

Community of Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes

September 21, 2023

Call to Order and Roll Call

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

Excused: Mike Duesenberg

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm.

Approval of minutes

- The minutes from the August Council meeting were approved.

Pastor Darrin's Report

- Sanctuary sound system – some gifts have already been received for this effort. Multiple bids received for an array system costing approximately \$85k. A different type of bid was received for approximately \$41k that will meet our needs. A recommendation is for up to \$50k to be approved for the sanctuary sound system along with an appeal to the congregation. The remainder would come from the building reserve fund. The system will include the center speaker, 2 side speakers, new amplifiers, wiring, and supplement for hearing aid system. Motion made to approve up to \$50k for a new sanctuary sound system. Motion approved.
- Listen, learn, and discern process continues. Council was reminded to please complete the Ministry Assessment Profile (MAP) and the Leadership System Inventory (LSI).
- On October 8th at 1:00 pm Jeff Kjellberg will provide an interpretation of the MAP results for the congregation. The LSI will be reviewed afterwards with current and former council members and church staff.

Pastor Angie's Report

- Many things to celebrate kick-off Sunday, with full tables, a great pancake breakfast, and new people in attendance.
- Wednesday night Bible study had 24 people in attendance, the most ever. Several new members attended as well.
- People appear to be in a season of wanting to be connected again since the pandemic is over.
- Mary Ellen's visitation ministry volunteers are highly energized for serving this year.

Children's Ministry – Wendy Fitzsimmons

- Strong start to the year with HisKids, including Refuge volunteers.
- Prayer requested for Britta with her third child coming soon.

Students –Stephanie Battista

- Strong attendance at the first two sessions for Refuge this year.
- The "Midnighter" event is coming up on 9/29/23.

- Confirmation retreat was held on September 16 at Camp St. Croix in Hudson.

Service and Missions – Mike Duesenberg

- No report, excused.

Seniors – Carol Carlson

- JULIET went to Keller Golf course for their recent outing.

Worship – Sam Hunter

- Meeting with Dan and Andrew is scheduled for this Tuesday, September 26.
- Prayer requested for Dan Lugo for healing.
- Choir retreat was held by Mark Hanson for vocal techniques.

Groups – Carl Albing

- Group leadership training event was held on August 23 by Dan Lugo. A great approach was that he ran the training event as if it were a group.

Adults/Welcome – Dennis Engman

- Hannah is back from maternity leave.
- Fall family fun night will be held on Thursday, September 28 along with Magnusson and other ministry partners.

Treasurer's Report – 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.
- Utilities were budgeted 10-15% increase this year, and actuals are coming in at an approximate 20% increase. Furnace upgrades will help control this expense over time.
- Expenses may end the year over budget, including our contribution to savings. Up to 5% overage is allowed by the constitution.
- Update will be provided to the congregation in October.

Facilities – Mike Mathisen

- Cones that are blocking one of the parking lot entrances are due to waiting for the city of White Bear Lake to complete the work on the street, which has had delays due to equipment issues.
- Phase 1 of furnace replacement has been completed.

Secretary – Michelle Sherman

- Updated Sabbatical Leave Guidelines were sent out for approval at the October meeting.

- Meal packing event is scheduled for October 14th, with guests from Mission of Hope including Otis, Rueben, and Laura.

Vice President – Mike Hamernick

- No report

President – Mark Schuneman

- Thanked council for their service on the pancake breakfast.
- October Offering – Stephanie Battista has 9 am contemporary services, Carl Albing has 9 am traditional services, and Dennis Engman has 10:30am contemporary services.
- Next meeting is 10/26/23. Michelle will not be able to attend so another recording secretary will be appointed to record the minutes. Stephanie to bring food for October, and Michelle will bring food for November.

Other New Business

- None

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Sherman