

Community of Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes

December 21, 2023

Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Angie Way, Mike Hamernick, Mark Schuneman, Stephanie Battista, Darrin Vick, Carl Albing, Andy Hennig, Mike Mathisen, Wendy Fitzsimmons, Sam Hunter, Carol Carlson

Excused: Michelle Sherman, Mike Duesenberg, Dennis Engman

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes from the November Council meeting were approved.

Pastor Darrin's Report

- Nominating committee was able to fill the open 2024 positions for Council, Nominating Committee, Endowment Committee, and Audit Committee. All names will be entered on the ballot at the annual meeting.
- Kairos next steps:
 - Sunday, January 7th after the 10:30am service there will be a panel of local, community personnel who see day to day activities in the White Bear Lake area to offer suggestions of how our campus could be used to serve the community at large.
 - Monday, January 8th at 10:30am a Think Tank activity will occur with real estate agents, developers, and other venture capitalists for a brainstorming session. The intent is for them to talk about what they would do if the 15-acre campus was in their possession.
 - Saturday, January 27th Council and Staff will meet at Camp St. Croix for all day event to review and reflect on everything up to this point.
 - Jeff remains committed to continue listening, learning, and discerning. He will continue to provide updates on his own reflections.
 - Annual Meeting is Sunday the 28th, and Pastor Darrin will give an update of current reflections thus far of the Kairos findings.
 - In future "The Current" editions starting with the February/ March edition, Pastor Darrin will have article specific to Kairos and what he believes the Lord is saying to him for transparency to the entire congregation.

Pastor Angie's Report

- The recent Christmas program went very well and received a lot of praise. The tech team did an outstanding job.
- Christmas events happening
 - Jammie Jam happened, and about 125 people showed up with new people in attendance.
- Christmas services:
 - Christmas Eve:
 - 9am Traditional and Contemporary services

- 10:30am Contemporary service
- 4pm Traditional and Contemporary services
- 9pm Traditional service
- Christmas Day:
- 10:30am Traditional service
- Lessons and Christmas Carols on the 31st of Dec.
- Prayer for new year is January 7th. This will be a dedicated time for scripture reading and prayer.
- Continued prayers for the families of those who have passed away recently and those in hospice care.

Children's Ministry – Wendy Fitzsimmons

- Recent HisKids attendance down due to illness.
- Hype night is February 2nd, and we are being intentional to invite Magnuson family.
- Wendy will meet with Britta on January 8th to discuss upcoming events.

Students –Stephanie Battista

- Refuge is on winter break until January 3rd.
- High school winter lock in event is set to take place December 29th and 30th.
- A winter snow tubing event is set to take place in February.

Service and Missions – Pastor Angie for Mike Duesenberg

- Project Home came and picked up the donated toys from the Jammie Jam, 147 gifts donated.
- All year end distributions being made this month, and minimal changes for next year plan of mission donations and partners.

Seniors – Carol Carlson

- Pastor Mary Ellen has been sending gift bags to those homebound.

Worship – Sam Hunter

- No report.

Groups – Carl Albing

- Group Leaders event to take place on January 20th. Courses to be offered that day in which participants can partake in.
- New Connections Guide to be coming out in January that will show all of the groups and availability.

Adults/Welcome – Dennis Engman

- No report, excused.

Treasurer's Report – Andy Hennig

- Reviewed November General Operating fund actuals and balances, including Missions funding.
- Reviewed November Endowment fund balances.

- Reviewed November Reserve Fund balances.
- Reviewed November Canopy of Grace balances.
- Motion approved to move proceeds of the Employee Retention Credit received of \$221,306.32 from Reserves G/L account 36000 Designated Fund to Reserves G/L account 30000 General Building/Facility
- Discussed 2024 Ministry Funding Plan.

Facilities – Mike Mathisen

- Insurance property taxes has gone up with a deductible going from \$7,500- \$15,000.
- Wind and hail damage will be changing to a deductible of 1% of insured property which will make our deductible \$248,000 for these claims.

Secretary – Michelle Sherman

- No report, excused.

Vice President – Mike Hamernick

- No report.

President – Mark Schuneman

- Christmas services offering:
- 9am Contemporary: Stephanie and Mike
- 9am Traditional: Mark
- 10:30am: Wendy and Stephanie
- 4pm Contemporary: Sam
- 4pm Traditional: Andy
- 9pm: Mark
- Christmas Day: Carl
- Next meeting is January 11st.

Other New Business

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Hamernick