



Council Minutes February 22nd, 2024

IN ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *Kirstin Albiero (Past President) | *Rebekah Bryan (Secretary) | *Brittany Lobner (Fellowship) |
| *Scott Donovan (President) | Scott Nielsen (Treasurer) | Avery Newell |
| *Chris Eippert (President-Elect) | Sarah Dahl | Pat Murack |
| *Pastor Chris Thomas | Lori Mathias (Worship) | Kelly Arndt |
| | | Jean Fugate |

(*) present at meeting

The meeting began at 7:35 P.M. with President Scott Donovan presiding.

- ✓ Approval of the January 2024 minutes: There was a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded. Minutes are approved.

Pastor and DI Reports

PASTOR REPORT: See Other Business.

Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN CARE:

No report provided

FELLOWSHIP: (Brittany Lobner)

February 2024 Grace Fellowship Report

Axe Throwing-The event was full and even more wanted to join, so that was amazing! I highly recommend this happen again in the future with West Bend Axe and Escape.

| Date: | Group: | Meal/Drinks Provided: |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Wednesday, February 14 th | 7 th Grade Confirmation-Erica D. | Potato Soup and Sandwiches |
| Wednesday, February 21 st | Adult Literacy Center-Linda B./Katie E. | Pasta Bar |
| Wednesday, February 28 th | Church Council-Brittany L. | Pizza and Salad |
| Wednesday, March 6 th | Retired Not Tired-Trudi B. | Sub Sandwiches |
| Wednesday, March 13 th | Lydia Circle-Jodi D. | Baked Potato Bar |
| Wednesday, March 20 th | Handbells-Debbie D. | Chili and French Bread |

Lenten Meals 2024-Below are the final plans for the Lenten Meals 2024. Ash Wednesday was very busy and successful, and I believe something like \$500 was raised for the 7th Grade Confirmation group to attend camp this summer!



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Council Lenten Meal-February 28th-I have the Thrivent Card to complete the shopping for our turn at a Lenten Meal. The kitchen is in dire need of some paper products, so I am getting those before the next meal on the 21st. For our night, I will be ordering from Even Odds for pizza and shopping at Costco for paper products, lettuce salad, a few dressings, and a light dessert. I will be in contact with DeAnne to have tables and chairs set up, but need a better feel for numbers before doing that. What I still need: **Assistance in all the areas: Prepping of tables and food, pasta salad made (confirmation from Sarah D.), Assistance with serving, and assistance with clean up. Also, what are we raising funds for again?**

Lastly, I'd like to welcome Susan Straus to the Fellowship Chair spot. Though she is not on Council, she has the Chair spot and will be great at organizing and planning future events.

OUTREACH:

No report provided

PROPERTY: (Kelly Arndt)

No report provided

FINANCE: (Scott Nielsen)

February 2024 Treasurer's Report

January 2024 Financial Results

P&L

- Revenue was \$50k (\$8k favorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$50k (\$7k unfavorable to budget)
- Deficit of \$0k (\$1k favorable to budget)



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Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - Jan 2024

| | January Actual | January Budget | Budget Variance |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Total Revenue | 49,620 | 41,667 | 7,953 |
| Expenses | | | |
| World Mission Subtotal | 6,892 | 2,125 | 4,767 |
| Rostered Ministry - Subtotal | 8,100 | 11,669 | (3,569) |
| Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal | 12,808 | 12,669 | 139 |
| Our Church Home Subtotal | 16,600 | 13,188 | 3,413 |
| Worship & Service Subtotal | 5,688 | 3,018 | 2,670 |
| Total Expenses | 50,088 | 42,669 | 7,419 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) | (468) | (1,002) | 534 |
| Amount To / (From) Contingency | (468) | (1,002) | 534 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency | - | - | - |

Year-To-Date P&L

- Revenue was \$520k (\$20k favorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$505k (\$7k favorable to budget)
- Surplus of \$15k (\$27k favorable to budget)



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Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - Jan 2024

| | Jan YTD Actual | Jan YTD Budget | Budget Variance |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Total Revenue | 520,202 | 500,000 | 20,202 |
| Expenses | | | |
| World Mission Subtotal | 30,267 | 25,500 | 4,767 |
| Rostered Ministry - Subtotal | 131,383 | 140,033 | (8,650) |
| Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal | 142,102 | 152,028 | (9,926) |
| Our Church Home Subtotal | 158,802 | 158,252 | 550 |
| Worship & Service Subtotal | 42,418 | 36,215 | 6,203 |
| Total Expenses | 504,971 | 512,028 | (7,057) |
| Surplus / (Deficit) | 15,231 | (12,028) | 27,259 |
| Amount To / (From) Contingency | 15,231 | (12,028) | 27,259 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency | - | - | - |

Balance Sheet

- Cash decreased \$57k in the month to \$152k
 - Contingency Fund decreased \$0k to \$77k
 - Project Funds increased \$2k to \$69k
 - Building Debt Reduction decreased \$58k to \$6k



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Grace Lutheran Church Balance Sheet - January 2024

| | January Starting Balance | January Ending Balance | January Changes | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Assets | | | | |
| Cornerstone Checking | 119,726 | 62,934 | (56,791) | |
| Accounts Receivable | - | - | - | |
| Cornerstone Money Market | 89,203 | 89,275 | 72 | |
| Total Cash | 208,929 | 152,209 | (56,720) | |
| <i>Contingency Fund</i> | 77,496 | 77,028 | (468) | <i>January '24 Operating Deficit</i> |
| <i>Building Debt Reduction</i> | 64,265 | 6,226 | (58,039) | |
| <i>Project Funds</i> | 67,168 | 68,956 | 1,788 | <i>January '24 Project Fund Change</i> |
| | 208,929 | 152,209 | (56,720) | |
| Total Assets | 208,929 | 152,209 | (56,720) | |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Mortgage | 1,553,430 | 1,484,880 | (4,285) | |
| Extra Principal Payment | | | (64,265) | |
| Total Liabilities | 1,553,430 | 1,484,880 | (68,550) | |
| | | Principal Payment | 4,285 | |
| | | Interest Payment | 4,411 | |
| | | | 8,696 | |

STEWARDSHIP (Pat Murack)

No report provided

WORSHIP: (Lori Mathias)

WORSHIP PLANNING MEETING

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

MINUTES

Present: Pastor Chris, Deb, Eryn, Sharon, Dustin, Kathy, Tori, Lori

Pastor Chris led the committee in an opening prayer.

Reports:

Pastor Chris:

-Transfiguration is this Sunday, February 11.

-Ash Wednesday – Distribution of Ashes will be available from 7-9 a.m. (interested can drive up), and also at the Wednesday Evening service at 7 p.m. Discussion was held on music choices

for the evening service.

-Mid-Week Lenten services – The topic will be “lament”, and will feature 5 different questions for each week with reflection on each of those.

-Easter – Easter Vigil service will be held on Saturday at 7 p.m. before Easter (March 30), in conjunction with Advent Lutheran in Cedarburg. We will host the Vigil at Grace. The rest of Holy Week will be standard. Discussion was held between Eryn and Sharon as to music coverage for all services.

-Pastor Chris indicated the baptismal font will be moved closer to the front of the congregation.



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Dustin asked if the font could have a little more water added to lower the sound affects for technology and recording.

-Three new laptops have been approved and purchased by Council for staff use.

Music:

Eryn –

-The Scholarship concert on February 4 was a success, and at this time \$3,002.00 was raised. There will be a button for further donations available on Grace Notes soon. The concert recording will also be available in Grace Notes for other to see.

-Holden Cantors are set for all but the last two weeks of Lent.

-Setting 4 Liturgy will start on the last Sunday in February (involves Assisting Minister or Pastor to sing).

-A Choir survey was given to see which day would be best for Choir rehearsal. It looks like rehearsals will move to Wednesdays for the next school year.

Sharon – Worship Team:

-She is pleased with how the group is improving.

-Ellie Napowicki will be joining the group to sing.

-Sharon asked if it could be communicated to her on what Sundays bells and others are warming

up before the services so the Worship Team knows when they have availability for them to also

practice. Pastor Chris felt the Worship Team might not play the same day as bells. Dustin indicated that the shared Google sheet lists who plays what Sunday for everyone to look at.

-Sharon asked for Pastor Chris to give input on the song after the sermon.

Deb – Handbells:

-New ringers and adjustments have been made to music and player locations.

-Handbells will play once per month through May.

-Deb brought up a discussion about the congregation clapping after the Handbells have played. She felt that is not needed. Discussion was held. Everyone felt that clapping was fine if the congregation desired to do so.

-Jodi Doro will be doing Junior handbell chimes this Spring.

Technology – Dustin:

-A small change was made in technology to lower the static for the Livestream.

-Hardware has been purchased through a Thrivent grant and some of the hardware has been installed. More hardware will be installed soon.

-Dustin has also installed a new room mic to improve sound online.

Miscellaneous – Lori:

-Lori thanked the committee for all their hard work over the two years she has served as Worship

Planning Chair. She will pass on to the incoming Worship Planning chair that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COMMITTEE: (Pat Murack)

Agenda/Other Business



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- Call to order
- Lighting of candle (1 min)
- Opening prayer
- Devotion (10 min)

- Vote to accept minutes from January meeting

- Pastor's report (10 min)
 - Switching over to Breeze software
 - Pastor Chris is attending Protecting Places of Worship training in Cedarburg to learn about building security ideas and grant opportunities
 - Bulbs burnt out in worship center – Focus and Energy grants to replace lighting
 - Council retreat dates – Doodle poll
 - Worship numbers: 6% increase in attendance over January 2023
 - Met with Paula about church rentals
 - Interviewing candidates for custodian position

- Treasurer report: Scott Nielsen (20min)
 - See report

- President's report
 - Annual Meeting – reviewed ballot
 - Election of members to Audit and Personnel Committees
 - Audit – **voted all in favor, passed unanimously**
 - Lynda Lally
 - Bob Crevensten
 - Bob Dries
 - Personnel – **voted all in favor, passed unanimously**
 - From Church Council
 - Chris Eippert
 - Sarah Dahl
 - Dustin Lobner
 - Not on Council
 - Dave Polka (president)
 - Jen Jacobson
 - EPIC Presidents meeting
 - ELCA Partners in Christ

- Committees:
 - **Worship**: Paula will be new worship chair
 - Will add total raised from Feb 4 concert to Grace Notes.



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- **Grounds and facilities** (5 min)
 - Roof leak update – waiting to hear back from plumber

- **Fellowship** (3 min) Brittany
 - passing responsibilities to Susan Straus
 - Brittany will finish up coordinating Lenten dinners

- **Children, Youth and Family Ministries** (3 min) Pat

- **LGBTQIA+ workgroup:** Sarah Dahl (Darlene Holle)
 - Logo/mission statement work in progress
 - Welcoming signage
 - Next steps?

- **Stewardship:** Pat and Pastor Chris
 - Year-end update on giving

- **Nominating committee** (Scott D)
 - Ballots complete
 - Need delegates for Synod Assembly

- Office management issues: quiet

- Sign up: March meeting
 - for coffee/treat: Chris Eippert
 - Devotions: Scott Donovan

- Next meeting
 - Council orientation meeting?

- Closing prayer (1 min)

- Next Meeting:
 - March Council meeting?
 - Annual Meeting: Sunday, Feb 25, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 9:10.