



## Council Minutes January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Barber (Past President)  
\*James Newell (President)  
\*Kirstin Albiero (President-Elect)  
\*Pastor Greg Van Dunk

\*Jodi Doro (Secretary)  
\*Scott Nielsen (Treasurer)  
Rachel Langer (Outreach)  
\*Kelly Olson (Worship)

\*Brittany Lobner (Fellowship)  
Joe DeCamp (Property)  
\*Lisa Bernd (Director of Involvement)  
\*Jen Jacobson (Christian Education)  
Melissa Schmidt (Christian Care)

(\*) present at meeting

The meeting began at 7:31 P.M. with President James Newell presiding.

✓ Approval of the December 2021 minutes James motioned to approve, Greg 2<sup>nd</sup>, all approved.

### Pastor and DI Reports

#### **PASTOR REPORT:**

No reports

#### **DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT: (Lisa Bernd)**

**Building:** The lights were fixed in the parking lot. Current found a wire that was frayed which was causing the lights on the side of the building to trip. It was able to be fixed that day & the parking lot is back to being lit.

We started the year off with no heat in the Sunday school & gathering space areas. I called on 1/7/2022 for Pure Mechanical to come for a service call. They diagnosed the issue & made a temporary repair & they will be out to fix the main issue when the part comes in.

We are also having issues with our water softener. It has a motor error on it which is not allowing it to run. I scheduled a service call for Wednesday & they fixed a jammed piston so it is back in working order.

The fans are also not working in the bathrooms by the hospitality area. They will need to be looked at because the bathrooms are not smelling so fresh.

**Vanco:** I have updated all of the 2022 Vanco electronic giving.

**SignUp Genius:** It is a struggle getting volunteers each week for certain positions that need to be filled.

**Christmas Sing- a- Long:** We had a fun time at the sing-a-long. I look forward to having it next year. Thank you to Eryn & Zach for helping me with their beautiful voices & for accompanying us.

**Annual Report:** I finished the annual report early in the month. And a big thanks to Scott for all his hard work on our budget & the rest of the council for getting their reports to me.

**Coffee Hour:** I have added coffee hour onto the sign up genius.

**Caring Ministries:** Pastor Greg & I are still connecting on Monday's to go over caring information. I took a tutorial on using Note Bird a caring ministry app that Pastor Greg suggested we use. It is \$240 per year for two users.

I also had the privilege on assisting with planning & preparation for the funerals of Elaine Korten Hof & Mel Trapp.

### Attendance Report

Attendance was discussed.



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### Committee Reports

#### **CHRISTIAN CARE: (Melissa Schmidt)**

No report provided

#### **FELLOWSHIP: (Brittany Lobner)**

##### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Hybrid Bingo-Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-7:30pm**

I received a \$250 Thrivent grant card and will be purchasing a new bingo set, which is much needed and can also be used in the future. The rest of the funds will be put toward extra markers, Bingo cards, and prizes for winners. I will keep track of winners virtually. I am looking for a volunteer to be a bingo caller that evening in person and will be putting a note in Grace Notes.

#### **Lenten Dinners-after worship March 2<sup>nd</sup>-April 6<sup>th</sup>**

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 and confirmation from Lydia Circle. Adult Literacy Center said not this year, and Handbells passed as well. We are also discussing about inviting All People's Church members. Could the Council host one evening perhaps???

#### **Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation (Erica)**

#### **Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>-??**

#### **Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>-? Family Promise? (Waiting to hear from Aaron)**

#### **Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>-? Lydia Circle? (They meet on the 25<sup>th</sup>)**

#### **Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>-??**

#### **Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>-Sunday School (Erica)**

##### **Future Events:**

April 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Holy Week

May 2022 - Campfire Sing Along Outdoors?

June 2022 - Chinooks Game?

#### **OUTREACH: (Rachel Langer)**

No report provided

#### **PROPERTY: (Joe DeCamp)**

No report provided



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### FINANCE: (Scott Nielsen)

#### January 2022 Treasurer's Report

##### December 2021 Financial Results

##### P&L

- Revenue was \$56k (\$7k favorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$44k (\$8k favorable to budget)
- Surplus of \$12k (\$15k favorable to budget)

#### Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - December 2021

	December Actual	December Budget	Delta Budget	December '20 Actual	Delta Prior Year
<b>Total Revenue</b>	56,346	49,430	6,916	68,318	(11,972)
<b>Expenses</b>					
World Mission Subtotal	4,292	4,292	(0)	8,779	(4,488)
Rostered Ministry - Subtotal	9,558	20,639	(11,081)	20,087	(10,530)
Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal	13,714	11,292	2,422	12,279	1,435
Our Church Home Subtotal	13,838	14,050	(212)	13,159	679
Worship & Service Subtotal	2,914	2,464	450	1,975	939
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>44,316</b>	<b>52,736</b>	<b>(8,421)</b>	<b>56,280</b>	<b>(11,965)</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>12,031</b>	<b>(3,306)</b>	<b>15,337</b>	<b>12,038</b>	<b>(8)</b>
Amount To / (From) Contingency	12,031	(3,306)	15,337	12,038	(8)
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

##### Year-To-Date P&L

- Revenue was \$535k (\$59k unfavorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$551k (\$76k favorable to budget)
- Deficit of \$17k (\$17k favorable to budget)

#### Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - December 2021

	Dec YTD Actual	Dec YTD Budget	Delta Budget	Dec '20 YTD Actual	Delta Prior Year
<b>Total Revenue</b>	534,381	593,161	(58,780)	595,748	(61,367)
<b>Expenses</b>					
World Mission Subtotal	45,500	45,500	-	53,250	(7,750)
Rostered Ministry - Subtotal	181,119	247,664	(66,545)	240,798	(59,679)
Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal	143,095	135,503	7,592	133,220	9,875
Our Church Home Subtotal	152,631	168,602	(15,970)	166,997	(14,366)
Worship & Service Subtotal	28,986	29,566	(580)	31,068	(2,082)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>551,331</b>	<b>626,835</b>	<b>(75,503)</b>	<b>625,333</b>	<b>(74,002)</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(16,950)</b>	<b>(33,674)</b>	<b>16,723</b>	<b>(29,585)</b>	<b>12,635</b>
Amount To / (From) Contingency	(16,950)	(33,674)	16,723	(29,585)	12,635
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>



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### Balance Sheet

- Cash **increased \$31k** in the month to \$190k
  - Contingency Fund **increased \$12k** to \$100k
  - Project Funds **increased \$19k** to \$91k

#### **Grace Lutheran Church Balance Sheet - December 2021**

	Dec 2020 Starting Balance	Dec 2020 Ending Balance	Changes
<b>Assets</b>			
Cornerstone Checking	70,985	101,985	31,000
Cornerstone MoneyMarket	88,276	88,287	11
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>159,261</b>	<b>190,272</b>	<b>31,012</b>
<i>Contingency Fund</i>	<i>87,493</i>	<i>99,524</i>	<i>12,031</i>
<i>Project Funds</i>	<i>71,768</i>	<i>90,748</i>	<i>18,981</i>
	<b>159,261</b>	<b>190,272</b>	<b>31,012</b>
			<small>December 2020 Operating Deficit</small>
			<small>December 2020 Project Fund Change</small>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>159,261</b>	<b>190,272</b>	<b>31,011</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Mortgage	1,736,821	1,732,903	(3,917)
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,736,821</b>	<b>1,732,903</b>	<b>(3,917)</b>
			Principal Payment 3,917
			Interest Payment 4,779
			<b>8,696</b>

### **WORSHIP: (Kelly Olson)**

**Pastor Greg shared the Moravian Verses of the Day and asked the team to reflect on them. One was John 1:16, 'From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace' --** Pastor Greg related the name of our church to the verse and suggested that we might consider referring to it as the 'Grace Place'

#### **Christmas Eve Services—changes in service times/formats, did it impact attendance?**

There were many variables, including weather concerns, Covid, etc. Everything considered, attendance was good.

3:00: ~75

4:30 ~200 + 156 views online

6:00 ~50

Additional note: Choir Festival Sunday on 12/12 had 106 views online

#### **Prelude protocol:**

Suggestions were made that an atmosphere for worship, community and fellowship be encouraged. If the handbells play the prelude, a sign should be put up at the entrance of the worship center. Or consider having handbells play the gathering song.

**Jubilation Choir update:** choir took a break for the first 2 weeks in January. And due to the surge in Covid cases, guidance of the synod and concern among choir members, the choir will not meet at all in January.

Eryn has followed up with James re: the scholarship singer program for 2022

**Request from Staff to the music leaders:** Pastor Greg relayed a request from the office staff: Please don't leave Sunday worship without finalizing plans for the next Sunday.

#### **January Worship Update**



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**1/9:** Baptism of Jesus, may include a renewal of our Affirmation of Baptism, if Covid friendly **Meet the MET Moment** will be held between services. Pastor Greg asked that we be sure to encourage and support the important work of the team

**1/16:** Dale Erickson will be the guest pastor

**1/23:** Annual Meeting will be held at 11:30 after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service. Due to Covid, no meal will be served, but the H.S. Youth will prepare and sell chili to raise funds for their summer trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

Team suggested that a meeting start time be specified and held publicized, especially for those that attend 8 AM worship. Pastor Greg asked John and Dustin about adding an online option for the meeting that allows online voting. We believe James set one up last year. Does the church have a Zoom account, or did James do it?

Pastor Greg updated the team re: Katie's ministry impact on Grace and how fortunate we are that she and her family will continue to be part of our congregation, his appreciation for Erica and her willingness to take on much of Katie's roles until after we have called a new pastor. He encouraged everyone to learn from Katie's exit interview and also said that a celebration for Katie is being planned and will likely be held on 1/30.

**Worship Series for Epiphany, 1/23 – 2/27:** based on Mark's gospel: Revealing of God through the Manifestation of Jesus

**Ash Wednesday, 3/2**

**Lenten Wednesdays:** plan to simplify the services, will use *Holden Evening Prayer*, but forgo the skits due to Erica taking on a dual role

**Sundays in Lent:** we will keep up journey through the Gospel of Mark

\*There was a tentative plan to do a church play in March, but due to Omicron, it will not happen\*

**Holy Week: (tentative plans)**

**Palm Sunday:** considering doing the drama by Walter Wangerin called the 'Cry of the Whole Congregation'

**Maundy Thursday:** Jubilation Choir

**Good Friday:** Tenebrae, Praise Team & Handbells?

**Easter Sunday** (all with Holy Communion)

WPT to propose to Council that we put emphasis on 8 & 10:30 and not hold the 6 AM Sunrise service

Traditional, 8 AM Jubilation Choir and Handbells

Celebration/Praise, 10:30 Praise Team

Next WPT meeting: February 1 @ **6 PM** (please note earlier meeting start)

### **YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COMMITTEE: (Jen Jacobson)**

I have no report because the YFMT didn't meet yet. Attached is Erica's report for all of the Youth Education activities. I believe the plan is for her to send her report directly in the future.

I would like to express my gratitude to both Erica and Katie. They have worked very closely to create a smooth transition. Words can not express what a gift it is for Erica to take on both roles during the transition, given Grace a lot of staff building freedom for our Pastoral transition.

Erica:

- Sunday School
  - Our kindergarten youth have been working hard on learning the Lord's Prayer. On January 16 the youth and parents met with Katie during Education hour.
  - The kindergarten kids will be leading the Lord's Prayer during the 10:30 service on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.



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- The Education hour youth will be singing in church on April 3 during both services.
- Christmas Program Update
  - Christmas program was a success!
  - A huge thank you to our music folks (Chris Eippert, Jodi Doro and Jean Fugate) along with our parent volunteers (Adan Burgos, Sarah Newell and Jennifer Jacobson) for all their hard work! Thanks to the Newells and Flaigs for helping us share a little bit of our program with our Thursday evening worshipers.
- VBS
  - Yes, it is time to start planning for VBS
  - VBS will be August 15-19.
  - This is later than usual because the church is hosting voting the week before.
- Thrivent Grants
  - I was grateful for music, technology and fellowship folks to reach out with ideas, but I again would like to talk about a process where we continue to utilize these \$250 grants across the board.
  - We've currently applied for (and mostly already received) 48 grants in 2021, for a total of \$12,000 toward events, fundraising and outreach. This is definitely something to celebrate!
  - At the craft fair, Chris Beloin (a Grace member and Thrivent rep) repeated that we are in the middle of the pack of churches for utilizing grants—some churches do upwards of \$20,000 a year—so having him speak with council at some point about new ideas and opportunities may be a good way to help everyone else understand how we can be even more effective in using these grants for all areas.
- Technology/PR Support
  - I will continue to post events and updates on Facebook as needed.
  - I am hoping to get trained on using the tech in the worship center
- Confirmation
  - Confirmation class has started again
  - Affirmation of Baptism service will be on May 15th
  - We will have 13 students confirmed this year
- KFC
  - KFC met on January 16. Our theme was ugly art. We worked on making ugly art projects.
  - Our next meeting is on Feb. 13. We will be going to the Concordia production of "The Little Mermaid".
- JYG
  - 12 JYG youth went Lasata Shopping in Dec.
  - JYG and HYPE youth helped deliver food to All Peoples' Church on Dec. 12
  - Winter/Spring 2022 events are still being scheduled
  - I plan on sending postcards to our JYG youth in February
- HYPE



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- Kate Peterman and I are working on sending some of our HYPE youth to the ELCA Gathering in Minneapolis in July 2022
- We found out last week that they have suspended registration for the youth gathering at this time because of covid.
- I plan on sending postcards to our HYPE youth in February as a way to touch base and share a little faith filled information.
- 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.

### **Other Business**

- Reports & Discussion
  - Youth & Family Ministry
  - Fellowship
    - Lenten meal signups can council take a week? – James motion to have council sign up for Lenten Meal, Kirsten 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lisa will head up planning/organizing.
  - Worship Planning
    - Choir & handbells are taking January off due to Covid
    - Easter Sunday – 8 & 10:30 emphasis and not have sunrise this year
    - Scholarship follow-up – Ann Tourney project fund; Zach and Eryn will revise their proposal and resubmit to council.
  - Treasurer
    - Budget
      - Comments made for YFM redistribution – decision made to not make adjustments by line but understanding worship & service lines may be fluid
      - Staff changes – Erica/Katie slight adjustment will address as needed
- Old Business
  - Nominating Committee – positions filled: Scott Donovan, Rebekah Bryan, Lori Mathias
  - Annual meeting preparation – Kirstin will be in back by computer/Zoom meeting
- New Business
  - Next meeting date: Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Greg