

Grace Lutheran Congregation Council Meeting

October 8, 2018.

Members present: Pastor Kristi, Kristy Larson, Craig Brendan, Randy Raub, Jeff Vetsch, and Paul Dressler

1. Meeting was called to order by Kristy Larson.
2. **Devotion and prayer:** Pastor Kristi Mitchell led us in prayer.
3. **Approval of agenda:** Updates and corrections to agenda (need to add: set pre-annual meeting time and set date for annual meeting under #8 business and discussion items). Motion to accept agenda with corrections was seconded and approved.
4. **Approval of previous meeting's minutes:** correction to statement on financial report - strike bullet # 3 under financial report and replace with (Even though a gain took place in July, we still have \$7,500 in contingency if needed); # 6 Aiden Sharp spelling incorrect; Madison and Adian will be joining HHB band not Cornerstone. Correct spelling of Pastor Deborah's last name. Change wording on last bullet from cleansing of church roles to "updating"; Motion to approve revised meeting minutes was made, seconded, and approved.
5. **Financial reports:** Offering was under budget for the month \$3K (\$23K vs \$26K) and it is also down YTD \$70K (\$191K vs \$261K) and down from 2017 \$12K (\$191K vs \$203K). Expenses for August were under budget \$4K (\$31K vs \$35K) and are under by \$22K (\$261K vs \$283K) for the year. At the end of August; Grace Lutheran's Net Income is -\$29K. Grace Garden's tuition was under budget for August \$1K (\$25K vs \$26K) and is under \$23K (\$178K vs \$201K) for the year. Expenses were basically on budget for the month (\$28K vs \$27K) but are under \$8K (\$196K vs \$204K) for the year. At the end of June; Grace Garden's Net Income is -\$8K. We have not used all of contingency fund yet as of end of August. June, July and August have been better than the worst month (May). We have not contributed to Mission Support so far this year. We are committed to \$14K. Grace Garden financial management with Trish was managing everything. Grace goal was to have Robin (business manager) assist and work with Trisha to provide checks and balances. Robin would manage accounts receivable. Also explored and are now providing electronic payment of Grace Garden bills (allows payment with credit card and E banking). Motion to approve financial report, seconded, approved.
6. **Ministry team reports:** Worship team close to finalizing new handling of offering; planning special services for Oct., Nov., and Dec. Bands are coming together and doing a great job of leading music and worship. HHB thankful for Pastor Kristi's assistance with music selection.
7. **Staff reports:** Pastor Kristi: very busy, baptisms, confirmation classes in full gear, many people coming in for support with bills (we have funds to cover these needs); education (faith formation) been challenging, plenty of kids, just not enough teachers/leaders. Need more parents to step up and help teach Sunday Faith Formation. Thankfully, Karen Simmons and Lori Weller have agreed to teach. Marty: Summer 2019 Trips Destinations are 8th and 9th graders will be encouraged to attend Leadership Lab, held in late July on the campus of Augustana College in Rock Island, IL. Participants will then be able to participant on a 3rd Gear Mission trip for the cost of their deposit only! Dates: July 22-27, 2019 Mission Trip destination is narrowed to either Christikon Lutheran Camp in Montana or Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp in Colorado. Dates: TBA Senior Trip will be to California through Mt Cross Lutheran Camp. Dates: TBA 3rd Gear Meetings are moving to Sundays starting 09/16 from 11:30 to 12:30. School visits on Mondays returning soon.

8. New business and discussion items:

- a. **Flat roof update:** Roof was leaking during heavy rain last month. Called and they came to fix. Problem was related to removal of old roof, corners and edges were not adequately sealed. Contractors repaired the seams. No leaks since.
- b. **Handling of offering:** Procedure nearly ready and Jeff has discussed with October Ushers. We'll begin new procedure and handling in October. Craig will update procedure.
- c. **Treasurer position job description:** Written description was read and approved by Congregation Council members. Some minor changes may be needed. Specific language detailing needs of church treasurer will be listed as "preferred but not required". Position time commitment is unknown (will be added to job description). Current stipend is \$2,400 per year. Need in place by January or earlier. New Treasurer may sit on congregation council, TBD. Motion to advertise treasurer job ASAP, seconded, approved. Advertisement here at Grace and in Waseca County News.
- d. **Worship accompanist:** Creating position announcement. Looking for pianist and/or organist.
- e. **Updating membership roles:** Nothing to discuss at this time.
- f. **Finances:** Stewardship committee update – Craig has signed up one new member to (Gloria Butler) committee, we want three total and have two more in mind to ask. Electronic giving update – SideKick company is going to bring one for us to look at and we are going to purchase one soon. Matching opportunity update – this is the time of year to do matching request, we can go up to \$20K match from endowment. Council agreed to have request go to congregation in November. Motion to move forward with a congregation match for the month of November, seconded, approved.
- g. **New business:** Discussed having congregation meeting(s) prior to annual meeting. Purpose of meetings is same as last year to allow for open dialog on constitutional changes. Motion to have annual meeting Jan. 27th, 2019, seconded, approved.

9. Date for next meeting: October 18, 2018 at 7 pm will be budget planning meeting ONLY.

10. Motion to adjourn: moved, seconded, approved. meeting adjourned.