

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

*Pastor Paul Bulgerin	*Darlyne Holle	Aimee Lempke
*Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen	*Trudi Biefeld	*John Walch
Ruth Schmidt	*Lisa Bernd	*Peg Lade
Jim Mulholand	Sarah Ganaway	*Katie Eippert
Kerry Feutz	*Alissa Burgos	Laurie Gosselin

The meeting began at 8:30am with President Darlyne Holle presiding.

**Devotion:** Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen

✓ Approval of the January 2016 minutes

**PASTOR PAUL'S REPORT:**

**Grace Play:** The play, "The Story Teller's Journey" will be performed on Sunday, March 6. Our cast has done a very good job getting ready for this and I look forward to a fun day!

**Worship Attendance:** We had one strong 10:30 service in February and two services with light attendance. Our 8:00 a.m. attendance has been fairly consistent and we have had several Sundays when we had more people at 8:00 than 10:30. I am going to do a lot of PR among our members promoting regular worship attendance.

I have been keeping an eye on usher counts and have talked to a number of usher captains about taking the count during the offering when ushers can make sure they see everyone, especially children.

**Youth Quake:** Jessica and Mary Korrison and I went with five middle school students to the Quake in the Dells the weekend of February 19-21. We have not gone to the Quake for a number of years and it was good to get this going again. A big "Thank You" is owed to Jessica Korrison who headed up all the plans for the Quake.

**PASTOR HEIDI'S REPORT:**

**Worship:** I preached and put together the Ash Wednesday service, and I baptized Monroe Everly Albiero. *Please note that our Sunrise Service on Easter begins at 6:30 a.m. (instead of 6 a.m.) this year.*

**Women's Retreat:** Publicity is beginning for the retreat on April 16. The theme is "Lavendar Springs Spa", and the study focuses on the Psalms.

**Sabbatical Sharing:** It was good to share my sabbatical presentation with my colleagues this month. We hosted at Grace and I put the worship together. Thanks to Eryn Durlam for playing morning prayer for us!

**Publicity/Grace Community Crew:** We had the opportunity to place an ad on a t-shirt the Grafton schools give out at sports games, blood drives & other school events. It was a good opportunity to get our name out in the community while also supporting our schools.

The first meeting for Grace's Community Crew will be Tuesday, April 5 at 7:30. Lisa and I will bring some ideas for publicity and invite others to do the same. Some things we are thinking of are yard signs, banners for outside of church, mailings, and Facebook publicity (such as for the open house, new services, etc.).

**AIM RUTH'S REPORT:**

**Sunday School:** The staff has been doing a great job showing flexibility with space needs. This Sunday, we'll need to use the kitchen for one group. This will also be the last Sunday the youth will be able to meet in the youth room. How blessed we are to have the Eipperts living so close and willing to open their home to the youth.

**Worship:** I enjoyed writing the skit and preaching this past Wednesday at our Lenten Service. The Confirmation kids are so great to work with. A couple weeks ago Grace set a new record, I'm sure, for the most kids at a non-

holiday 8:00 children's message. It was a joy to see so many at both services. I have to order quite a few hand-outs for Advent, Lent and other special Sundays.

### **DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT:**

**Construction:** The construction is going well. The changes are visible daily. Right now the kitchen is up & they are working on the metal work as I am typing this. The roof is being put on the whole building & should be done next week. The room partitions & door frames are being put up in the south addition. I recently met with Jim Hinze to go over the interior lock system. Jim used to work for a lock company so he was very helpful in putting together our new system. To discuss at our meeting: There are 15 doors that will still be keyed to our old key system. To replace those locks will be an additional cost of \$1950. I would like to replace those locks when all of the other locks are replaced. I will explain the pros & cons at our meeting.

**Kitchen:** I helped Kerry Feutz, Erica Dimmett & the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders start packing up the kitchen. The kids did a great job. We will need to be out of that space by Sunday, March 6. Demolition will begin in that section on March 7.

**Women's Book Study:** We joined the Tuesday evening group in February. I was unable to meet that evening so Pastor Heidi kindly ran the meeting for both groups. We will meet together in March also. In April & May we will be meeting at one of our group member's house.

**Statements:** The 2015 statements went out the last week of January.

Letter I sent out "We Miss You Letters" to people who have not been in worship for quite a while. I don't want people to think we don't notice that they are not in worship because we do.

### **FELLOWSHIP:**

Fellowship has not met recently. Next time they meet they will be working on putting events on the calendar.

**PROPERTY:** No Report

**CHRISTIAN CARE:** No Report

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** No Report

**WORSHIP:** No Report

### **OUTREACH:**

- The Baby Bottle Boomerang Project is still in progress. The last day to return the filled bottles is Feb 28<sup>th</sup>. A volunteer from the Seed of Hope Program will collect the materials and money on Feb 29<sup>th</sup>. A total will be available at the March meeting.
- 125 pounds of food stuffs were collected and taken to Family Sharing during Feb.
- Ham It Up For the Holiday (Any size canned hams will be collected for APC) will start at the end of this month and run to March 9<sup>th</sup>. The collection of hams and food stuffs from the One Can Plan will be given to APC following the Lenten service in which they are invited to.
- Report from Mari Goecks regarding Family Promise
  - We had a team meeting on the 8th. We discussed our host week ( March 27-April 3rd.) coming up, in particular if we would begin on Easter Sunday or the Monday after. We were given the choice by the FP management team. After consulting with our Co-coordinator Alex from our support church, we decided to go ahead and start Easter Sunday. This will save the program from reserving any hotel rooms for families for that day. Alex will do the set up, be on call, and several members at Grace have already filled in volunteer shifts for the evening. I am so grateful for the dedication of the volunteers on this team. We will not know until we get closer to our host week, who we will host and if we host. We could very well be on standby.

- We are trying out the new online sign up for volunteering between both churches. There will still be a paper sign up sheet at Grace, along with a sign up for meals. We are about a month away, and as it was with the first week, we already have a lot of shifts filled.
- We still have the one family in the program, she hoped to be gone by the end of this month, but is having problems finding affordable housing. The Day center receives daily calls from single people asking to use the shelter program, which we cannot do.
- The Day center now has a full time case worker, an Intern from UWM's school of social welfare, 4 part-time drivers, along with our Ex director.  
March 2nd is the FP sponsored Lenten meal, several of us are bringing in various soups, and the grant Kim Beloin applied for is paying for sides.
- There is also a Family Promise fundraising evening for the public on Wednesday, April 20th at the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds called CARE.plants.Hope. We will be serving small plate stations, musical entertainment by OneDrum, and Wayne Larivee will be Master of ceremonies. We Volunteer coordinators have been asked to sell 16 tickets and put up a Poster at Grace for the evening.
- I am not sure what our policy is at Grace regarding selling tickets at church and would like Council to advise me if that is alright to do so?
  - The council advised it was acceptable to sell tickets for this at church. They saw no conflict.

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

**Offerings:** Our offerings through January were behind budget (by \$2321.90), but our total income outpaced our expenses (by \$4938.55), so our total budget cash increased by \$4938.55 to a total of \$6997.04 as of month-end.

**Building Project expenses:** We paid \$388.00 to 5 Corners Storage for 2 months rental of the storage unit, we paid ComNet (phone/internet equipment provider) \$822.05 to move Adult Literacy to their new location in Fellowship hall and fix a bad connection, we paid Dacco \$565.00 for one month trailer rental, and *we paid the first large payment (\$396,040.99) to Catalyst (CatCon LLC) for their construction costs.*

**Specials:** In the specials area of the monthly report, I have added a line called 'Non-project/designated Income/Expense' which shows income of \$25000.00 and expenses of \$9424.00 (to Mueller Heating) in January. This is the money that was donated 'outside' the construction project and designated to cover the new furnace/air conditioning in the worship area and the new cross that will go on the exterior of the building.

Note that the budget figures in the January spreadsheet were revised to include the amendment for the increased salary (1%) that was approved at the Annual meeting. That changed the total 'Sunday Offering' line as well as the lines for the Rostered Ministry Salary/Housing and the Non-Rostered Salaries. It also changed the total expenses by the same amount.

### VPT:

We have scheduled our next meeting for Monday March 14th at 7:15.

At our meeting on February 15th the following were present: Dick Duncombe, Roger Harpt, Barb Eckert, Bob Crevensten, Janet Sladky

We discussed three topics given to us by Pastor Heidi.

1. Small Groups
2. Community Outreach
3. Use of Technology

After some discussion it was decided that by first looking into how we use technology in our church that may become a foundation for research into the other two areas. Before our next meeting please take some time to browse other church websites and make notes as to what you may like and dislike, including our own. I will be reaching out to John Bernd and inviting him to our next meeting to help us understand what we already have in place, who is basically in charge and if there is already a list of how we can improve communication with our worshippers and those interested in our church.

**BUSINESS OLD:** None

**BUSINESS NEW:**

- ✓ The council voted to approve Family Promise's request to sell tickets for a fundraising evening for the public on Wednesday, April 20th at the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds called 'CARE.plants.Hope'.  
\*For more information, see the Outreach Monthly report above.
  - The council brought this to a vote and the request was approved.
- ✓ President Darlyne Holle requested the council's approval to enroll in the 'Mission Investment Fund'. This will help us more efficiently pay our construction loan payments. The online administrators would be Darlyne Holle, Aimee Lempke, and Ed Borkenhagen. <http://www.mif.elca.org/>
  - The council brought this to a vote and the request was approved.
- ✓ The new job descriptions for the Choir Director, Youth Educations Coordinator, and Youth- Family Ministries Coordinator were discussed. A few minor changes were requested.
  - The council brought this to a vote and the request was approved subject to the few minor changes to the descriptions.
- ✓ Lisa Bernd brought up an issue relating to the interior key system. The new addition has a new master key system and the original section is on an older key system. The pros and cons of updating our original key system to match the new key system were discussed. Pros: updating the old system would allow for one more affordable "master key" that would open all the interior doors in the building. Updating the system would also allow for us to more easily keep track of who has access to keys. The primary con was the cost of updating the old lock system to match the new system.
  - The council voted to not spend the money for the re-keying work. Council will monitor the situation.

**NEWS/NOTES/SHARING:****CLOSING PRAYER:** Pastor Paul Bulgerin