

Community of Grace Lutheran Church

Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting

January 26, 2025

Mike Hamernick, Church Council President, called the meeting to order at 11:46 am and declared a quorum was present.

Pastor Darrin Vick opened the meeting with a prayer.

Tellers were appointed, including lead tellers. Dave and Arlene Nietz, with Curt Schneider and Lynell Keller serving as assistants.

Additional appointments included Mike Kaytor as Parliamentarian and Stephanie Battista as Recording Secretary.

Mike Hamernick introduced a motion to approve the minutes from the last annual meeting held on January 28, 2024, and this motion received a second. After the opportunity for discussion, the motion to approve the minutes as written was carried.

Report of Nominating Committee

Prior to introducing nominations for the 2025 Church Council, Mike Hamernick introduced members of the 2024 Council and shared their roles. Updates are as follows:

- Andy Henning was nominated for a second term
- Stephanie Battista and Joe Ehrmann were nominated for first terms.
- No additional nominations came from the floor.

Mike Hamernick introduced the names of those serving on the **Audit Committee**. Updates are as follows:

- Damine La Poutre is nominated for a 3-year term.
- No additional nominations came from the floor.

Mike Hamernick introduced the names of those serving on the **Endowment Committee**. Updates are as follows:

- Sam Pickering is nominated (5-year term)
- No additional nominations came from the floor.

Mike Hamernick introduced the names of those serving on the **Nominating Committee**. Updates are as follows:

- Barb Hunter, and Nicole Hamernick completed their terms. Sandy Anderson filled a vacancy on the committee this year.
- Sandy Anderson, Linda Goepfinger and Sheryl Curran were nominated.
- No additional nominations came from the floor.

All nominations were closed. Voting occurred with written ballots and the tellers collected the ballots.

Senior Pastor's Report: Pastor Darrin Vick

What an amazing year,

18 months ago we began a process with Kairos, with listening and discerning where God is taking us as a community, and Pastor Darrin Vick summarized a lot of what we heard. Our K-8 school is 20 years old. He talked about the history of the school, how we separated finances long ago, we felt the need to move closer to them again, because the mission of grace was so apparent in the school and played a part in the development of our Missional Narratives. Grace Together. The school is changing the name of the school to Community of Grace Community School.

We continue to work on alignment. Last year, 500 gifts were collected from the church and the school for one of our mission partners, Project Home. A rebranding team is working on

We are also still discerning what God is calling us uniquely to.

Facility Exploration Team:

How long is this going to take? We are trying to set a course for the next 10-20 years, so we are patiently listening and discerning. Talk to Pastor Darrin, Mike Hamernick, or Heather Lawrence if you have questions about this partnership.

President's Report: Mike Hamernick

Before Mike started, he asked all of the Staff to please stand, and everyone gave them some well-deserved recognition for all they have done in 2024, and was filled with gratitude for the incredible blessings, and unwavering love that our church family, dedicated staff, and amazing volunteers have shown. He thanked everyone for being such an integral part of our journey. He mentioned their support and commitment have been invaluable, and looking ahead to 2025, he was excited to continue serving together and continue living out the formational and missional values Pastor Darrin reminded us of earlier in January: To Know, Trust, Imitate, and Speak Jesus, and to See, Love, Serve, and Teach people as Jesus did.

Thinking about the last year, Mike highlighted Grace Kids annual Hype Night, Soup Suppers, Maundy Thursday table experience, 370 at Good Friday services, and 1000 in attendance at our 5 Easter services, Pastor Angie was able to take a sabbatical. We raised \$51,000 for Mission of Hope: we packed 100,000 meals and were also able to pay for a medical clinic for a whole day, and a shower building for the community. When there was a need for a new sound system in the 400 gifts for homebound seniors and helped the VBS had 150 kids in attendance. 42 Refuge students volunteered at VBS, as part of Summer Blast. Another Summer annual event was the Manitou Days Garage Sale. We raised 915 for school tools, and 350 for the WBL Food shelf. Over 6300 was raised for school tools, 247 to WBL schools, 47 to project home. 6 pallets of diapers went to WBL food shelf. Christmas Programs were filled with the spirit of grace, and deep benches of musical volunteers that filled in.

Treasurer's Report: Dennis Engman

2024 Ministry Funding Results

- Fully funded ministry and added some back into reserves.

- Total Income: \$1,601,509, including \$1,371,487 donated to general tithes and offering.
- Total Expenses: \$1,555,426 with included Missions outlay of \$52,447.
- Building Reserve Fund Balance: \$745,840 with a \$45,084 increase as a net result of operating income.
- Endowment fund balance: \$1,089,232, an increase of \$35,920 year over year.

Dennis introduced the 2025 budget proposal for \$1,745,400.00. This total is \$124,633 above 2024 actuals.

Dennis previewed pertinent details regarding increases and decreases in expenses for line items in the proposed 2025 budget.

Questions/Discussion

- Is there a plan for increasing giving by 9%. We are communicating regularly about where we are with the budget, and trust that God will provide the funds.
- Can you explain the increase in operations and personnel
- Why don't we have the Summary page? It has been available from the front desk for the last week and was sent out in email in the last week.

The ministry funding plan was approved.

Election results returned with all the nominations approved.

Pastor Darrin closed the meeting in prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Battista Church Council Secretary