

COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

June 17, 2021

Call to Order & Roll Call

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

Excused: Jeff Montgomery, Tim Orf

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Opened with highs/lows and prayer.

The minutes from the May 2021 Council meeting and the 2021 Annual meeting were approved as updated.

Pastor Darrin's Report:

Currently, we do not have applicants for the Student Ministries and Missions position. The goal was to fill the position by July, but we will wait for the right person. Please pray and consider potential applicants from your networks. In addition, we have not received responses for our internship positions. This may be a timing issue. We will see what God is teaching us. Keep praying!

Regarding personnel, the council considered a proposed change to the medical leave policy. The change would include an increase from four weeks of paid maternity leave for expectant mothers to six weeks, and the change would add two paid weeks of paternity leave for expectant fathers. Adoption will be included with the maternity/paternity leave policy. The council discussed possibly extending the maternity leave to eight weeks. Instead, we are also considering a short-term disability option. The decision was made to increase the maternity leave up to six weeks and continue looking into the disability insurance.

Motion made: CGLC will provide six paid weeks of maternity/adoption leave to expectant mothers and two paid weeks of paternity/adoption leave to expectant fathers.

This was approved as read with further wordsmithing by Pastor Darrin to follow.

Pastor Angie's Report:

The current sermon series is the book of Matthew. On Thursday, June 24, we will hold a service of remembrance and grieving at 6:30 p.m. On July 18, we will celebrate volunteers with a "Love Pours In" event. Dan Lugo will take the lead.

While Dan is on vacation, guest leaders are covering.

The funeral schedule is busy post-Covid-19.

Core Team Reports

Children's Ministries: Wendy Fitzsimmons

Vacation Bible School (VBS) has 101 students signed up with three on the waiting list. Volunteer spots are filled.

Victoria and Britta are asking for prayer. They will need down time. Britta found a house in White Bear Lake and closing happens right before VBS.

Magnuson School registration is high. They plan to have two kindergarten and two first grade classes in the fall.

Student Ministries: Dan McMahon

Last Sunday, we celebrated our graduating seniors. Summer activities started with a variety of activities for different age groups. Some of the planned activities include serving dinner at Solid Ground, holding outdoor Refuge with a food truck, and an upcoming event at PINs.

Adult Ministries: Mike Hamernick

Many groups will be taking this summer off as they usually do, but a select few have decided to continue meeting since they missed seeing each other during the Covid pandemic.

As usual, the discussion guide will not be available during the summer, so any groups that need content may use the sermon series reading guide or the Grace Gathering steps posted on social media and our website.

We will be starting the "Say Yes" campaign this summer. Pray that God will reveal some new leaders that will start new growth groups and connection groups.

Seniors: Ken Colberg

On June 3, R.O.M.E.O. met at Denny's and J.U.L.I.E.T. met on June 7 at Washington Square. The Old Guys Bible Study and Quilters continue meeting on Mondays.

We are short of help for funerals. We will add a request for help through the "Next Steps" announcements on Sunday mornings.

Worship: Tim Orf

No report.

Welcome/Hospitality: Dennis Engman

The Welcome Team cookie mission is happening only once monthly related to a shortage of volunteers. Please pray that people will step up and help make it happen.

Missions: Michelle Sherman

At the end of April, Darrin and Michelle saw the new facility for Project HOM. They are developing a new model of care. We plan to hold another drive for Project HOM after the school tools drive. Donna is thrilled with the new space.

Michaela Koll was home, and Michelle was able to meet with her. Michaela feels the love from this church. She started school again and pursuing a Psychology degree.

Regarding Haiti, Darrin discussed planning a trip with Brad Johnson. Brad connected Darrin with a coordinator who provided dates. The elections in November may affect travel. Darrin will look into airline tickets.

Infrastructure Reports

Treasurer and Stewardship Report: Mike Mathisen

Presently we are over budget by \$73,623. Missions continues to run behind budget.

A motion was made to transfer \$6000 from our general reserve fund to the cover missions. This motion passed.

At the end of May, our final total for the Raising Hope campaign came to \$38,007.24.

Facilities: Mike Mathisen

Jeff, Paul, and Mike looked at options for updating the restrooms attached to the Commons. Paul is getting larger samples, and the plan is to provide these restrooms with a complete makeover.

With the growth in the Magnuson School enrollment, additional classroom space is needed. Subdividing the existing lunchroom would provide them with additional space. The expenses for the work would be shared between the church and the school. Ultimately, the decision is up to Magnuson School.

A motion was made to authorize the Magnuson School to subdivide space to expand classrooms as needed. This motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Maia Hendrickson

No report.

Vice President's Report: Sandy Anderson

No report.

President's Report: Mark Schuneman

Plan to resume offering collection support this fall.

In July, we will not have a council meeting. Enjoy a summer break.

Other new business:

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 19.

Respectfully submitted by Maia Hendrickson