

Community of Grace Church Council November 21st, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Mike Hamernick, Andy Hennig, Tim Meier, Darrin Vick, Angie Way, Carol Carlson, Dennis Engman, Carl Albing, Craig Pearson, Wendy Fitzsimmons, Joe Ehrman, Sam Hunter, and Mike Mathisen

Excused: Stephanie Battista

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Wendy shared a devotion on gratitude.

Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes from the October Council meeting were reviewed and approved.

Pastor Darrin's Report

- Attended 2 retreats
 - Men's Retreat – 16 CGLC members with 22 from Bridgewood. Great time and already making plans for next year.
 - ARC Retreat - highlight to be with friends and colleagues. Same keynote speaker (Marc Spencer) as Men's retreat! Excellent content that continues to inspire.
- Grace Together Project
 - Darrin is meeting with all sub-teams to touch base and determine need for his level of involvement.
 - School name change has been communicated – feedback has been varied but mostly well-received. Updates for practical things will be covered prior to larger branding updates.
 - Working on a video to understand our shared history and future as a church and school.
 - Working on donor development for end-of-year
 - Darrin is speaking at school Grandparent's Day Chapel service on 11/26.
- Sabbatical Request for 2026
 - Would like CGLC to apply for Lilly Foundation's Clergy Renewal Program for a grant to offset costs for sabbatical. Due by 3/12/25 for 2026 program. Plan for 3-4 month sabbatical. Looking for a congregational team to help with application process.
- Motion made to support Pastor Darrin to receive a sabbatical in 2026. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Pastor Angie's Report

- Veteran's day celebration with school kids was very well done and appreciated. Very much a Grace Together project!
- 24-hour Prayer vigil was great
- Hymn sing on 11/14 was wonderful – each shared meanings behind their own choice of hymn. Looking to repeat this again.
- Preparations for Advent and Christmas are underway

Children's Ministry – Wendy Fitzsimmons

- 3 GraceKids teachers were on Mission Trip
- Some past families are coming back and reconnecting with the kids ministry
- Refugee students working with team on Christmas program
- Jammie Jam will be at the Contemporary services on 12/22

Students – Tim Meier

- Confirmation service and interviews with students were very rewarding

Service and Missions – Joe Ehrman

- Diaper Drive is well underway – repacking on Sunday was a good flurry of activity. Received about ½ of last year's total so far. Discussed ways to keep participation strong.
- Toy Drive with Project Home and CG Christian School coming in early December
- Garage Sale will be on June 14th, 2025
- DR Mission team is thankful for support!

Seniors – Carol Carlson

- Packing 150 bags for seniors in nursing homes this Saturday
- Christmas Tea coming back on December 7th

Worship – Sam Hunter

- No Report

Groups – Carl Albing

- Groups Survey has been sent out to get feedback on connection and vitality of groups. About 50 responses so far.

Adults/Welcome – Craig Pearson

- 8 new members joined congregation from Catalyst group
- Welcome teams are very appreciated for their service each week

Treasurer's Report – Dennis Engman

- Reviewed October General Operating fund actuals and balances, including Missions funding.
- Reviewed October Endowment fund balances.
- Reviewed October Reserve fund balances.
- End-of-year appeal letters are being sent out this week

Facilities – Mike Mathisen

- Next Phase of Furnace updates was completed early. Received a \$7K discount for completing the project in a time beneficial to the installers. Only 1 more phase to be completed for office area. Preparations for the A/C units in this same area are being discussed.
- Fence work around waste containers and playground has been completed in accord with the request from the city.

Ministry Funding Plan for 2025 - Mike Mathisen

- Mike shared year-end projections and various proposals for the 2025 ministry funding plan
- Council discussed various alternatives for plans in 2025 to be reviewed further at December meeting.
- Final budget will be approved at Annual Meeting January 26, 2025.

Secretary – Stephanie Battista

- No report

Vice President – Andy Hennig

- No report

President – Mike Hamernick

- December Offering: Stephanie 9:00 am will cover Contemporary, Carol will cover 9:00 am Traditional, Tim and Sam will cover 10:30 Contemporary
- Thanksgiving Eve Service: Offering will be covered by Carl and Joe
- Next Meeting is December 19th at 7:00 pm
- January Meeting will be Tuesday, January 14th (earlier to prep for Annual Meeting)

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by Andy Hennig