

**COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Church Council Minutes**

May 15, 2019

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

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

Excused: Dennis Engman, Dan McMahon

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Devotions and treats by Jeff Hovis.

Minutes for April meeting approved with one noted correction.

**Pastor Darrin's Report:**

Staff changes: Rachel Thoren will move on to a new position at Bridgewood Church (an ARC partner) in Blaine. She will be doing an internship for her degree with The Master's Institute and serving as a part-time Children's Coordinator. She plans to stay through VBS.

Jeff Montgomery plans to transition into a new career in real estate. He has been at this church 17 years. He will continue to serve in a 15-hour part time position focused on finance and facilities. Jeff and his family will continue to be part of this church community. Jeff's last fulltime workday is July 10, 2019. His new title will be Finance and Facilities Director. We are deeply grateful for Jeff's commitment to this church!

**Core Team Reports**

**Children's Ministries: Mark Schuneman**

Vacation Bible School is coming June 24-28. *Let's Go* is the theme for FCA camp for students grade 3-6, July 29- August 1, 2019. HISKids concludes for the summer May 19, 2019.

**Student Ministries: Dan McMahon**

No report.

**Adult Ministries: Jeff Hovis**

The Ask Away event last Sunday was a tremendous success. Fifty people attended. A panel including Anna Shoberg, Chris Brekke, Wade Holmberg, Melinda Kern, and David Clark from Bethel University led the discussion. The topic was *Is Christ relevant in today's World?* The committee plans to hold the next one Wednesday, July 17 at the Anchor Coffee shop. The topic will be *Can we trust the Bible?* They hope to

attract young people. The goal is to help members feel more equipped for discipleship, but they also want to reach out to the community.

### **Seniors: Ken Colberg**

- On May 2, 2019, the Women of Grace sponsored the National Day of Prayer event.
- On May 6, 2019, twelve women from the JULIET group enjoyed dinner at The Lowell Inn in Stillwater.
- Thirty people attended the SAMPLE event on May 9.
- The Wednesday Senior Bible Study group finished for the season and will resume in the fall.
- Leader's Study for Women's Circle Bible Studies concluded the study of "The Lord's Prayer" thanks to support from our retired female pastors. Next year's study is entitled, "Connecting with God: a guide to prayer."
- This Sunday, 25 people will enjoy the Lunch and Lakeshore Event. Following a meal at church, they will attend Lakeshore Player's production of *Mary Poppins*.
- Additional groups who are going strong include the Old Guys Bible Study, Friday Men's prayer, ROMEO, Quilters, Knitters, and Bandage Rollers.
- The evening quilting group plans to take a break over the summer.
- Future events include the Mill City Museum Tour on June 20 and the Mount Carmel Ministries Mini-Week in Alexandria with an in-depth look at the Psalms.
- In the fall, CGLC will host Lyngblomsten sponsored seminars on "Living Well with Chronic Conditions. Classes meet for 6 weeks and participants learn how to live with a variety of chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, fibromyalgia, arthritis or cancer. The event is free.

### **Worship: Tim Orf**

In the Contemporary Worship space, lights will be added for greater illumination of the front platform. When funds become available, we will upgrade lighting control hardware. Other worship technology improvements are in the planning stages. Last Sunday, sign language interpreter, Dee Ramnarine, shared her talents. We are also looking for a smaller podium so Pastor Darrin can move more freely. In addition, the platform squeaks, and Jeff will check into this.

### **Welcome/Hospitality: Maia Hendrickson through Dennis Engman's written report**

The After Party was a successful and fun event with about 60 people in attendance. This replaced the Next Step Lunch. The goal for the event was to provide a laid-back atmosphere designed to appeal to a wider variety of people. Ideally, those attending would feel free to come and go when questions were answered or needs were met. The focus was on cultivating relationships, and families attended together with the children. Based on learnings from this event, some changes will happen next fall.

In the last three weeks of July, we plan to build volunteer teams for fall through the "Say Yes" campaign. In its third year, featured ministry areas include, but are not limited to, Welcome, Worship, Children and Student ministries.

### **Missions: Michelle Sherman**

#### HAITI

- The next mission trip is scheduled for January 25-February 1, 2020. Promotion for this trip will roll out in August.
- The Feed My Starving Children event will occur sometime in February or March, but it will not be scheduled around the White Bear Schools spring break.

#### HOOD

- The Post Office's event, Stamp Out Hunger, had 137 volunteers from CGLC and helped sort 15,207 pounds of food delivered on May 11, 2019. This huge influx of food will stock the Food Shelf for this coming summer.
- Andrea Kish-Bailey recently stepped down from her role as the Executive Director of the Shite Bear Food Shelf. She took a new position as vice president of Advancement of Hope 4 Youth, an organization dedicated to serving youth experiencing homelessness in Anoka County.
- We filled over 100 seller spots for the upcoming Community Garage Sale on June 15, 2019. This outreach event typically brings 2000+ people to our church campus, and we look forward to pouring out the love of Christ to all who attend. We need 100+ volunteers for this event, and sign-ups began online and in the Commons.
- School tools is scheduled for July 21- August 11, 2019.

#### HOM

Donna Franklin, CGLC member and site coordinator of Project Home, became the Outreach Specialist for Community Power-Ups. Please congratulate her when you have a chance.

#### General

- Ashley is in Costa Rica serving through The World Race.
- Michaela Koll is serving with YWAM in San Francisco.

### **Infrastructure Reports**

#### **Treasurer's Report: Mike Mathisen**

We made some headway with the budget this month and see positive trends. We are still running at a deficit. The second Sunday of each month, we will share the finances with the congregation. Keith Nelson is doing a great job.

**Stewardship: Mike Mathisen**

Will work with Pastor Darrin on a plan. Plan to send out statements in the fall.

**Facilities: Jeff Montgomery**

- Drywall is here for the studio room and work starts tomorrow. The plan is to complete this project this summer.
- Porte cochere- awaiting one more bid.
- The window replacement project, approved at our Annual Meeting, starts soon with completion over the summer.
- Roof: a second engineer looking at the north slope hail damage. Pray that insurance will cover most of the expenses.

**Secretary's Report: Maia**

No report.

**Vice President's Report: Jodi**

Magnuson school director interviews occurred. This Saturday's family event will move indoors since rain is expected.

**President's Report: Sandy Anderson**

Discussed whether we should scale back the "treats" for the Council meeting. For now, we will continue, but council members are welcome to share the responsibility for food. In the future, we will consider having some council meetings off campus.

**Other new business:****June Work Assignments**

- June Offering Auditors: 9:00 am: Tim; 10:30 am: Ken
- Mike will cover for Jeff this weekend.
- Devotions and refreshments for June 20, 2019: Maia

Pastor Darrin closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Maia Hendrickson