

Community of Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes

February 17, 2022

Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Ken Colberg, Mike Duesenberg, Dennis Engman, Mike Hamernick, Andy Hennig, Mike Mathisen, Dan McMahon, Mark Schuneman, Michelle Sherman, Darrin Vick

Excused: Angie Way, Wendy Fitzsimmons

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Mike Hamernick opened in Prayer

Approval of minutes –

- The minutes from the January Council meeting were approved
- The minutes from the Annual Meeting were approved

Pastor Angie's Report – presented by Pastor Darrin

- Things to celebrate:
 - 50 people at Valentine's banquet
 - Everyone did a great job at the Annual meeting
- Worship:
 - Worship "Seasons" series finished and was well-received. The Galatians series has started
 - Ash Wednesday: 10:30 Traditional, 11:30 drive through communion and ashes, 6:30 service
 - Lenten service schedule:
 - 4:30 Traditional Lent service, 5:00-6:15 soup supper \$5.00,
 - 6:30 Acoustic Contemporary Lent service (Andy Collins' group is doing clean up)
 - Sundays in Lent – Five questions of Discipleship
 - Wednesdays in Lent – Spiritual practices related to the five questions
- Saturday March 26th Prayer retreat at the Christo Center with Chris LePoutre (9am-2pm) (\$10.00)
- Pick up Choir will be back for Palm Sunday, singing "When I survey the wondrous Cross"
- Christ in the Passover Seder meal for first communion families: Irina Orf, Maundy Thursday 5:45-6:45
- (Pastorally- Melinda's Father in Law passed away this last week)

Pastor Darrin's Report

- Council Orientation to start off the new year for new and returning council members is important
- Copy of Church Constitution provided to each council member to read on their own time. Five key categories of members can be summarized as follows
 - Council – support and protect the church. Values, Mission, Fiduciary
 - Staff – Equip and run the church. Manage their areas of ministry
 - Senior Pastor – Shepherd and lead the congregation
 - Congregation – Be the church. Do the ministry

- Executive team – Counsel the council and the senior pastor. Discusses, plans, and makes recommendations by unanimous consent to bring to council.
- Pastor Darrin attended the LCMC Board of trustees meeting in California
- Pastor Darrin will attend LCMC leader care retreat in San Antonio the week of 2/21

Childrens Ministry – presented by Mark Schuneman

- Our HISKids attendance was lower throughout January but picked back up this last Sunday (34 kids). This seems to track with coming down off the COVID surge in our community. The last three times we've had HISKids, we've had at least one new family trying us out, and they have returned. 2 of those families are from Magnuson.
- Our Egg Hunt volunteer sign-up is open, and we'll be asking the congregation to start taking home eggs to fill with candy this coming Sunday. There are 40+ volunteer spots to fill for the Egg Hunt, which is quite a lot!
- Registration for VBS and FCA Camp this summer will open on March 1st. VBS is limited to 120 participants and needs 40+ volunteers. That signup will be opening very soon.
- Prayer request that God will provide the volunteers we need for these events
- Prayer request for Britta's family in the schooling decision for Lillian for next year

Students – Presented by Dan McMahon

- Refuge – March week 1 - Students will join Ash Wednesday service, with pizza onsite afterwards for younger students and Chick-Fil-A for senior high. Week 2 is spring break – event planned for a Trampoline park.
- Sundays in March – “Refuge Rise and Shine” will be a new opportunity for students between services. The purpose is connecting with students on Sunday mornings to help them feel that they belong. This will be a time and place for them to meet up for fellowship and food

Service and Missions – presented by Michelle Sherman

- Good core team meeting held on January 19
- Stamp out hunger – tentative for May 14. We will work with Perry Peterson from the White Bear Area Food Shelf to coordinate using the church as a space for organizing the donations
- Garage Sale – Joy Erickson and Mike Mathisen are planning the event
- A \$1,000 donation was made from the mission's discretionary fund to support musical instruments for Angaza Gimbi's new church being built in Tanzania. This gift honors the legacy of the missions work with the Gimbi's and Arlene Handlos. Jeff and Diane Hovis are also donating altar cloths that Angaza will be able to take back to Tanzania after his trip to MN this spring for his daughter's graduation.
- Mike Duesenberg is the new council rep for Service and Missions

Seniors – presented by Ken Colberg

- ROMEO met on February 3rd for breakfast at Dennys
- JULIET met on February 7th for lunch at Chile's
- Valentine's banquet on February 10th was well attended
- Fare for all was held on February 11th with the assistance of senior volunteers

- Quilters met on Mondays and Thursdays
- Senior bible study – Wednesday at 4:00 pm
- Ladie’s circles – actively meeting throughout the week

Worship – introduced Andy Hennig as new council re

Adults/Welcome – No report

Treasurer’s Report – Mike Mathisen

- Reviewed Financial Highlights report for January 2022. Missions was self-funded in January 2022.
- Need to adopt new corporate resolution. Allows officers to sign in relation to sales of stock, mortgages, deed. Motion made to adopt “.....” motion carries.
- Approval of housing allowances. This is the portion of pastor’s salary which is determined by the pastor that is not subject to federal taxes. Motion made to approve the housing allowances as submitted by Pastor Darrin and Pastor Angie. Motion approved.
- Monthly financial report will be communicated to the congregation starting this month in the e-note and in the bulletin.
- LADC is looking into a toddler playground upgrade, which does not come out of the church finances. They are applying for a grant of \$35k.
- Signed a new lease to replace two copiers: Canon color copiers on a 60 month lease.
- Computer servers are full. Estimate to replace them was \$20k plus annual expense of \$3k-\$4k. We are going a different route by using Sharepoint as primary method to store data. Servers will only carry a certain number of years. Office 365 gives us 26TB of free storage to use as backup.
- Christi Torgusson has done a great job at getting details and options for the copiers and servers.
- Senior bussing - \$300 expense every other week. Motion made to use Love Pours Out designated fund to cover the cost of senior bussing in 2022. Motion approved.
- Mike Mathisen will bring a year-end balance of all funds at the next Council meeting.

Facilities – Mike Mathisen

- Discussed needed upgrade to chairs and tables in commons and the remaining mismatched chairs in the fellowship hall.
- Motion to authorize monies to fund the project. Monies will come from the designated chair fund, a memorial fund, funeral designated fund, and Masters Institute facilities use fund for a total of \$44k. Motion approved
- Motion made to authorize purchase of 250 stackable chairs for \$12k and ten upgraded tables for \$16k, totaling \$28k. Motion approved.
- Motion made to authorize purchase of \$11k for 105 chairs for the Fellowship Hall. Motion approved.
- Roof membrane arrived this past week. Remainder of materials should arrive in May. Estimated completion for the roof is July 1.
- \$163k in pledges received for the Canopy of Grace 2.0 new goal of \$550k.

- Reserve fund is planned to be split between an operating reserve fund of \$250k and the remainder in a building reserve fund.

Secretary – No report

Vice President – Mike Hamernick

- Galatians discussion group had 12 people after service on Sunday. The message was well-received.

President – Mark Schuneman

- Offering schedule is partially completed. Mark will send email reminders.

Other New Business - None

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

The next council meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sherman