

COMMUNITY OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes

November 11, 2021

Call to Order & Roll Call

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

Excused: Mike Hamernick, Michelle Sherman

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

The minutes from the October 2021 Council meeting were approved.

Pastor Darrin's Report:

The next sermon series will focus on stewardship. Darrin returned from another Leader Care Retreat with his wife, Angela, at Riverside Bible Camp. He thanked the Council for supporting this through continuing education funds.

Kendra Deal is stepping down from Master's Institute. Be in prayer for Kendra and the transition to a new leader.

Pastor Angie's Report:

We celebrated Reformation Sunday new members. This group included many eager people who jumped in to help with the confirmation banquet. Three of these new members are participating in Angie's Bible Study group. The pick-up choir for Reformation Sunday was a great success. Angie offered a special thanks to Helen Kahl for volunteering to lead.

On All Saints Sunday, we celebrated the memory of many faithful members including long time member Rose Gustafson. In addition, we recognized twenty-four confirmands.

Upcoming events include a meeting with one of the producers of "The Chosen," and Irina Orf plans to lead a Seder meal.

Core Team Reports

Children's Ministries: Wendy Fitzsimmons

Between 30-40 students are coming to HISKids. Students and adults have expressed excitement about seeing children participate in the Sunday services. The Trail Blazer Bash is November 19, 2021, for grades 4-6. Magnuson students were invited to join. Pray for more participants.

Britta and Victoria are considering "classroom buddies" for students who need some support.

For the December Christmas program, students recorded narrations of the Christmas story and provided artwork to be displayed during the narration. They will also sing and sign "Go Tell it On the Mountain."

Parents of Grace is going well. They had up to twelve parents involved. This includes videos and discussions, and parents find the content helpful. Sessions after the 9 a.m. service and before picking up the students. This spring, the Children's Ministry Team plans to provide a special speaker.

Student Ministries: Dan McMahon

The celebration of confirmation was a great event. It was truly meaningful for the students.

For "Big Night" last Wednesday, students participated in Operation Christmas Child. The students demonstrated remarkable generosity and they wrote notes for the shoebox recipients. The next "Big Night" is scheduled for December 1, 2021.

The Refuge series topic is forgiveness. Guest speakers included Mary Ellen Steinkraus who received applause from the students.

Adult Ministries: Mike Hamernick

No report.

Seniors: Ken Colberg

Seniors are busy. Old Guys, Quilters, Sr. Bible Study, J.U.L.I.E.T., R.O.M.E.O. and bandage rollers continue meeting.

The Veteran's Event occurred today.

Tomorrow is Fare For All.

Women's Circles are also busy.

This year, rather than a Christmas Tea, the Henning family will share their musical talents.

Worship: Tim Orf

The Tech Crew is integrating the DANTE system. We need some additional help with this crew.

Breanna McNear will lead an Advent Theme Vespers Service on November 28, 2021 at our church.

Welcome/Hospitality: Dennis Engman

No new report.

Missions: Pastor Darrin for Michelle Sherman

Pastor Darrin had lunch with Michelle and reported on her behalf. The Service & Missions Committee continues to foster a relationship with Project HOM. In the future, this organization plans to invite congregations to come and prepare meals. All who come in from the outside will need proof of vaccination. For "Project Warm Winter," \$4000 was donated.

Darrin spoke with Otis about a potential vision trip to Mission of Hope. At this time, the dates are uncertain. We have about \$6000 in funds held for Haiti.

"Give a Gobble" is moving forward. The church staff will serve together at the food shelf on the Monday before Thanksgiving.

Infrastructure Reports

Treasurer and Stewardship Report: Jeff and Mike

The budgeting process has begun with discussions around personnel. Darrin is sending a letter to let the congregation know we need about \$440,000 before the end of the year. It appears we will put together a 1.15 million budget, a 10% increase. In addition, we will ask for \$650,000 for the roof replacement at an upcoming congregational meeting.

Thru October, we were over budget by \$177,385. Our giving is below budget by \$127,301. Missions is short \$15,074. Throughout this year, we have seen a decline in money designated to missions. Plans are in place to encourage more giving to missions.

Facilities: Jeff and Mike

On December 5, 2021, we will hold a special congregational meeting to request \$650,000 for the flat roof replacement. Sandy will lead in Mark's absence. Pinnacle and Sela submitted bids. We need an engineering study to know whether a ballasted roof will work across the entire surface. An engineering firm is exploring whether we could add a third story in the education wing. If so, we would hold off on making changes to that section of the roof.

Secretary's Report: Maia Hendrickson

Thanks to Sandy for covering the minutes from the October meeting.

Vice President's Report: Sandy Anderson

No report

President's Report: Mark Schuneman

Mark thanked the council for their flexibility this month by moving up one week and meeting via Zoom. Pray for the special congregational meeting.

Other new business:

Plan on Sunday, January 30, 2022, for the Annual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Dan closed in prayer.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Maia Hendrickson