



Council Minutes August 21st, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:

*Paul Bulgerin	*Alissa Burgos (Secretary)	*Peg Lade (Worship)
*Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen	Open (Treasurer)	*Wendy Freeland (Fellowship)
*Mike McGraw (President)	Open (Christian Education)	*Lisa Bernd (Director of Involvement)
Kerry Feutz (Past President)	Kelly Klug (Outreach)	*Sarah Brogni (Property)
Mike Moran (President Elect)	Melissa Schmidt (Christian Care)	

(*) present at meeting

The meeting began at 6:05 P.M. with President Mike McGraw presiding.

Reflection led by Sarah Brogni

- ✓ Approval of meeting agenda
- ✓ Approval of the June 2018 minutes

Pastors and DI Reports

PASTOR PAUL'S REPORT:

My Pastoral Sabbatical: My thanks, once again, to the congregation for giving me this time off during the spring and summer and also for the generous financial support that helped us with our trip.

I returned to my pastoral duties on August 6. I will prepare a presentation on the trip we took and share this with the congregation in September.

Thrivent Builds Mission Trip: I have registered Grace for a trip to work with Habitat For Humanity and Thrivent Financial in Sebring, Florida from February 10-17, 2019. I will lead this trip. We will be part of Habitat's work to rebuild houses that were destroyed by Hurricane Irma in 2017.

We can take up to twelve people on this trip. Those who are Thrivent Financial members receive a \$300 discount on the cost of the trip. I am meeting with Chris Beloin, who is a Grace member and our local Thrivent representative, next Thursday, to begin planning for the trip and discussing fund raising ideas.

I hope to use this mission trip to build up support for Habitat's work here in Ozaukee County and the build behind Sendik's that is scheduled for the spring of 2019.

"God's Work Our Hands": We have begun to put together service projects for September 16 and will begin sign-up for them on August 26. If any council members have ideas for a work or service project, please let the church staff know.

I am also working with Thrivent Financial and Lutheran Social Services to see if they can come up with projects for us as well.

Diakonia Class: I have been asked by our synod's Diakonia program to teach the New Testament class for Diakonia students. I did this in 2016. The dates for the classes will be September 4, 11, 18, 25 and October 9.

Stewardship for Fall 2018: Later this month I am going to begin work on our fall stewardship program. The council executive committee will begin to look at our ministry needs and goals. I would think that we will be looking at a minor budget increase for 2019, since two projects in this year's budget, repairing the door and wall on the north side of the building and the final technology improvements, are one-time items and will not be in next year's budget.

The two Sunday's dedicated to stewardship will be October 14 and 21.

Circle of Empowerment: Meg Boren is going to preach at Grace on September 20 and 23. She is rethinking our planned fund appeal to help college students and will let us know what she believes would be the best fund-



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raising project to help the people of Nicaragua. She has been keeping us informed on the political unrest in the country.

PASTOR HEIDI'S REPORT:

Worship: Thanks to Howard Vrankin for preaching a couple times over the summer so I could have a break.

Visitation: My thanks also to Sue Wilterdink who did shut-in visits in July.

Fall Planning: I am looking for a book to do a book study for the Fall, and working on plans for worship, HYPE, and first communion instruction.

Communion Instruction: The Youth and Family Committee was really excited about opening First Communion up to other ages and trying some new times and curriculum. I'm reviewing curriculums for new First Communion classes for different age ranges. I'll be sending out a survey to families to see who might be interested in participating (outside of the 5th graders) so that I can plan times and lessons accordingly.

Weddings: I married Kevin Carlson and Madeline Sisel in July, and Natalie Mathias and Ryan Pook August 17. This weekend (August 25) is Heather Schwengel and Joshua Jensen.

Staff Building: We had said we would reschedule this when Pastor Paul got back from sabbatical. I just reached out to Melissa Schmidt today to get some dates she would be available.

Moana Series: We have dates set (February 3, 10, 17, 24). I started gathering ideas for decorations. Nicole Kloehn (VBS decorator) and Carlee Brooks (joining soon) have said they would help with this. I am looking for a service project idea to go along with it. Maybe water-themed or vocation/call themed, as these are big themes with the series. Let me know if you have any ideas.

Staff Goals: We did a mid-summer check in on our summer goals, and then I took them out to lunch to celebrate and have some fun together. One of the goals we had was to purchase decorations for around the building, which we did. In the coming weeks we will start to have those hung. We are going to do some goal sharing again in mid-September so that we can be aware of what we are working on, and help each other and hold accountable as needed.

DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT: (Lisa Bernd)

Building Usage: The building has been quite busy this summer. We have had a lot of events & weddings. We have events on the calendar for the fall. I plan on having the check list ready for our event in October. I will tweak as needed after that.

Luther Storage Room: Erica & I will be cleaning out the Luther storage room next week. That was on both of our summer goals list. It is quite scary in there.

Extra Stuff: My husband was off most of the summer, so he got a lot odd jobs around the building done for me. He patched & touched up most of the paint spots (there are some more to do that he will get to next month), trimmed the weeds in the court yard, sprayed for bees, installed & got us running on the updated version of Servant Keeper & showed us what we can do on it, changed out the stained ceiling tiles in the gathering area (minus one that was too complicated), made a training booklet for the multimedia room.

Emergency Plan: I know an emergency plan book was started for each room at Grace. Does anyone know where that is & the status on it?

Summer Goals List: I am still working on my goals list for the summer. Some may spill into the fall as they are larger projects. I have completed cleaning out the hospitality area (wiping out cabinets, drawers, the fronts of the cabinets, reorganizing the cabinets), cleaning out the hospitality storage area, redoing all of the mailboxes



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(updating & making new labels for each member & organization & staff boxes, cleaning out the boxes), labeled & distributed all of the church directories, wrote up instructions for the church alarm system, made a list of all of the fire extinguishers, wiped out all of the kitchen cabinets & drawers & reorganized the cabinets.

VBS & Sunday School: I helped Katie by making name tags & labels for the VBS staff. I advanced all of the students in Servant Keeper to their new grade for the fall.

Blessings Box: I was wondering when the blessings box will be put up outside.

Cement Car Stop in Parking Lot: Jim Scott moved the cement stop. We just need to find someone to cut the rebar from the spot.

*****Coffee Maker***:** What would we like done with the old coffee maker? It is taking up a lot of space. Erica listed it a month ago & no one has inquired about it. What am I to do with it?

-Mike Moran will take it for scrap.-

Regular Things: I also continue doing the weekly inset, Grace Notes, the Good News, responsibility emails, entering contributions, e-giving & the million things that come up daily.

Attendance Report

Attendance was discussed.

Open Issues

a) Long Range Planning

- Pastor Heidi: Moana series dates are pinned down. Sunday school is doing something special to go with the series and decorations will be put up. Still looking for a service project to pair with this.

b) Outreach for Hope Bike Ride

- Laurie Mathias is contact she will let us know if there is anything to help with.

c) Blessing Box Installation

- Mike will reach out Mike to see if they can get it figured out.

d) Ed Borkenhagen's Retirement

- Ed will be retiring in January 2019.
- Council is working on coming up with posting for the job and where to post it.

e) Ed Eckert – Resigning from Council

- We will hold his position open through the end of the year and will look to appoint another person for his remaining year in 2019.

f) VBS Presentation / Education Plan for upcoming school year

- Katie Eippert was present at the meeting to show the VBS video.
- There were about 140 kids and 65 volunteers who participated in VBS.
- Everything went well. The picnic was fun, and it was good to see the non-Grace families that came.
- Great way to welcome the community and spread positive messages.
- Grace members are always very generous with donations to keep the event going!
- Next year is 'To Mars and Beyond'.

Sunday School:

- Will be sending out post cards for rally Sunday. There are 105 families with kids eligible for Sunday School.



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- Trying for a “bring your Friend” day.

g) Building HVAC

- Lisa and Mike met with Pure Mechanical. The current servicing contractor is not working out, Southport. They are not following through with their promises and heating/cooling is not working properly in the building.
- Pure Mechanical is a solid choice. However, we currently pay \$2,100 per year. New contractor is coming in at \$3,000. This higher price includes filters, but this still means paying more than we are now. Also, Pure would like to come in and reset the system and then get the system up and running the way it should be. We hope this will improve our utility costs over the long-term and pay for itself. Reset is \$1,500 one-time additional cost. We need to figure out how to get some of our money back from Southport. Pure mechanical will give training, so we can run the building on our own.
- Motion made to switch to Pure Mechanical with the understanding there will be an additional annual cost. \$250 for the second half of the year as well as approximately \$1,500 to reset the system.
 - Motion was seconded and approved.

Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN CARE: (Melissa Schmidt)

I will be prepping for a new member orientation in September.

FELLOWSHIP: (Wendy Freeland)

Working on a board and brush night for September.

Will plan something for during the Moana series.

Looking for a build your planter pot for Spring.

FINANCE: (Ed Eckert)

- Total income for the month was \$42,887.21 – (was \$42,368.80 in June) – very similar to June, and a typical Summer month – well below what we should average (\$51,500.00).
- Budget Expenses for the month of \$48,327.09 were under an average month (we should average \$51,500.00 or lower). The only budget expense of note for this month was a \$450.00 bill for inspection of the Fire Suppression/Sprinkler system – expenses relating to that have been surprisingly high. The We Energies bill edged up a bit from \$1,492.53 in June to \$1,539.43 this month.
- Total income for the year is currently behind total budget expenses by \$13,524.35 – not terrible for this time of year.
- Our budget cash went from -\$18,905.19 at the end of June to -\$24,345.07, dropping \$5,439.88 in July. Not good, but not unusual also at this stage of the year.
- Because our Checking account was getting close to being overdrawn (due to the budget cash situation) I just transferred \$20,000.00 from our money-market account into the checking account. The money-market account still has a substantial balance of \$156,968.26 – primarily money from the special's accounts (including contingency). With any luck this will carry us through the 'lean' months without having to make another transfer – but I'll keep an eye on that.

OUTREACH: (Kelly Klug)

My son and I put together 20 sandwiches along with some carrots and an apple in a bag for the Thrivent builds this past Sat. Howard Vrankin picked them up along with chips, cookies, cheese, condiments and water for the builders and took them over Saturday morning.

PROPERTY: (Sarah Brogni)

I have 3 quotes to repair the north entrance to the church. I would like to be able to discuss that at the meeting.



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- All three contractors had slightly different plan. Will put siding over the wall and then put in a new door.
- Highest quote was \$3,640 and cheapest was \$2,241. All pretty much are replacing the door and siding. We budgeted for \$3,600 already for 2018.
- Sarah will decide and go with it. Doesn't need council approval.

WORSHIP: (Peg Lade)

The WPT met on August 14th, 3 absent due to change of meeting date.

- Eryn did a devotional using material from workshops she attended this summer – reminding us that music and service plans are chosen with a three-fold thought process. They must be Biblical, of Quality, and Relevant - all good reminders.
- Pastor Paul and Pastor Heidi presented their service plans for the upcoming month.
- Shared drive "trials" are being conducted per Pastor Heidi.
- Jubilation choir rehearsals start on 9/6, Praise Team on 8/28, and the Bell schedule will be available soon.
- We will be using Setting 5 of the liturgy beginning on Rally Day, Sept. 9th.
- Vince is rethinking the number of different Praise Team songs he uses in each service – the current number of songs is difficult to rehearse as well as he would like.
- Eryn has proposed a future project to replace the ailing keyboard that she plays for services. I will present her project to council at our meeting. This is a no budget impact proposal!

**A new keyboard is about \$3,200. She would like to sell the keys to the congregation to make up the money. Then there would be no budget issue. If you contribute, she will record a cd and those who contribute will get a cd. Pastor Heidi will verify with Eryn that it can't be fixed. **

Council discussed this idea and would like to investigate all options before deciding.

Next Meetings:

- Sept. 4th
- Oct. 2nd

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COMMITTEE: (Open)

Sunday School

- Education Hour begins on Sept 9
- Meeting with Sunday School teachers on Aug 22
- Sunday School Calendar Info
 - We will be studying 9 Bible stories this year
 - Invite a Friend to Church/Sunday School Day—Sunday, Oct 28 (same day as Trunk or Treat)
 - Youth Christmas Program--Sunday, Dec 16
 - All-Family Moana Event—Sun, Feb 17
 - Last day of Sunday School—May 19
- We have the majority of our staff returning this year and a couple new faces joining us. Thank you to all who assist with Sunday School throughout the year!!
- I'm still looking for one person to help out two Sundays a month with our 1st or 2nd graders. No planning required...just help supervise the kids during Sunday School. Let me know if you are interested. It's a small time commitment that makes a big difference!

VBS

- What a great week at our Rolling River Rampage VBS!
- Ended with 138 children attending (the same as last year) and 65 youth/adults volunteering



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- Several highlights of the week include the Friday closing assembly and VBS picnic lunch. It is a great way to open our doors to the community and welcome non-Grace folks into our building and ministry. I received so many positive comments about Grace, the building and VBS in general.
- Sunday, August 12 we had a worship service showcasing all we did at VBS. Thanks to all the youth and music leaders for assisting at this worship.
- Thank you to Nicole Kloehn who does an amazing job with all of the décor each year
- Thank you also to the congregation as a whole. Their amazing support with donating food items, inviting family and friends, helping with decorations, volunteering at VBS and much, much more is always incredible. We are so blessed to have so much support and help from the entire Grace community!
- Planning is already underway for next year.
 - Dates: Aug 5-9, 2019
 - Theme: To Mars and Beyond

“Make a Splash” for Jesus Pool Party—July 15

- Another beautiful and perfect day for a service at the pool!!
- About 92 people joined us for the service and many more came for the open swim.
- Thank you to our youth and music leaders who helped lead the service. Thank you also to Pat for bringing the sound system—that made a big difference at the service!

Children’s Messages

- I am working on putting the Children’s Message calendar for the fall/winter. I’d encourage folks to give it a try and lead a message!
- Motion made to appoint Jen Jacobson to fill Pat Murracks unexpired term through January 2020.
 - Motion was seconded and approved.

Other Business

Closing Prayer: