

Community of Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes

October 27, 2022

Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Mike Duesenberg, Dennis Engman, Wendy Fitzsimmons, Mike Hamernick, Andy Hennig, Mike Mathisen, Dan McMahon, Mark Schuneman, Michelle Sherman, Darrin Vick, Angie Way.

Excused: Ken Colbert

Meeting called to order at 7:16 pm

Devotions – by Mark Schuneman

- **November devotion – Mike Duesenberg**

Approval of minutes –

- The minutes from the September Council meeting were approved.

Pastor Darrin's Report

- The Nominating Committee has been convened. Up to 4 positions on Council will need to be filled.
- If Council members know people to recommend, please send the names to Pastor Darrin and Mark to pass along to the nominating committee.
- Staff change – Linda Pickett has concluded her employment at CGLC, and we are grateful for her time on staff. Pastor Darrin is looking at other options for how we handle administrative support among our staff going forward.
- Reflections on the family meeting: Over 100 people attended on 10/9/22. A lot of positive feedback was received, as well as some concerns were expressed.
 - Young families, young adults and discipleship were clear priorities through the discussions.
 - Council discussion on our thoughts about the family meeting were shared.
 - Communication – The Current is now monthly, which will help improve communication.
 - Council members may send other thoughts to Pastor Darrin
- Facility items in response to Magnusson School “Dream Big” initiative. Here is the response to the question “What does the church want?”
 - CGLC wants to see God’s will be done in all our partner ministries and for those ministries to thrive!
 - CGLC needs each of our partner ministries to fairly contribute to the maintenance, upkeep and improvement of our current facilities as well as any potential future additions. A fair contribution from Magnusson school has been proposed and approved from the current \$10k per year to \$30k, \$50k, and \$70k in upcoming years.
 - CGLC does not want to incur any debt related to potential future building expansion that is primarily for the use of our ministry partners.
 - CGLC is not interested in selling land to the school

Pastor Angie's Report

- Christmas Preparation
 - Advent devotional will be coming out. Sundays' devotion will have a family component, with weekdays' devotions primarily for private devotional.
 - Christmas program – Sunday school, choir, bells – planning stages are in progress
 - Thanksgiving Eve planning
 - Charcuterie night – 40 women attended with lots of fun and laughter.

Children's Ministry – presented by Wendy Fitzsimmons

- Many new families are coming on Sundays, including from Magnusson school
- Family night went very well with a big turnout
- Numbers consistently around 40 children on Sunday morning
- Hype Night – 6-10 pm on 11/4, for 3rd – 6th grade. Magnusson school has also been invited.
- Christmas program practice scheduled for 12/17. Christmas program will be held on 12/18.
- Prayer requested for Britta with upcoming holidays and loss of grandparents earlier this year.

Students – Presented by Dan McMahon

- Exciting time in student ministries. Attendance remains high around 55 students. There is high energy and students are engaged and enjoying it.
- Refuge Rise n Shine on Sunday mornings has been well received by the students.
- Collaboration with other area churches continues. Last month the multi-church event was held at Bridgewood.
- Andrew Kelly has been extremely helpful with the students as well as leader meetings in his role as student ministries associate.
- Confirmation interviews show evidence that real ministry has been happening. Confirmation is 11/6.
- The Big Night on 11/2 will include filling boxes for Operation Christmas Child and fun activities onsite.
- The food packing event will have a designated student table in both time slots.
- A new message series is focused on prayer to help the students understand that prayer is less complicated and more powerful than we think.

Service and Missions – presented by Mike Duesenberg

- The Core Team Meeting was held at Church on October 17. Hannah picking up where Perry left off.
- The food packing event for MOH will be November 12. Volunteers are signing up online and in person. Otis will be here and writing enote. Jeff Hovis indicated we have almost \$6,000 available in our account to be used as needed, after paying out \$25,500.00 for the Food Packing Event.
- Diaper Drive starts this Sunday October 30. Diapers will go to the White Bear Food Shelf, as this is the biggest need this time of year.
- Looking to fill six volunteer slots at the White Bear Food Shelf Give a Gobble Thanksgiving event. Hannah is working to fill these six slots.

- Garage Sale 2023 planning will start early in 2023 with the first meeting in February. Same core team and adding Glenda Schuneman.
- Service & Missions budget meeting scheduled for November 8 during the lunch hour at a place TBD.
- Looking to schedule Core Team Meetings in 2023 for March, July, and September.
- Balance for general service and missions as of 9/30/2022 is (\$8,893.75). Monthly contributions for General Service and Missions in September were \$3,247.00, which is \$376.00 below the monthly expense outlay of \$3,650.00. Year to date contributions through September are \$23,956.25, which is below year-to-date expense outlay of \$32,850.00

Seniors – presented by Angie Way

- Celebration of Veterans event will be on November 10 at 11:30 in fellowship hall including a meal and interviews with CGLC veterans.
- Magnusson will serve the meal and their band will play some special music.

Worship – presented by Andy Hennig

- Andy met with choir director and organist Mark Hanson. Mark is seeking feedback on how he is doing and being received. Feedback can be given to Andy who will pass it along to Mark.
- Mark may change liturgical settings going forward
- Women's chorale may sunset due to lack of participation
- Choir robes will start being used again
- Choir folders need replacement

Adults/Welcome – presented by Dennis Engman

- Need more contemporary service ushers
- Exciting Sundays and events coming up.
- Prayers requested for new people coming through our doors, that we will see them, and they will know they are welcome here.
- 17 people are participating in the Catalyst group that just started

Treasurer's Report – presented by Mike Mathisen

- Financial report for September reviewed
- Endowment fund balances reviewed
- Reserve account balances reviewed
- Canopy of Grace 2.0 balances reviewed
- Approval requested to become a Proclaimer congregation for Mount Carmel for \$600 annually. Benefits include:

Members receive 50% on cabin rental

- Meals available at 20 % discount
- Retreats at 20% discount ongoing, and 50% discount on first retreat

- Motion made to become a proclaimer congregation at the \$600 annual level. Motion approved.
- Approval requested for Give-a-gobble campaign for White Bear Food Shelf
 - The food shelf is expecting to see increased need this year
 - Motion made to make a \$3,000 donation from Love Pours Out designated fund. Motion approved

Facilities – presented by Mike Mathisen

- The new boiler has been installed, tested, run and is within code.
- New accordion walls to divide Magnusson lunchroom are completed.
- 10 trees removed – 9 of them were ash trees were starting to fall. Numerous tree were also trimmed.
 - Motion made to approve the expenditure of \$7,900 to Cameron tree service to remove 10 trees and provide tree trimming services.
 - Motion approved
- Memorial tree program beginning discussions, more information to be provided at the next meeting.
- Need to replace folding wall between sanctuary and chapel. Safety issue that needs to be addressed because it is heavy. The expense will be \$6,890 to replace the wall. It would look similar to the current wall, but would be made of vinyl laminate. The color would be light oak that would complement the wood in the sanctuary
- Motion made to authorize \$7,000 to replace the folding wall in the sanctuary. Motion approved.

Secretary – no report

- Combined services

Vice President – presented by Mike Hamernick

- No report

President – Mark Schuneman

- Andy traditional, Mike D Contemporary 9 am, Wendy Contemporary 10:30
- Next meeting 11/17/22

Other New Business – None

Motion made to approve Magnusson bake sale on 12/18/22. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sherman