

## **Community of Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes**

**October 26, 2023**

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Present: Angie Way, Carol Carlson, Dennis Engman, Mike Hamernick, Mark Schuneman, Stephanie Battista, Darrin Vick, Carl Albing

Excused: Andy Hennig, Michelle Sherman, Sam Hunter, Mike Mathisen, Mike Duesenberg, Wendy Fitzsimmons

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- The minutes from the September Council meeting were approved.
- Motion was approved for the updated Sabbatical Leave Guidelines as sent by Michelle Sherman on 9/21/2023.

### **Pastor Darrin's Report**

- Attended an LCMC meeting at the beginning of October in St. Louis and he became a member of the Master's Institute (MI) Board of Directors.
- Search for President of MI, taking prayer and time to find this individual.
- Reflecting on MAP and LSI from earlier in the month.
  - LSI thoughts: We have a loving environment in the leadership at CGLC. We defer to one another and are not afraid to have difficult conversations but respect each other's points of view. We need structure in order to have more accountability, and we need to set standards of "success" and "failure."
  - There is a need for "clarity of vision" that needs to be articulated to the congregation as CGLC progresses through the listening, learning, and discerning project.
- November 12 will have a family meeting to continue listening, learning and discerning. This is who all CGLC.
- MCode was taken by Pastors Darrin and Angie, Mike Mathisen and Dan Lugo. This is to find out what motivates individuals in both life and work environments. From this discovery, there will be initiatives of developing a greater sense of transparency for the congregation relating to current events and Council representatives.
- November (TBD) during the Sunday services Mike Mathisen will give a financial update and then be available in a room (TBD) for further discussion or to answer specific questions.
- Nominating committee and endowment committee have been convened to begin searching for new members in 2024. The need for 2024:
  - 4 Nominating committee
  - 1 for Audit committee
  - 1 for endowment
  - Several for Council depending on second term availability.

### **Pastor Angie's Report**

- Spent a week at Mount Carmel teaching an Old Testament overview to 4 students. Developing a teaching curriculum is a great way to continue education.
- Food packing event which was positive! Ruben gave update and Source Matelas is overrun by gangs, and main Mission of Hope site is overrun and abandoned. Unfortunately, no ministry is able to be conducted out that space, but ministry continues to flourish on the Northern Campuses.
- New member classes have started, over 20 people in Catalyst. We continue to see new faces every Sunday.
- Communion training for older kids who would like to receive it.
- Several baptisms have occurred recently.
- Confirmation is on Sunday, November 5 which is also All Saints Sunday.
- Diaper Drive going until Thanksgiving service.
- November 2024 is the Mission trip to Mission of Hope in the Dominican Republic.
- Veterans Day celebration is on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. Magnuson middle school will be helping serve desserts.

#### **Children's Ministry – Wendy Fitzsimmons**

- No report, excused.

#### **Students –Stephanie Battista**

- Refuge great turnouts. Melinda has put out sign-up sheets for parents to bring snacks.

#### **Service and Missions – Mike Duesenberg**

- No report, excused.

#### **Seniors – Carol Carlson**

- No report.

#### **Worship – Pastor Darrin for Sam Hunter**

- Traditional worship center speakers will be on hold until 2024. Mike Mathisen and Dan Lugo are meeting with other contractors regarding other options to suffice. We are waiting to hear about year-end finances. The authorization of up to 50k is still in effect, but it is good stewardship to wait until the best timing.

#### **Groups – Carl Albing**

- Core group meeting has occurred. Dan and the team divided responsibilities to share the workload among the members. There is a focus of obtaining rough numbers for those connected in groups, current state, and to gain an understanding of those in need.

#### **Adults/Welcome – Dennis Engman**

- No report. Confirmed availability for 2<sup>nd</sup> council term.

**Treasurer's Report – Mark Schuneman for Andy Hennig**

- Reviewed August General Operating fund actuals and balances, including Missions funding.
- Reviewed August Endowment fund balances.
- Reviewed August Reserve Fund balances.
- Reviewed August Canopy of Grace balances.

**Facilities – Mike Mathisen**

- No report, excused.

**Secretary – Michelle Sherman**

- No report, excused.

**Vice President – Mike Hamernick**

- Confirmed availability for 2<sup>nd</sup> council term.

**President – Mark Schuneman**

- Michelle is unable to provide refreshments in November, but she will take December. November is undecided.
- November offering:
- 9am Contemporary: Mike H
- 9am Traditional: Andy Hennig
- 10:30am: Wendy Fitzsimmons
- Next meeting is Thursday, November 16.

**Other New Business**

- Pastor Darrin talked about staff raises for 2024. It is important to treat the staff as well as possible. Personnel committee has been notified and a suggested range given of 3.5 - 4%. Personnel committee will discuss and relay the final “pool” of funding for Darrin to disseminate. Staff compensation increases aren't across the board, yet several factors go into merit increases.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Hamernick