

Community of Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes

December 15, 2022

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Excused: Mike Mathisen

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Approval of minutes

- The minutes from the October Council meeting were approved.
- The minutes from the November Council meeting were approved.

Pastor Darrin's Report

- Nominating committee update:
 - Wendy will continue for a second term.
 - Council: Carl Albing, Stephanie Battista, Carol Carlson, Sam Hunter
 - Audit: Jeff Montgomery
 - Nominating: Frank Carlson, Nicole Hamernick, Barb Hunter
- Magnusson School space update: A potential solution of purchasing a large home of 7,000 sq ft on ¾ acres adjacent to our property has been discussed. The owners initially reached out to the church and school to see if there was interest in leasing the space. A suggestion was made to consider purchasing the property because the leasing options were not optimal. The school would acquire the funding for purchase and renovations with ownership by the church. The idea is that the middle school would move to the house, and free up space for the elementary school within the church building. Many details need to be worked out first, and the owners are not in a rush to make it happen. Pastor Darrin will give an update at the annual meeting that this proposal is under consideration. A future vote would need to be put in front of the congregation when the details are in place.

Pastor Angie's Report

- Christmas program is coming up on Sunday, 12/18.
- The Jammie Jam, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day worship services are all planned. Prayer stations will be a large part of the New Year's Day service.
- Attendance has been rising with over 400 people in attendance on the first two Sundays in December.

Children's Ministry – presented by Wendy Fitzsimmons

- Christmas program practice by the children will be this Saturday, 12/17.
- Prayer requested that the message that Jesus is the reason for the season will be clearly heard.
- Jammie Jam – Wednesday 12/21 at 6:00 pm. Crafts, Birthday cake for Jesus, story acted out for Jesus' birth. Keep inviting and encouraging others to do so.

- Next core meeting January 9th.

Students – Presented by Dan McMahon

- The Big Night was a service night including Feed My Starving Children, cookie and cards for first responders, costumes for Christmas program, and deep cleaning around the church.
- Refuge Christmas party and student led worship. Small groups were randomly given parts of the service – opening prayer, closing prayer, reading, 4 mystery boxes. The students were engaged in creating a meaningful experience.

Service and Missions – presented by Mike Duesenberg

- Abby from Corrie's House will be coming to talk with staff and will be bringing donuts.
- A possible vision trip to the Dominican Republic with Otis from Mission of Hope is being looked at for Pastor Darrin, Jeanne and maybe Hannah. This would be early 2023.
- Service and Missions core Team will begin writing in the Current in 2023.
- Service & Missions budget fully funded for 2022. Year-end giving has been great.
- Highlights from November are \$14,500 was transferred from various Service & Missions reserve accounts to General Service & Missions. \$2,000 was paid from Operation Home discretionary account to Project Home. \$2,000 was paid to the Family Service Center from their reserve account. \$5,600 was paid to Mission of Hope. \$3,590.58 was received in contributions for the Diaper Drive.
- Balance for general service and missions as of 11/30/2022 is (\$477.79). Monthly contributions for General Service and Missions in November were \$2,586.00, which is \$1,064.04 below the monthly expense outlay of \$3,650.00. Year to date contributions through November are \$29,372.21, which is below year-to-date expense outlay of \$40,150.00

Seniors – presented by Ken Colberg

- JULIET gathering was held on 12/5 at Panino's.
- ROMEO gathering was held on 12/2 at Denny's.
- Fare for All held on 12/9/22 from 1-3 PM. Holiday packs and leftover Thanksgiving packs were available.
- Two funerals were hosted with great service by the team.
- Circles and Quilters are actively meeting.

Worship – presented by Andy Hennig

- Thanksgiving service and Advent Vespers went very well. We may consider moving the vespers service to a weekend other than Thanksgiving in future years.
- Sanctuary audio has a small crackle. This is being managed for now, with a potential audio refresh needed in 2024.
- Continuing to investigate Hearing Loop technology to help those with hearing aids hear audio feed directly.

- The pipe organ is 60 years old and there are suggested updates. The computer chip is powered by a battery, and there is not a back-up. The replacement of the entire organ console would be a larger project that is being further researched.
- The choir rehearsals now include a devotion and closing prayer. Weekly treats are being shared as well.
- Pickup choir has performed three times this fall.
- Handbell choirs are also performing on multiple occasions.
- The choir is bonding and could be considered a small group.
- A couple in the church would like to buy a new piano, up to \$5,000, for the choir rehearsal room.
- A “Thank You” banquet is being planned for May for all who participated in worship, music, and tech this year.

Adults/Welcome – presented by Dennis Engman

- Welcome team is gearing up for the Christmas season.
- Groups – the core team is meeting monthly and discussing potential changes for the fall.

Treasurer’s Report – presented by Pastor Darrin in Mike’s absence

- Reviewed General Operating Fund for November
 - To fully fund ministry this year, there is \$195,000 remaining which is very obtainable based on previous years.
 - Mission funding has been met for the year.
- Reviewed Canopy of Grace balances
- Additional questions on the 2023 budget can be discussed at the next meeting on 1/12/23 when we plan to approve the budget.
- Motion made “to authorize Paradigm and Charles Schwab to make the following changes to our account number 3564-7748. Remove Chad Hanson, Frank Peak, Cynthia Rose as authorized individuals for the account and please add Paul Martinson Chair of the Endowment Committee, Michael Mathisen Council Treasurer/Executive Director, Administration and Mark Schuneman Council President as the new authorized individuals for the Community of Grace Lutheran Church (CGLC) Endowment Investment account.” Motion approved.

Facilities – presented by Angie Way in Mike’s absence

- A new accordion door will be installed on 12/19/22.
- Cabling in the hallway will be updated on 12/19/22.
- Sunday school resource room is moving on 12/19/22.
- LADC Christmas program will be on 12/20/22.

Secretary – no report

Vice President – no report

President – Mark Schuneman

- Annual meeting is scheduled for 1/22/23 at 11:45 AM.
- Christmas eve and Christmas day offering: Mark will send out an email signup.
- January offering: Mark will send out an email signup.
- Next council meeting will be on 1/12/23.

Other New Business

- Wendy extended a heartfelt thank you to the Hennig family for the special music program on 12/3/22.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sherman