

COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

February 20, 2020

Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Sandy Anderson, Ken Colberg, Dennis Engman, Maia Hendrickson, Jeff Hovis, Mike Mathisen, Dan McMahon, Jeff Montgomery, Tim Orf, Mark Schuneman, Michelle Sherman, Darrin Vick, Angie Way

Excused: Wendy Fitzsimmons

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Treats: provided by Maia Hendrickson

Devotions: Highs and lows shared by all, and devotions by Maia Hendrickson

Due to printer issues, the minutes for January Council Meeting, Annual Meeting, and Post- Annual Meeting to be reviewed at the March meeting.

Pastor Darrin's Report:

We finished the sermon series regarding the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Next: "What's at the Core?" This will focus on our core values. At the Wednesday Lenten services, we will unpack more by exploring how the Holy Spirit works through the values. Catalyst will also focus on the core values. Darrin is reading a book about the season of the church and thinking out into the future: What will this church look like in 50 years? In North America, churches are changing rapidly. How do we set ourselves up for future success? Learning from Jim Collins' book, *Built to Last*, great companies figure out how to stay strong and make appropriate changes. Like 3M, we need to look at what we are doing and prepare for the future. What is the next thing? What is God doing next? We do not want to be like Kodak who failed to get into the business of digital cameras early enough. This is a critical time in our congregation, and we must be innovative. For the next staff position, we will look for someone who can identify the needs of younger generations. From the book, "Preserve the core and stimulate progress." We will be clear about our core values, and we will innovate and stimulate progress.

Pastor Angie's Report:

Celebrating the silent prayer retreat day. Angie is seeing that many people want to connect. Prayer minister training was completed, and now they will serve two Sundays per month. Group leader care night occurred and equipped people for connecting. For Lent, Wednesday evening services are scheduled for 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. From parish nurse Carol Watnemo; all home visitors will undergo background checks.

Core Team Reports

Children's' Ministries: Wendy Fitzsimmons (on vacation). Update from Mark Scheuneman

On Friday Feb. 28, Parenting 226 event occurs from 5-7 p.m. Childcare will be provided.

Student Ministries: Dan McMahon

Refuge Calendar: Feb. 26- Attend Ash Wednesday Service. Mar. 4- Breakout night. Mar. 11- Off for spring break. Mar. 18- "Ask Away" at Refuge, and Adults are invited to attend to see what the students do on Wednesday nights.

Mission trip to Duluth: 35 students signed up. Fundraisers included the pancake breakfast, which was highly successful, raising over \$1000. Plan to have at least one more. March 22: Brunch Fundraiser sponsored by Dan Amesbury. Mission Trip T-shirt Design Contest underway.

Motion: Request Council approval to have a booth in the Commons for students to sell shirts on one or two Sundays in late April.

Motion approved.

Many high school students are currently dealing with the death of one of their classmates whose funeral will be held at CGLC on Sunday, February 23.

Adult Ministries: Jeff Hovis (see notes)

"Ask Away": A planning meeting is scheduled for February 24 to select a topic. Next "Ask Away" event will be part of the Wednesday, March 18 Refuge Service. Students are encouraged to send anonymous questions prior to the event. Great to see the questions that the students raise.

Catalyst runs on Sundays from February 23-March 22 at 11:45 a.m.

Groups: Group Leaders met on February 9. Pastor Darrin shared his vision for groups at CGLC. Acts chapter 2 is a model. Groups are for connection and purpose. CGLC has traditional Growth Groups focusing on Bible study. We will also have Connection Groups that focus more around an interest affinity. Jesus serves as the foundation and common bond for all groups. The gifts of the Holy Spirit will lead to greater connection. Surveys became available last Sunday, February 16. Group leaders had the opportunity to share concerns and best practices in small breakout groups. The meeting ended with Q & A for Pastor Darrin.

The chili cook-off is scheduled for Sunday March 29. This will also serve as a connection event. Members can meet group leaders and seek out connection opportunities.

Seniors: Ken Colberg

R.O.M.E.O., Old Guy's Bible Study, and Women's Circles continue to meet faithfully.

J.U.L.I.E.T. met at the Brick House in White Bear on Monday, Feb.3. Sixteen attended.

S.A.M.P.L.E. in January heard about Gene Eastlund's travels in Costa Rica. About 35 attended.

Bandage rollers, Knitters and Card makers continue to serve. The Quilters had a write-up in the paper about their record setting year. They gave away most 500 quilts.

Valentine's banquet: Pastor Angie did a fantastic job. The Malt Shop Melodies performed, and the church staff served about 50 people.

Worship: Tim Orf

We concluded a seven-week sermon series on Spiritual Body Building. We learned that our spiritual gifts are valuable for the church to accomplish God's purposes. The spiritual gifts inventory is available so all may understand their unique gifts. For our next council meeting, all are encouraged to bring their results.

The Night of Hope kicked off the celebration of our MOH partnership celebration. This Sunday, Otis will be bringing the message, and all will learn more about our partnership.

Prayer ministers will serve on the first and third Sundays of each month. This helps positively impacts our culture.

The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday with services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Ongoing, Wednesday evening services are scheduled for 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. On April 8, the Wednesday of Holy Week and actual day of Passover, we will serve a Seder meal for new communicants.

Welcome/Hospitality: Dennis Engman

Welcome Team: 13 signed up for Catalyst. Praying for help with Spiritual needs assessments. Need some ushers at the contemporary worship.

Missions: Michelle Sherman

HAITI: Raising Hope Campaign has been very successful with over \$25,000 raised. One woman brought in her change jar to donate to the slime challenge. March 1 is slime day! Diane and Jeff Hovis have done a great job. Mark shared it was helpful to have a photo and name of one person for which to pray.

HOOD: School Tools and Garage Sale plans continue.

HOM: Michaela Koll sent a wonderful email to the committee. She is serving in Cyprus.

Infrastructure Reports

Treasurer and Stewardship Report: Mike Mathisen and Jeff Montgomery

Financially, this January was much better than last year. We saved some expenses related to minimal snow removal and unfilled staff positions.

Facilities: Jeff Montgomery

Metal roof work is ongoing, and it should be completed next week. Paul is looking for quotes into automatic locking/unlocking capability of outside doors.

Secretary's Report: Maia Hendrickson

No report.

Vice President's Report: Mark Schuneman

No report.

President's Report: Sandy Anderson

Will re-send the Sign-up Geniuses. Please sign up to help at the front desk.

Other new business: none

March Work Assignments

Offering Auditors: 9 a.m.: Dan; 10:30 a.m.: Dennis and Ken

Devotions and refreshments for March 19, 2020: Mike Mathisen

Lord's Prayer closed in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maia Hendrickson