



Council Minutes February 17th, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE:

*James Newell (Past President)	*Rebekah Bryan (Secretary)	*Brittany Lobner (Fellowship)
*Kirstin Albiero (President)	*Scott Nielsen (Treasurer)	Joe DeCamp (Property)
*Scott Donovan (President-Elect)	Rachel Langer (Outreach)	Lisa Bernd (Director of Involvement)
*Pastor Greg Van Dunk	*Lori Mathias (Worship)	*Jen Jacobson (Christian Education)
		Melissa Schmidt (Christian Care)

(*) present at meeting

The meeting began at 7:34 P.M. with President Kirstin Albiero presiding.

- ✓ Approval of the January 2022 minutes: There was a motion to approve the January 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded & approved.

Pastor and DI Reports

PASTOR REPORT:

No reports

DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT: (Lisa Bernd)

Kirstin presented this question in Lisa's absence: Kathy Kehoe is hoping to do a card sale on April 21st and 24th to benefit Adult Literacy. Scott asked if it's to benefit the church. Kirstin said adult literacy center, it's been in the past. We all said it's a go.

Building: We are still having issues with the lights in the parking lot. I have a call into Current Electric to have them come out & check them.

The repairs have been made on the furnace.

SignUp Genius: I have updated SignUp Genius to include dates through May 15. I did not include Holy Week in that Sign Up. I will do that separately. It is still a struggle getting volunteers each week for certain positions that need to be filled.

Caring Ministries: We have begun using NoteBird for all of our caring ministries updates. I entered all of the people from our former Caring Ministries Google Docs. Moving forward I will only use NoteBird. I have been calling & chatting with our members who are in need of some extra care. I have also sent thinking of you cards to people also.

I will be helping prepare for Don Westby's funeral next week. I am working on a check list to use to gather the information to help me prepare for the funeral bulletin & whatever else is needed.

Question: Kathy Kehoe would like to have a handmade card sale – April 21 & 24. Some of the proceeds would benefit the Adult Literacy Center. She has done card sales like this in the past. I told her I would ask the church council & let her know if you are ok with her having it.

Voting: The Village had their first vote of the four vote cycle on Tuesday, February 15. It was for only a few wards so they did not need to use the whole building. The next vote is April 5.

Blood Drive: We will be hosting our first blood drive of the year on February 22.

Lenten Cantors: I made a Signup Genius & sent out an email for Eryn to have people sign up to be a Holden Evening Prayer Cantor.

Attendance Report



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Attendance was discussed.

Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN CARE: (Melissa Schmidt)

No report provided

FELLOWSHIP: (Brittany Lobner)

Upcoming Events:

Lenten Dinners-after worship March 2nd-April 6th

Trudi Biefeld is assisting me with contacts/sign ups. We're having a bit of trouble finding volunteers to take a dinner evening. We may end up creating a sign-up for Wednesday evening meals. We are waiting to hear back from Outreach. Adult Literacy Center said not this year, and Handbells passed as well. We are also discussing about inviting All People's Church members.

Wednesday, March 2nd-7th Grade Confirmation (Erica)

Wednesday, March 9th-Church Council (Pasta Bake)

Wednesday, March 16th-RNT (Pizza, Salad, Drinks)

Wednesday, March 23rd-Lydia Circle

Wednesday, March 30th-??

Wednesday, April 6th-Sunday School (Erica)

Future Events:

April 10th-16th, 2022-Holy Week

May 2022-Bingo, Campfire Sing Along Outdoors?

June 2022-Chinooks Game?

OUTREACH: (Rachel Langer)

No report provided

PROPERTY: (Joe DeCamp)

No report provided

FINANCE: (Scott Nielsen)

Very strong month, with offerings at \$74k and a \$27k surplus for the month. Contingency fund climbed from \$100k to \$126k. However, a few folks prepay their entire 2022 offerings in January, so this isn't a "normal" month, but a great start nonetheless. We should get a much better feel for things in February. If you notice the large shift in cash from project funds to contingency it's because people that pre-pay their 2022 in Dec 2021 (for tax reasons) we park the cash in Project Funds in Dec and then release them over to the operating budget side in January.

January 2022 Treasurer's Report

January 2022 Financial Results

P&L

- Revenue was \$74k (\$30k favorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$47k (\$4k unfavorable to budget)
- Surplus of \$27k (\$27k favorable to budget)



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Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - January 2022

	January Actual	January Budget	Delta Budget	Jan '21 Actual	Delta Prior Year
Total Revenue	73,907	43,429	30,478	44,570	29,337
Expenses					
World Mission Subtotal	3,542	3,792	(250)	3,804	(262)
Rostered Ministry - Subtotal	13,874	11,669	2,205	20,484	(6,610)
Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal	13,083	12,491	592	11,468	1,615
Our Church Home Subtotal	14,175	12,874	1,301	13,518	657
Worship & Service Subtotal	2,354	2,547	(193)	1,494	860
Total Expenses	47,028	43,372	3,655	50,768	(3,740)
Surplus / (Deficit)	26,880	57	26,823	(6,198)	33,078
Amount To / (From) Contingency	26,880	57	26,823	(6,198)	33,078
Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency	-	-	-	-	-

Year-To-Date P&L

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Balance Sheet

- Cash increased \$9k in the month to \$199k



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- Contingency Fund **increased \$27k** to \$126k
- Project Funds **decreased \$18k** to \$72k

Grace Lutheran Church Balance Sheet - January 2022

	January Starting Balance	January Ending Balance	January Changes	
Assets				
Cornerstone Checking	101,985	110,526	8,540	
Cornerstone Money Market	88,287	88,298	11	
Total Cash	190,273	198,824	8,552	
Contingency Fund	99,524	126,404	26,880	<i>Jan '22 Operating Deficit</i>
Project Funds	90,748	72,420	(18,328)	<i>Jan '22 Project Fund Change</i>
	190,273	198,824	8,552	
Total Assets	190,273	198,824	8,551	
Liabilities				
Mortgage	1,732,903	1,729,134	(3,769)	
Total Liabilities	1,732,903	1,729,134	(3,769)	
		Principal Payment	3,769	
		Interest Payment	4,927	
			8,696	

WORSHIP: (Lori Mathias)

- Both Choir and Handbells are resuming practices the end of February
- For the 10:30 service, since Praise Team singers cannot wear masks as they are singing, could the area in front of the Praise team be just for their families to sit? This is a request from Vince/Katy. Possibly signs could be placed on the seats notifying other members of the congregation of this.
- **Ash Wednesday**– the Choir is tentatively scheduled to sing
- **Mid-Week Lenten Services** – skits will return run by the Confirmands; Theme is “Change”; Holden Evening Prayer will be used and Eryn is setting up Cantors to assist with this
- **Holy Week:** Palm Sunday – Cry of the Congregation (soloists needed) and Children’s Choir; Praise Team will be used during Holy Week; Easter Sunday – two services at 8 and 10:30 only
- **Pastor Greg** – indicated the Gospel of Mark will be used through Easter; Guest Preachers in the next month – Karen Cutler and Matt Shore, Director of Mission for the ELCA; The MET Team Mission Site Profile should be ready by early May
- John Bernd reported the congregation averages 20 live views per week and many watch the service later; **volunteers are needed to move the PowerPoint slides for the 8 a.m. service**

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COMMITTEE: (Jen Jacobson)



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I have no report for the Youth and Family Ministry Team (YFMT), we didn't meet yet. However, you will find a lot of information on the Youth and Family miniatures in Erica's report. I am forwarding her along because I didn't get her the updated council email list in time. As we have new members on council, please make sure you CC Erica (erica@gracegrafton.com) on your reports, it is helpful for her to see the reports as some activities might pair well with themes and other activities happening with youth education.

- Sunday School
 - The kindergarten youth led the Lord's Prayer during the 10:30 service on Feb. 6th.
 - The Education hour youth will be singing in church on April 3 during both services.
 - Multiple education hour students will be singing at the Palm Sunday service and the education hour students will be helping hand out palms during the service.
- VBS
 - VBS will be August 15-19.
 - This is later than usual because the church is hosting voting the week before.
- Thrivent Grants
 - We are currently working on using the Thrivent Grants that were applied for in December.
 - Most recently, I purchased a television using a Thrivent grant to replace the two broken cart televisions. I also purchased a new DVD player and HDMI cords.
- Technology/PR Support
 - I will continue to post events and updates on Facebook. I am trying to post 1-2 posts each day.
 - I have started an Instagram page but have not launched it yet.
 - I am hoping to get trained on using the tech in the worship center
- Confirmation
 - Affirmation of Baptism service will be on May 15th
 - We will have 13 students confirmed this year
 - 7th Grade Confirmation students will be hosting the Ash Wednesday meal on March 2nd.
 - Confirmation students will be assisting at the Lenten Wednesday night services again this year. They will help as greeters, readers, acolytes, skit performers and ushers.
 - Our confirmation students do not have traditional class during Lent. They eat together and then attend worship together.
- KFC
 - KFC met on February 13. We went to the Concordia production of "The Little Mermaid". We had 7 KFC youth and 3 families attend.
 - Our next meeting is on March 20th .
- JYG
 - JYG events have been scheduled for the spring. Our first event is February 18th
 - I have multiple volunteers that are helping with Sunday Education hour for JYG to help fill in days that I cannot lead because of other education hour responsibilities.



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- HYPE
 - The ELCA Youth Gathering has been cancelled. I am working on another option.
 - Postcards were sent out the HYPE youth this month.
 - Pastor Greg and I are reviewing a report “The State of Youth Ministry: How Churches Reach Today's Teens and What Parents Think About It.” It is a Barna Report produced in partnership with Youth Specialties and Youthworks
 - We are hoping to gain some knowledge on why we are having such a hard time getting our HYPE youth to remain involved after confirmation is complete and how to engage them in other ways if we can't get them in the doors.
 - HYPE hosted the chili sale on January 23rd. We were able to raise over \$800.00.
- Other
 - Pine Lake camping opportunities are now on display in the gathering space.

Other Business

- Reports & Discussion
 - Director of Involvement
 - All agreed that Kathy Kehoe could hold a handmade card sale again.
 - Fellowship
 - Brittany is working with Lisa on Lenten meal details.
 - Worship Planning
 - Pastor Greg will make an announcement at the 10:30 service that only family of worship team should sit in that area.
 - Treasurer
 - Katie brought up Thrivent grant. 40 or 50 Thrivent grants? Will they continue? Jen said Erica is still continuing to apply for education ministry grants. She said Katie would sit down with anyone who wants to learn. Kirstin said we should go through the list from Katie and designate who should be applying for what—outreach, fellowship, etc. These responsibilities should fall within the proper chain instead of just being on one person. Kirstin can get the list out to divvy up. Scott N. forwarded the information to the council.
- Old Business
 - Masking policy—We will discuss a change to the mask policy via email and hold a quick meeting to vote if there is official word to lift the mask mandate before our next meeting. Otherwise, we will keep the mask mandate in place and reevaluate next month whether to make our services mask-optional.
- New Business
 - Real communion will be kept consistent with a change in the mask policy.
 - Keep offering Lenten meals, and people can decide whether they are comfortable enough to attend.
 - Endowment team gift for Pine Lake renovations
 - Pastor Greg said MET process is getting into data processing phase. Survey results, historical reflection event (Feb 19), and focus group (March 12) will be the bulk of data gathering.
 - Paula Race can use the kitchen for her commercial use to build her flavor mix packets for 2-3 hours a month for the next year. We agreed \$75, assuming it's



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paid up front and she's flexible schedule-wise, which should be spelled out in her contract. Also add to website that the building can be used for commercial use, upon review and approval.

- Next meeting date: Mar 17th at 7:30PM

Closing Prayer: Pastor Greg
Meeting adjourned at 8:35.