



Council Minutes February 26th, 2017

IN ATTENDANCE:

*Pastor Paul Bulgerin	*Alissa Burgos (Secretary)	*Peg Lade (Worship)
*Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen	*Ed Eckert (Treasurer)	*Laurie Gosselin (Fellowship)
*Kerry Feutz (President)	*Pat Murack (Christian Education)	*Lisa Bernd (Director of Involvement)
*Darlyne Holle (Past President)	Kelly Klug (Outreach)	
Mike McGraw (President Elect)	Valerie Salzman (Christian Care)	

The meeting began at 12:20 A.M. with President Kerry Feutz presiding.

Reflection led by Pat Murack

- ✓ Approval of meeting agenda
- ✓ Approval of the January 2017 minutes

Pastors and DI Reports

PASTOR PAUL'S REPORT:

Stewardship Items: I attended the meeting for the Stewardship For All Seasons (SAS) program on January 25. Our next meeting will be on March 15 at which time we will be instructed on how to conduct the special appeals we have planned for the year.

My plans right now are to have the first appeal be to raise funds to help our youth with the costs of Confirmation Camp and the Boundary Waters trip. This will be held on Sunday, April 30 with information going out to members about this in advance.

Grace also hosted the synod's Stewardship Fair on February 10-11. Darlyne Holle came to the evening session on the 10th. Lots of good information was shared that I hope to use in the future with Grace's stewardship programs.

Summer Adult Mission Trip: I've met with Chris Beloin to discuss the possibility of Grace participating in a "Thrivent Builds" mission trip. This is run in conjunction with Habitat For Humanity. The big hurdle with this is that our designated group leader will need to attend a two day training session. There is one in Minneapolis on May 3-4. I will have to see if I can work it out to attend this.

If this doesn't work we can check out mission trips through Experience Mission. We worked with them for the 2015 trip to Moore, OK.

Boundary Waters: We have filled 22 of the 24 spots on the trip. So far we have five adults and seventeen youth signed up to go.

Confirmation Retreat: On January 27-29 Jessica Korrison and I led the ninth grade confirmation retreat at Pine Lake Bible Camp near Waupaca.

Church Play: Rehearsals are going well for the play. The date of the play is Sunday, March 19. We'll have invitations for people to use starting on March 5. We have about thirty people involved this year.

PASTOR HEIDI'S REPORT:

Lent: Devotions are out, and the Wednesday services are planned- both focusing on Luther's Small Catechism. It is different this year to not have AIM Ruth to help with preaching during the Wednesdays in Lent. The Personal Care Kit info is out and donations will begin coming on March 5.



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Pastoral Leadership Program: I attended my first session in Marquette University's Pastoral Leadership Program this past week. This is a program that meets quarterly for two years, gathering pastors with 5-10 years of ministry experience to discuss ministry issues, social issues, and to support each other. It was an awesome beginning. My cohort is 14 people- 5 Roman Catholic priests (1 from America, 1 from Columbia, 2 from Africa, 1 from India), a Presbyterian, 6 Lutherans, 1 Baptist, 1 Church of God in Christ. It's an amazing group of people!

We learned a bit about Ignatian Spirituality, which I really love and look forward to sharing with the people of Grace in an Adult Forum sometime.

Women's Groups: I had 10 people for my first book discussion on "Travelling Mercies."

Women's Retreat: Sign-ups are up, and I'll be showing a video announcement next week.

Book Study for All: I am planning a study of "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time" for September. There wasn't enough time to get it in this Spring with Lent, Easter, and leading/planning the two women's retreats. Summer is too hard with being in the office only 2 days a week and also with people's travel/vacation schedules.

TNT: We'll be going to see "The Shack" in March. I'm also working on a bowling outing for May.

Pastor Heidi's Goals for 2017: Lead a book study on "Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time" in September, plan a special worship celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, take time to read more books/feed my spirit.

DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT:

End of the Year Statements: Statements were sent out last month. We had a few glitches right after they were sent out. Some people were unable to open them. We found out the issue was one an easy one to fix. We just had to change a setting that was not changed when we got all of our new computer updates. I have resent all of the statements to the people who requested new ones.

Electronic Giving: I have had more late pledges & more electronic giving changes this month than I ever have had. I am hoping all of the major changing is done until May.

Property: I had to contact Southport Heating & Cooling. They will be here on Thursday, February 23. We will be going over the same issues we have been having with the heating.

I also had to contact Mueller Heating for our other furnace. It was not heating in the worship center. They came out & fixed a relay & the heat came right on.

Building Project Wrap Up Meeting: Met with Matt Lempke, Mike McGraw & Joe Smallwood for a building project wrap up discussion. It is hard to believe we have been in the building for almost one year.

Christian Care: I am so happy that Valerie has agreed to one year heading up the committee. I will be attending a Christian Care meeting on Wednesday evening. I look forward to supporting her however I can.

Women's Book Study: We began another book study this month. Next month we will combine with the Tuesday evening study because of Lenten worship.

Building Promotion: I attended a building agreement meeting to help with the wording on the form we will use to rent out our space. We also talked about the fees that will be charged. I really was not much help on the committee but I am so glad we are working on promoting our beautiful, new facility.

Planning: I planned the church council dinner & the retreat lunch.



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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.

Open Issues

- Baptismal Font
 - At a prior council meeting, council discussed issues with the water occasionally turning black. Research has been done and the problem is easier to fix than originally thought. A UV filter needs to be installed. These can be found at any pool store. Ph levels will then need to be maintained. Fix is estimated to cost around \$100.
- Building Use Policy
 - A building use policy was drafted to determine guidelines on who, when, and what fee's to use in the rental of Grace's facility.
 - Council discussed the proposed policy and asked for amendments to the original draft which include clarifying there will be no charge for non-profits and community charity events. Also, incorporating a cleaning donation suggestion.
 - A motion was made to approve the Building Use Policy with the noted amendments.
 - The motion was seconded and passed with 10 approval votes.
- Alcohol Policy
 - Currently, Grace has no formal alcohol policy. Council discussed whether to allow alcohol use on the church grounds subject to certain guidelines. Each case where alcohol would be permitted would first be subject to committee approval.
 - Council will continue to discuss formal guidelines and will present to Grace's insurance company.
- Technology Committee Update
 - An unexpected issue came up which could cause the committee to go over budget. The committee discovered they will need to update Grace's fire monitoring plan. They will need a modem and antenna for the fire monitoring system. This absolutely must be done before moving forward and will increase the budget by \$1,020.
 - To help offset this increase, they will be reassessing which computers need to be updated in 2017.
 - The council will ask the committee to replace the Multi-Media room computer but hold on updating the rest of the computers.
 - A motion was made to approve the purchase of a modem to fix the fire monitoring system.
 - The motion was seconded and passed with 10 approval votes.
- Personnel Committee Update
 - Council discussed the Personnel Committee membership and chairperson.
 - The purpose of this discussion was to determine who has been on the committee the longest and whether there should be turnover of members. Council would like to work towards a three year term for each member.
 - Darlyne Holle will discuss this with the Committee and work with them to determine the best solution to getting some new members on the team and giving relief to the most tenured members.
- Property Committee Update
 - Jim Mulholand resigned as Chair of the Property Committee. Council will be searching for someone to take his place.
 - Bathroom Fan/Tiling
 - Dennis will continue to work on the fixing the men's bathroom.
 - The men's bathroom will remain a two person men's bathroom.
 - Periodic Building Cleaning 2/25/17
 - There were very few people that attended this event.
 - Worship Center Windows
 - Jim Mulholand will continue to work on this.
 - Automatic Handicap Doors – front entrance
 - There is no money in the current budget to pay for the automatic doors.
 - Darlyne will work with the requesters for ideas to raise the needed funds.



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- Erica Dimmett –
 - Erica announced that, effective May 2017; she will no longer be doing janitorial work. She had been working 6 hours per week.
 - Council discussed how to best replace these hours and get more cleaning and odd jobs done around the church.

Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN CARE:

I had a meeting with my Committee last night and we talked about a number of ideas. We are in the process of ordering new coffee mugs for the kitchen and to put in welcome baskets. We are also looking at coordinating t-shirt sales for members to order. Lastly, the new member pictorial directory is being discussed. Stay tuned for details!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Katie's Report:

- 4K - The 4K class is large, at least a dozen kids, and very active. We are looking at adding aids to the class to help better manage them. This may just be a short term solution for the end of the year. We will see how this works and decide if we need to adjust anything for next year.
- Katie Identified Sundays in Season church bulletins to use. We already pay for this service so it will not cost anything more.
- Christmas Program
 - Next year the service times will be 8am and 10am
 - We are considering video recording it so that it is available at cost for parents to purchase instead of having them all record it.

Erica's Report:

- Fundraising
 - Erica is working on developing a fundraising plan for Boundary Waters and the various camps for 7th through 9th grades. The main focus now is on 7th grade confirmation camp and High School trips as they are the most expensive.
 - Boundary Waters - Chili lunch, Lenten Meal, Palm Sunday Brunch, Car Wash
 - 7th Grade Confirm - Ash Wednesday

Old Business:

- Ruth Cross Wall Art - Kerry has the design down - it will be a 1x1 tile in color design. She is looking to have a wooden box made.
- Feb 19th Youth Bake Sale - Tabled to fall when we are doing the Church Wide appeal for Circle of Empowerment.

New Business:

- It was suggested to have a slip in the pew for children to write prayers on them and put them in the offering. This will be added March 1st
- New Donation - Mamadou done in summer. It was elected to sponsor a child with Circle of Empowerment and a local organization. We are letting the children vote for the local organization the last day of Sunday School.

Goals:

- 1) Develop Fundraising Plan for Supporting Education
- 2) Research, Identify and select updated current curriculum

FELLOWSHIP:

I've got Lenten Meals set with the exception of what will turn out for All Peoples. Kelly and I will be working on it.



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I have 3 going with me to Dare To Be and 4 going to Worship Night in America. There were no calls with interest in the Bucks game.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Not much to report given we are so early in the year. However, we are going to be carefully monitoring the actual budget as the year proceeds.

OUTREACH:

All People's church was invited to dinner with Grace on Wednesday April 5, 2017. We would provide dinner and they would provide desserts. Unfortunately they can not make it for dinner that night as they have many places they are invited to and will be somewhere else.

I was then informed they usually come every other year to Grace and are happy that we were thinking of them and look forward to other events with us this year.

I received an email this past Tuesday that on Wednesday March 29, 2017 the place All People's Church was to attend needed to un-invite them and if they might be able to come then for Lenten meal. I explained I would need to discuss this at our meeting on Thursday and I would let her know Friday.

PROPERTY: No Report

WORSHIP:

The committee last met on February 7th, 2017. The meeting was opened with a devotion by Kathy Brown. Our next meeting will be March 7th and the devotion will be led by Eryn. Peg will not be at the April 4th meeting – vacation.

Pastors Paul and Heidi both gave their reports on the upcoming service plans and coordinated the music scheduling with Eryn, Deb and Vince. The Holden Evening Prayer service will be used for the Lenten services once again this year. At our next meeting we will be discussing the Easter celebration services.

Deb has been working with a new small group of very young bell players. They are currently rehearsing just once per month and will play for a service in May.

Memorials are making up some of the budget shortfalls for the choir, praise team and bell choirs.

Under discussion: Think about a new name for the “traditional” service? The name may “scare” some people away?

Per Vince – the announcements at the end of the service instead of the beginning is working well.

Other Business

Closing Prayer 2:27pm