work in trying to eliminate homelessness in Evanston. Over the course of each year 750-1,000 Evanstonians experience homelessness, and another 3,000 are at risk. Her holistic approach to ending homelessness is to get people to live to their maximum self-sufficiency. Foreclosures in Evanston: 2007 – 179; 2008 – 278; 2009 (first 3 months) – 91.

After numerous questions from the audience, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

