

COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

March 21, 2019

Call to Order & Roll Call

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

Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m. Devotions and treats by Michelle Sherman.

Minutes: Approved.

Pastor Angie's Report

- Brad Johnson was unable to come on MOH Sunday, March 10, but he provided a video greeting, and all went well. Union Gospel Mission group came on March 20, 2019.
- Wednesday services will run throughout Lent. Theme: being transformed by Jesus. Members and friends will share personal transformational practices. Angie offered a special thanks to Tim Orf and his team for helping with the Wednesday evening services.
- Plan for Palm Sunday: Angie preaches. Maundy Thursday: Kevin. Good Friday Angie will preach. Plans for Easter preaching depend on the outcome of the vote on 3/24. Pastor Angie is prepared to preach, if needed.
- First Communion training Sunday April 7 after worship. New Communicants will participate in the Maundy Thursday 7 p.m. service.
- Women of Grace will have prayer time on May 2.
- Long-time member, Art Tangwall, passed away. His memorial service will be Friday, April 5. On that same day, a memorial service will be held for Pastor Carl. Hannah has details.
- Church staff will meet Pastor Darrin at an informal event on Saturday evening, March 23.

Core Team Reports

Children's Ministries: Mark Schuneman

- Only 6-7 more HISKids Sundays left before summer.
- Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 20 with computer sign-ups. Candy-filled egg collection is in process.

Student Ministries: Dan McMahon

- Only five nights of Refuge left until they break for the summer.
- Confirmation students are involved with Teen Alpha.

- Breakout nights coming with high school boys visiting the Big Thrill Factory and girls going to the Olive Garden.
- Promotion of summer activities is in process. Activities include the Mission Trip, Refuge Summer Take Over, and Breakfast Club for high school students on Sundays this summer.
- Before the special meeting on March 24, 2019, student ministries is planning to serve Donatelli's for lunch as a mission trip fundraiser
- . On April 19, 2019, Good Friday, students are leading 5:30 pm contemporary service.
- A recent power outage at Refuge has leaders discussing security protocols.

Adult Ministries: Jeff Hovis

Short-term discussion groups will start on May 5, 2019. Theme for first session: "Is Christ relevant in the world today?" These groups will occur on a bi-monthly basis on Sunday mornings.

Seniors: Ken Colberg

- JULIET group went to Donatelli's in February.
- Pastor Joy Johnson led women Circle Leaders Study.
- Old Guys Bible Study, Men's Prayer Group and Romeo are continuing strong.
- February 14 Valentine's Banquet had 42 in attendance. The Church Staff served the tables. Donna Aske and her friend provided musical entertainment.
- In March and April, Lenten Wednesday worship services and meals take the place of additional programming.
- Coming up:
 - May 2 Day of Prayer at 2 pm sponsored by Women of Grace.
 - May 6 JULIET will go to the Lowell Inn.
 - May 9 SAMPLE plans to have lunch and hear the Silver Harmony Singers concert.
 - May 19 Lunch and Lakeshore Event scheduled is *Mary Poppins*.

Worship: Tim Orf

- During the Lenten season, the sermon series theme is entitled *Transformed*.
- Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge are scheduled for March 31, 2019, and the testimonies they share fit in well with this theme.
- The Wednesday services have been effective in helping members learn more about transformational practices. God is working through the music and messages.
- For Easter, we will have a 10:30 traditional service.

Welcome/Hospitality: Dennis Engman

No report.

Missions: Michelle Sherman

HAITI

- Feed My Starving Children: nearly 500 volunteers packed 108,864 meals and we fully funded the \$22,000 to pay for the meals. We had a great response from our community, and we had many new faces and other ministries join our efforts.
- On Sunday, March 10, we celebrated our ten-year partnership with Mission of Hope. Even with low attendance, we were able to raise \$1613 with the Market of Hope merchandise. In addition, we added 13 more sponsored children and students bringing our church's total to 146 people. For the first time this year, three people are now sponsoring elderly residents at the Grace House.

HOM

- Diaper Duty supplies \$250 worth of diapers each month at the Family Service Center shelter in Maplewood.
- We have invited families from the Family Service Center to join us for the Easter Egg Hunt in April.

HOOD

- "Stamp out Hunger" is scheduled for May 1. This year, we will highlight our partnership with the White Bear Food Shelf, and we will seek to educate and engage our whole church.
- The Community Garage Sale is scheduled for June 15. "Save the date" reminders were sent out and registrations are rolling in.

GENERAL:

- Ashley Collins is currently in South Africa serving through the World Race.

Infrastructure Reports

Treasurer's Report: Mike Mathisen

Reviewed the General Operating Fund report. On April 7, we will publish the financials through YTD first quarter. Giving unit attrition has occurred. We are blessed with a healthy reserve fund.

Facilities: Jeff Montgomery

Drive-thru needs maintenance and painting. Details to come.

Transition Team: Mike Mathisen

An on-boarding calendar for Pastor Darrin has been created. Saturday, March 23, the Mathisen family will host an informal get-together with staff/families. On Sunday, March 24, the Vick family will be here all morning. Council was reminded to wear nametags and watch for where we have needs such as moving people into Sanctuary. Mike will host the family on Sunday morning. The results of the vote will be updated on the website and communicated through the E-note. The interview questions have been finalized. Many were in-depth and varied. All questions will be provided to Pastor Darrin for his information and reference.

Welcome Team: Dennis Engman

A welcome team has been formed with members from the Council, staff and congregation with the purpose of creating and implementing a plan to welcome a new senior pastor and family to our church and community. They have developed a working plan which will be implemented when we officially call a new senior pastor.

Secretary's Report: Maia

No report.

Vice President's Report: Jodi

- The Magnuson Christian School Gala is scheduled for April 6. There is room for a couple more people at Jodi Bendt's table.
- Keith Nelson will be taking over Bob Dahl's position on staff. The Council will send Bob a formal thank you.

President's Report: Sandy Anderson

- Reminder: Be visible this weekend.
- Sermon viewing had about 70 people. Feedback was positive and members are eager to meet him.
- Please wear nametags.
- Pray for this weekend and the vote.
- The video Pastor Darrin shared is on the website. He also has a Facebook video about "How to come to church when it's cold outside."

April Work Assignments

- April Offering Auditors: 9:00 am- Jeff Hovis 10:30 am- Ken Colberg. Watch for further opportunities with the additional Lenten Services.
- Devotions and refreshments for April 25 Jodi Bendt

Closed with The Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maia Hendrickson