

COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2018

Those present: Sandy Anderson, Jodi Bendt, Ken Colberg, Dennis Engman, Maia Hendrickson, Mike Mathisen, Dan McMahon, Tim Orf, Mark Schuneman, Michelle Sherman, Jeff Montgomery, Pastor Angie Way

Excused: Michelle Blankenship

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Jodi Bendt was appointed as Recording Secretary. Refreshments and devotions were provided by Tim Orf. The October 11, 2018, minutes were approved with one clarification.

Interim Senior Pastor's Report: Pastor Angie Way

- Busy with five funerals in the last two weeks.
- We celebrated the Confirmation of 28 students last Sunday. One student was baptized at the banquet on Friday night.
- God has been providing encouragements in several different ways. One couple was so excited to find CGLC because their former church was so boring. Now they never want to miss a Sunday and want to get more involved. In this new season of Catalyst (28 people), one of the couples found their new church home. They love the reverence & seriousness at CGLC. Some members who moved to a new state haven't found a new church they like, so they continue to worship online with CGLC.
- An Advent Devotional is in the works. Tom Mason is leading the writing of it and asking others to write days.

Children's Ministries: Mark Schuneman

- Planning for a parents' night to watch the movie *Like Arrows*, tentatively on February 1. We are hoping it will spawn a Sunday morning discussion group.
- Kids started practicing their songs for the December 16 worship services.

Student Ministries: Dan McMahon

- 28 students were Confirmed on November 11.
- We just finished the message series *Deal with It*, which coincided well with the *Trust Issues* sermon series.
- Fall Recharge retreat is this weekend for 8th-12th graders at Camp Okoboji.
- Our last Break out night was Teen Alpha for the Confirmation kids and Ugly Sweater Bowling for the High School kids.

Adult Ministries: Maia Hendrickson

- The next Connection event is scheduled on January 27.
- Adult Ministries team will help the Children's Ministries team with the short term discussion group – The Art of Parenting. Sunday groups will be for all parents & then parents of teenagers will be on Wednesdays.

Senior Ministries: Ken Colberg

- Mary Nell Clemens hosted JULIET in November.
- Retired Pastor Doreen Jeffers facilitated the Women's Circle Leaders Study in November.
- The celebration of Veterans on November 8th was well attended (about 50 people). Magnuson Christian School kids served the food, interacted with the veterans, and sang in the program. Two men from the Vietnam Veterans Rifle Brigade spoke about their own stories of service and how they continue to serve by honoring their comrades at the graveside. One veteran spoke of the spiritual healing in Jesus he found after his painful return from Vietnam. Thanks to Curt and Kathy Schneider for finding the speakers, to Marlene Granger and team for the great meal, and to Joni Carlson for her help serving.
- Upcoming Events
 - Christmas Tea on December 1
 - JULIET at Manitou Grille
 - Advent Meditation Services on December 5, 12 & 19 at 11:30 a.m. by Doug Nelson and Kevin Sheldon

Worship: Tim Orf

- Contemporary worship services are back in the Fellowship Hall now. There is a feeling of encountering God there.
- Traditional services include the Women's Choral, Adult Choir, and Bells.
- Thanksgiving Eve service is November 21. We will be praying for the Diaper contributions and eating pie!
- Advent starts December 2.
- Our December 16 services will be a multi-generational Christmas Program at 9 & 11 in the Sanctuary.
- Retired Pastors continue to help us fill the gap.
- The Graphics ministry team is going to do some formal training for the volunteers. Dan & Shane S. are writing the training and will be scheduling time with each volunteer.

Welcome: Dennis

Added signs in the Commons directing people to Contemporary and Traditional service locations

Missions: Michelle Sherman

- HAITI: 16 people signed up for the trip. Donations of \$9000 to help fund our yet-to-be determined project. We are working on plan for gathering gifts.
- HOM: Diaper Drive house is up in the commons. This will transform into a cardboard house that helps educate us regarding homelessness starting December 1.
- HOOD: \$2500 for give a gobble. 10 homes cleaned up on fall clean up days.
- Continue to keep Ashley Collins & Sarah Ambli in your prayers.
- Heard from Sara Nelson regarding a Leadership Development program.
- Working on Missions 2019 budget & may need to make adjustments if giving declines.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Mathisen

- We slid back in receipts thru October ME compared to 2017. Expenses are trending slightly lower though.
- October YTD 2018 Actuals – Receipts of \$1,082,490; Expenses of \$1,283,577; Difference of \$201,086.
- Missions donations are slightly down.
- Jeff has done some preliminary estimations for year-end expenses. We need about \$466K for the months of November & December. This is a very high number. Jeff is giving an update on Sunday, November 18 at all four services. A letter will also go out on Monday with the giving statements. There will be another letter going out in December.
- 2019 Budget process is underway. We will look at draft #1 at our December Council Meeting.

Facilities: Jeff Montgomery

- Security doors are planned to be in place prior to Christmas
- Motion: Allow MCS to hold their Magnuson Bake sale on Sunday, December 16. Approved unanimously.
- Motion: Allow the selling of wreaths by our church sanctioned Boy Scout Troop. The Scous will sell wreaths on Sunday, December 2 just as they have in prior years. Approved unanimously.

Stewardship: Mike Mathisen

Updates were reported in the Treasurer's Report.

Transition Team: Mike Mathisen

Working through staff job and task sheets – moving tasks to be better aligned

Secretary's Report: Michelle Blankenship

No report.

Vice President's Report: Jodi Bendt

MCS Gala will be at North Oaks Golf Club on April 6, 2019

President's Report: Sandy Anderson

- Beginning to form a "Start Up Committee" for our new Senior Pastor – to lay the foundation for welcoming our new pastor.
- Call Committee is continuing to make progress. All communication will come through Diane Hovis, chair of the committee.

Other New Business: Sandy Anderson

10:30 Traditional Service

- Prior to the summer, attendance was 70-80 people
- After returning to our four-service format, attendance has been around 50 (including staff, tech people, & choir members). The feel in the room is deflating. Our concern is: is this the best we can offer those attenders? It seems like this service isn't going to grow. Numbers might even go

down in January & February when some of the more fragile, elderly members stay home due to the weather.

- Pastor Angie shared that in John 15 Jesus tells us that sometimes God prunes us to bring better health.
- Lovingly bring it to a close.
- Council endorses the plan to end this service.
- Plan to communicate:
 - Talk to staff next and let Welcome Team know
 - November 25: Angie will announce this personally. Transition Team & Council be there to support.
 - December 23 would be the last service

Council Assignments for December:

- Offering at 9:00 – Jodi Bendt
- Offering at 10:30 – Ken Colberg
- December 20 -- Council Devotions & Refreshments – Michelle Blankenship

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Jodi Bendt

Appointed Recording Secretary