

COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Council Minutes

January 10, 2019

Call to Order & Roll Call

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

Excused: Jodi Bendt, Michelle Blankenship, and Mike Mathisen

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

Devotions and treats by Maia

Minutes: Will approve the December and January minutes in February.

Pastor Angie's Report

- Shared a sailboat metaphor devotional. God directs and guides as we are leaning into the wind.
- Christmas went smoothly. God is gracious to us. Praise Him for all He has done!
- Christmas: Over 1000 in attendance.
- Weddings and baptisms.
- New sermon series: *New Year, New You*
- Reviewed preaching schedule.
- February 3: Sharing stories from our congregation about members as salt and light. This plan may change.
- February 10: Partners in Christian Education Sunday will include LADC and Magnuson School. Master's Institute may participate too.
- Wednesdays during Lent: Spiritual practices review.
- Planning to have soup suppers during Lent.
- March theme: *Transformed by Jesus* How Jesus changes things and makes us new. Includes MOH and Teen Challenge Sundays.
- After Easter: Resurrection stories, Pentecost, Book of Acts for summer.
- Church staff are proactively preparing for the new senior pastor. Sickness going around the office. ☹ Please pray for them.

Core Team Reports

Children's Ministries: Mark Schuneman

- Feb. 1st movie "Like Arrows."
- His Kids starts next Sunday, January 13.

Student Ministries: Dan McMahon

- Refuge resumed after holiday break.
- Mission trip fundraiser after the annual meeting.
- Confirmation retreat will occur last weekend of January on site.

Adult Ministries: Maia Hendrickson

- Connection Event scheduled for January 27.
- Core Team will support Children and Student Ministry's upcoming short-term discussion groups with parents following the Feb. 1 movie event.
- Encouraging all group leaders to attend the "Heart Altaring" event on January 31.
- Core Team is brainstorming additional topics for short-term discussion groups.

Seniors: Ken Colberg

Groups

- Romeo and Old Guy's Bible Study continue to meet faithfully.
- Juliet met at Applebee's on Monday, Jan. 17 with 16 women in attendance.
- Women's Circles: December Christmas Parties. In January, Pastor Doreen will lead the leaders meetings.
- Women of Grace Sponsored Event: Tuesday, January 22 at 2 pm, they are holding a dessert and coffee event for Michaela Koll to share about her mission trip.
- Core team formation: In Sr. Newsletter, Pastor Angie asked any congregation members interested in helping to plan senior events to contact her. So far, she has heard back from two interested members.

Service

- Bandage rollers, knitters and card makers continue to serve.
- Quilters: Caryl Aanenson compiled the year-end report. Includes the following contributions in 2018:
 - 12 quilts to Bridging (apartments for families emerging from homelessness)
 - 30 quilts to Brittany's place (for girls emerging from slavery to sex trafficking)
 - 12 baby blankets for Baptismal families here
 - 76 quilts for Global Health (shipped overseas)
 - 10 quilts for Journey Home (hospice)
 - 12 quilts for Lutheran World Relief (emergency needs)
 - 5 quilts (misc.)
 - 20 quilts for Project HOM (homeless families in our building)
 - 18 quilts for Ramsey County Care Center
 - 108 quilts for Slumberland (given with mattresses to at risk families)

- 54 quilts for Vineland (for residents of residential mental health recovery center) Total of 357 quilts in 2018
- Care and wellness team doing wonderful work with shut-ins.
- Upcoming: The Valentine's Banquet on Feb. 14th. Musical program by Community of Grace new attender Dawn Aske and her friend Laurie.

Worship: Tim Orf

Prayer Ministry Team

- Prayer resources shared.
- Started late May of 2018 and praying in earnest for Pastor Angie, church staff, transition team, church council, and seeking what God has for CGLC.
- They see their role as prayer intercessors for the church and all who are serving during this transition time, and they seek to elevate the practice of prayer for each member of CGLC.
- Pastor Joy Johnson is leading this team along with Pastor Angie. Team includes Mary Nell Clemens, Tina Katorski, Carol Orf, Vicki Schultz, Becky Smith, Cecil Vitalis.
- Requested church members to pray on specific days of the week, and about 80 are participating.
- The team is printing prayer cards with specific needs in our church.
- Long-term vision: Prayerfully seek a dedicated space set aside as a prayer room where individuals or groups can pray and have resources available in that space. Discussed potential solutions and Jeff Montgomery will work with staff to evaluate the best possible space available at this time.
- The Call Committee and Transition Teams have benefitted from the fruit of the prayer team!
- Short-term: Use a high top table and make resources available with their banner. Prayer team members would be at the table and ready to pray with anyone who has a prayer concern. For now, during 10:30 a.m. hour, the Sanctuary is possibly available.

Welcome/Hospitality: Dennis Engman- No report

Missions: Michelle Sherman

- Haiti Team leaves for Mission of Hope Jan. 12th-19th: Gift of \$9000 will cover the five projects. 57 sponsor gifts and 62 birthday gifts for orphans were donated by CGLC members and delivered by the service team.
- March 9-10th MOH Weekend. Brad Johnson coming.
 - Includes food-packing event: Plan to partner with Feed My Starving Children. Goal is 100,000 meals.

- Project Home a huge success again. We hosted 33 nights. Visitors included 5-6 families with 19-21 people staying downstairs in the Children's Ministry Center. Approx. 106 different volunteers covered 241 volunteer slots.
- Hood: Food Shelf requesting help with Bonus Saturdays on 4th Saturday of the Month. We typically average 14-16 volunteers each month.
- Fare for All tomorrow, Jan. 11: from 2-4 pm.
- Ashley Collins involved in World Race. Michaela Koll called to be on YWAM staff and serve the next 2 years in missions.

Infrastructure Reports

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Montgomery for Mike Mathisen

- Finished year in the black!
- Total giving over 2017. Did not hit budget, but managed expenses, and God met our need!
- \$100,000 savings included.
- Missions made budget.
- For Congregational budget proposal: General and Missions will be together.
- Budget for 2019 reviewed. Personnel budget includes full year of Sr. Pastor salary and reflects being fully staffed. Includes the benefit of \$100,000 of savings.
- Motion: *To approve the proposed 2019 budget.* Motion approved. Will go to the Annual Congregational Meeting for a final vote.

Stewardship: Jeff Montgomery for Mike Mathisen

- Fourth quarter went very well. Updates in the bulletins and letters to the congregation helped members understand the needs.

Facilities: Jeff Montgomery

- New doors for the Fellowship Hall on backorder, but the Fellowship Hall is almost done.
- Paul has two bids for windows: WB Glass and Brin Glass Company who did Fellowship Hall project. Brin \$132,225, WB Glass \$164,650. No wood frames, and they will not open. Since we have a climate-controlled facility, we should not need to open the windows. Present windows are wood and rotting. The new windows will be more efficient. Windows can be replaced any time, and school schedules will be considered.
- Motion: *To move forward with a 2019 window replacement project using Brin Glass Company as a vendor not to exceed \$135,000 pending authorization of funds by the congregation.* Motion approved and will be presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Transition Team: Update from Sandy Anderson for Mike Mathisen

Team is meeting regularly. Discussing: How will we onboard the new Sr. Pastor? What do we need to tackle before he comes? Looking at possibly shifting some staff responsibilities.

Additional Business: Jeff – renovation of video/audio studio room. Cost is around \$20,000. Because this amount was approved in the budget but not needed for snow removal, Jeff would like to use these funds for this project. Brian Ziccardi will help with carpentry. Project includes a recording booth. Recommendation for reallocation of this \$20,000 approved.

President's Report: Sandy Anderson

- January 20 Annual Meeting: The following are up for election to the Council: Michelle Sherman, Dennis Engman, Sandy Anderson, Tim Orf, Maia Hendrickson, Mike Mathisen, and Jeff Hovis to replace Michelle Blankenship.
- Update from Call Committee: Diane Hovis shared they have arrived at a candidate. Checking references. Will make a formal recommendation to the council. Next step is for us to meet with and affirm the candidate for a call. If approved and candidate agrees, the Congregation needs a 30-day notice, and they will have an opportunity to meet the candidate. This Sunday, the congregation will receive an update from the Call Committee. Also, we will pull together a welcome committee for the new pastor and family.

February's Work Assignments

- Offering Auditors: 0900 Michelle Sherman, 1030: Dennis Engman
- Devotions and refreshments for Feb. 21, 2019: Michelle Sherman

Angie added a special prayer request for a member and family.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maia Hendrickson