

Community of Grace Lutheran Church
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
8/16/18

Those present: Jodi Bendt, Sandy Anderson, Michelle Blankenship, Mark Schuneman, Dan McMahon, Ken Colberg, Tim Orf, Maia Hendrickson, Jeff Montgomery, Angie Way, Mike Mathisen, Michelle Snyder (Holy Cow Consultant)

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Refreshments and devotions were provided by Ken Colberg.

The July 19, 2018, minutes were approved.

Interim Senior Pastor's Report: Pastor Angie Way

- Michelle Snyder from Holy Cow consulting was visiting today to discuss this time of transition. How do we want to best prepare our community to welcome the future senior pastor? We want to make sure we set up the best quality worship life before we their arrival.
- Discussion occurred regarding a new worship schedule to maximize our resources starting in January 2019. No simulcast, live pastor each week in every service. Staff is on board with this potential change. Ongoing discussion is occurring to make sure the process of change is done thoughtfully and prayerfully.
- Staff retreat with Michelle from Holy Cow Consulting was well worth it and the discussions were very positive.
- Call Committee Workshop will be hosted here August 25.
- Kick off Sunday: hoping the Fellowship Hall is open! But there are plans in place in case of delay.
- Advent theme is *What Do You Want for Christmas?* Looking for different families to be sharing personal stories around advent theme days in a Congregational Advent Devotional booklet.

Children's Ministries: Mark Schuneman

- Camp Strong with over 80 kids; huge success!
- Working on foundations for Children's Ministries.
- HISKids is starting the week following Kick Off Sunday.

Student Ministries and Welcome Team: Dan McMahon

- **Students**
 - Summer Refuge on Wednesday August 22.
 - September 5 Leader's training occurs.
 - September 12 Refuge begins.

- **Welcome Team**

- Say YES Campaign is a success with 35 people saying yes for the first time in many different ministries.
- Working on building usher team.

Adult Ministries: Maia Hendrickson

- Fall is a “get rolling time” with Growth Groups. May have testimony for their experience with Growth Groups in September.
- Connection Event planned for October 7.

Senior Ministries: Ken Colberg

- **GROUPS**
 - J.U.L.I.E.T. August 6: Olive Garden in Maplewood. 18 attendees.
 - R.O.M.E.O. and Old Guys Bible Study: ROMEO now at Denny's.
 - Both groups continuing strong!
- **SERVICE**
 - Quilters: different staff members have been leading devotions, giving everyone a chance to get to know each other.
 - The quilters were recently thanked by the Vineland Mental Health Retreat for their gifts of 24 quilts and clothing for those recover from mental health incidents.
 - Donations to Bridget's Place have been completed for the year.
 - Caryl Aanenneson has been taking pictures of the quilters for the directory.
- **EVENTS**
 - July 24, James J. Hill house tour with Milt and Cindy Bighley.
 - Orlin Bandt will be leading the Pizza Ranch day on August 23.
- **CARE**
 - Names are being collected for those who would like a print directory.
- **Upcoming**
 - Women's Circles, Leader study began August 16, led by retired Pastor Joy Johnson.
 - Next month, Doreen Jeffers will lead the study on the Lord's Prayer.
 - September J.U.L.I.E.T. will be at Great Moon Buffet in Maplewood.
 - Mount Carmel Camp will be August 27-30.

Worship: Tim Orf

- Love Pours In worship event: Sunday September 30. An opportunity to be filled through an extended session of evening worship, music and teaching.
- Worship Ministry Guidelines: Dan Lugo is putting together a document for worship ministry volunteers that will outline basic standards or guidelines for those serving.
- Worship Team Fall Training and Kick Off event will be on Saturday, September 22.

Missions: Jeff Montgomery

- HAITI: MOH current plan is to restart mobilization teams in September, so we are planning to continue to pursue putting a team together for January 12-19. Registration will be open next week for our service trip.
- HOM: A team of volunteers will be cooking and be serving a meal at the Family Place this Saturday.
- HOOD: School Tools Drive has had a great response. Volunteers helped pack and delivery 177 backpacks to WBL schools on Sunday/Monday. Also, with all the financial donations we received (\$400+) we will be able to get all the supplies to pack an additional 60+ backpacks this coming weekend. That is 237 and is up from 159 backpacks that were donated last year!
- OTHER: The School Tools Drive has also received 150+ bags for children overseas. Another great response from the 107 bags donated in 2017.
- If you had not heard, Service & Missions budget is back on track!

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Montgomery

Giving in July finished below budgeted expectations and below 2017 actuals. 2018 expenses are below budgeted amounts.

Facilities: Jeff Montgomery

Fellowship Hall Renovation and security doors are an ongoing project. There were some bumps in the road with scheduling, but when we get into that space, it will be beautiful, useful and a space to share worship for years to come.

MOTION: Sandra Anderson moves to authorize the use of \$26,000 of funds from our reserves to purchase and install carpet in the Fellowship Hall. These funds will be fully replenished with a gift that will be given in January 2019, from a donor to specifically replace the old carpet. Motion discussed.

Motion carried.

Stewardship: Mike Mathisen

Continuing to report financial status weekly in bulletin. Large update coming soon with detailed needs. Tentative plans on communication to share income vs. budget. Will update with eNote and in bulletin include mailings in communication that shows giving units, goals, etc.

Transition team: Mike Mathisen

Team will start to meet every other week starting in September rather than every week currently, which is an indication that the transition is going smoothly.

Vice President's Report: Jodi Bendt

No report.

Secretary's Report: Michelle Blankenship

No report.

President's Report: Sandy Anderson

Motion by Sandy Anderson: Mike Mathisen voted to be Treasurer.

Motion Carried.

- Kick off Sunday, September 9, the council will serve cinnamon rolls instead pancakes. Council volunteers needed for cinnamon roll duty, front desk, and orange wall.
- Working to set up a Welcome Team representative on Council. Nominees were discussed.
- Staff appreciation week plans were discussed.
- Offering for September: Dan McMahon at 9 a.m.; Mike Mathisen at 10:30 a.m.
- Devotions & Refreshments for the meeting will be provided by Mark Schuneman.
- Next meeting on September 20.

Meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m. Closed with prayer.

Michelle Blankenship
Executive Secretary