



Council Minutes November 18th, 2021

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 DelCamp (Property)
Lisa Bernd (Director of Involvement)
*Jen Jacobson (Christian Education)
Melissa Schmidt (Christian Care)

(*) present at meeting

The meeting began at 7:32 P.M. with President James Newell presiding. Pastor Greg opened with time for thanksgiving and prayer.

✓ Approval of the October 2021 minutes Scott motioned to approve, Jennifer 2nd, all approved.

Pastor and DI Reports

PASTOR REPORT:

No reports

DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT: (Lisa Bernd)

Building: I finally got two bids for the driveway resurfacing. They are quite different in pricing. I went to look at one of the bid's work at Trinity Lutheran in Freistadt.

The pricing for the painting was way too expensive to even consider so I applied for a Thrivent grant for \$250 for paint. I will plan a paint-a-thon of some sort for the beginning of February to get some of the painting & small repairs done. I will also see if Jon would be willing to do some touch ups too.

***Dishwasher – When we built the building it was required for us to put in a commercial kitchen. With that came commercial appliances. The dishwasher in the kitchen is not working again. It does not get used very often in the best of times but during covid it was only used a handful of times. I went to use it last week & it leaked all over the floor. ASCI is the company that services commercial equipment, but they are super expensive. The last two times we have had them for service when the dishwasher was broken we have spent about \$2100 to fix it. I have called a lot of service places & no one fixes commercial dishwashers. I tried two places this time & they do not service commercial appliances. So my question is now what – do I fix it? Do I get another one? What is the next step?

Stewardship: The second stewardship mailing went out on November 5. I made an online pledge card for people to use if they found it easier. I sent out two blast phone messages to the congregation. One before & one after Stewardship Sunday. On Sunday, November 14, I compiled all of the pledge cards that were turned in. I sent out lists to our calling volunteers to contact the families that did not turn in their pledge card. I have gotten a few more in. If we still have people missing, we will be making calls again on Sunday, November 21.

On November 21 – Scott Nielsen & I will have a Stewardship Table in the Gathering Area for people to stop at to turn in a pledge card, fill one out or do one online. I will be there before & after the 8:00 am service. Scott will be there before & after the 10:30 am service.

Christmas Sing-a-Long: I am working on bringing back our annual sing-a-long. I am trying to set it up again at Water Street Brewery on December 15. If that doesn't work – I will set it up to host it at Grace.



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*****Annual Report Articles:** I will need everyone's annual report article by Sunday, December 12.

Coffee Hour: The first coffee hour went well. I have a volunteer to host on Sunday, December 5.

Caring Ministries: Pastor Greg & I are meeting on Monday mornings to talk about any people at Grace needing extra care. I have set up a Google doc to keep track of who is in need. I have given the staff access to it so they can add anyone who talks to them or calls in the office.

Attendance Report

Attendance was discussed.

Committee Reports

CHRISTIAN CARE: (Melissa Schmidt)

No report provided

FELLOWSHIP: (Brittany Lobner)

Trunk or Treat Event-Sunday, October 31st

After 10:30am Reformation service, Grace hosted Trunk or Treat in the parking lot. Lots of fun was had after a light lunch.

November Craft Fair-Saturday, November 13th

It was held last Saturday from 9am-3pm. It was quite successful and it's worth noting that EVERYONE was respectful and wore a mask without issues or complaints. Kudos to Pat M. for organizing another great event!

Pie Social- Wednesday, November 24th-Thanksgiving Eve After 7pm Worship

It has returned!!!! Please sign up at church OR on the Sign-Up Genius if interested in bringing a pie and joining in on some much-needed fellowship! We will be more spread out than in previous years, and masks are required (except for when chowing down on pie 😊).

Movie Night-"The Star"-Friday, December 10th

A grant is being applied for to cover pizza cost, and eating is more spread out this year. Masks are required in the Worship Center. Advertising and sign-ups are out.

Youth Christmas Program-Sunday, December 19th

Families will attend one or the other service to keep the attendance numbers lower. Sign up early if a time preference is desired. Rehearsals are held during education hour 11/28, 12/5, and 12/12.

Rough Outline of Future Months:

January 2022-Bingo Night (½ in person, ½ virtual)?

Spring 2022-Potential Road Rally Scavenger Hunt

OUTREACH: (Rachel Langer)

No report provided

PROPERTY: (Joe DelCamp)

No report provided



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FINANCE: (Scott Nielsen)

October 2021 Financial Results

P&L

- Revenue was \$33k (\$16k unfavorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$41k (\$11k favorable to budget)
- Deficit of \$8k (\$5k unfavorable to budget)

Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - October 2021

	October Actual	October Budget	Delta Budget	October '20 Actual	Delta Prior Year
Revenue					
Total Revenue	33,064	49,430	(16,366)	52,463	(19,399)
Expenses					
World Mission Subtotal	3,542	3,542	0	4,438	(896)
Rostered Ministry - Subtotal	11,682	21,109	(9,427)	20,183	(8,501)
Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal	12,258	11,292	966	11,418	840
Our Church Home Subtotal	12,090	14,050	(1,960)	16,764	(4,673)
Worship & Service Subtotal	1,826	2,464	(637)	3,331	(1,505)
Total Expenses	41,399	52,457	(11,058)	56,134	(14,735)
Surplus / (Deficit)	(8,335)	(3,027)	(5,308)	(3,671)	(4,664)
Amount To / (From) Contingency	(8,335)	(3,027)	(5,308)	(3,671)	(4,664)
Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency	-	-	-	-	-



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Year-To-Date P&L

- Revenue was \$437k (\$58k unfavorable to budget)
- Expenses were \$465k (\$62k favorable to budget)
- Deficit of \$28k (\$4k favorable to budget)

Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement - October 2021

	October YTD Actual	October YTD Budget	Delta Budget	Oct '20 YTD Actual	Delta Prior Year
Revenue					
Total Revenue	436,533	494,301	(57,768)	438,955	(2,422)
Expenses					
World Mission Subtotal	37,667	37,667	0	36,863	804
Rostered Ministry - Subtotal	159,892	210,638	(50,746)	184,505	(24,613)
Non-Rostered Staff Subtotal	116,677	112,919	3,757	96,776	19,901
Our Church Home Subtotal	127,110	140,501	(13,392)	124,772	2,338
Worship & Service Subtotal	23,346	24,638	(1,293)	24,893	(1,547)
Total Expenses	464,690	526,364	(61,674)	467,807	(3,117)
Surplus / (Deficit)	(28,157)	(32,063)	3,906	(28,853)	695
Amount To / (From) Contingency	(28,157)	(32,063)	3,906	(28,853)	695
Surplus / (Deficit) After Contingency	-	-	-	-	-

Balance Sheet

- Cash decreased \$9k in the month to \$152k
 - Contingency Fund decreased \$8k to \$88k
 - Project Funds decreased \$1k to \$64k

Grace Lutheran Church Balance Sheet - October 2021

	October 2020 Starting Balance	October 2020 Ending Balance	Changes	
Assets				
Cornerstone Checking	73,596	64,225	(9,371)	
Cornerstone Money Market	88,254	88,264	11	
Total Cash	161,850	152,489	(9,360)	
Contingency Fund	96,652	88,317	(8,335)	October 2020 Operating Deficit
Project Funds	65,198	64,172	(1,026)	October 2020 Project Fund Change
	161,850	152,489	(9,360)	
Total Assets	161,850	152,489	(9,361)	
Liabilities				
Mortgage	1,744,464	1,740,568	(3,896)	
Total Liabilities	1,744,464	1,740,568	(3,896)	
		Principal Payment	3,896	
		Interest Payment	4,800	
			8,696	



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WORSHIP: (Kelly Olson)

Upcoming Worship Service Planning Notes

11/7

9:15 AM Adult Forum: Pastor Greg will share information and a proposal for our interim process. If too many for conference room, they will meet in the Gathering Space.

Evening Service of Remembrance: John created the video. If it is set up to run on Sunday AM, Pastor Greg will run it at the service.

11/14 after 10:30 service: A few more volunteers are needed to call or text families who have not turned in a 2022 Stewardship Pledge.

11/18 & 11/21: Pastor Howard will preach

11/21 (Sunday) & 11/24 (Thanksgiving Eve): Kids who have completed 1 st Communion Classes will be taking their 1st Communion at one of these services. Names of those receiving Communion for the first time will be listed in each of the bulletins.

11/24 Thanksgiving Eve will include:

Handbell anthem

Choir Anthem

One hymn OR two hymns with fewer verses

12/12: Cantata Sunday both services, preview at the Thursday service on 12/9

12/19: Youth Christmas Program, the 8:00 service will be livestreamed.

Christmas Eve:

Services @ 3, 4:30 (Traditional) & 6:30 (Praise Team)

Theme: Home for the Holidays

Pastor Greg asked each of the music leaders to prepare arrangements of 'I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day', Casting Crowns version for Praise Team, Eryn—hymn arrangement, Deb/Handbells?

Will Livestream one service TBD

Christmas Day Service @ 9 AM, will be Livestreamed

12/23 & 12/30: No Thursday Evening services

Epiphany— 'Illuminate Christ' sermon series

Other updates:

--Pastor Greg is in contact and scheduling guest preachers who will fill in once a month, including: Howard Vrankin, Dale Erickson, Ruth Schmidt, Meg Boren, Chris Manke, OFH and Richard Ware, Mission Investment Fund

--Katy Koppa is working with Erica on skits for Wednesday Lent services, using old scripts and updating them to make them relevant. She is also reviewing church play scripts and will find or adapt one for a smaller cast that can be presented next spring.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COMMITTEE: (Jen Jacobson)

The Youth and Family Ministry Team did not meet this month so I have no report for the minutes. Few notes for council: First, we are celebrating First Communion this coming Sunday, with 9 of our youth and children. Katie included more information in her report so please make sure to read that. Thank you to Katie for organizing and leading the classes, to Pastor Greg for assisting in the instruction and teaching the kids the etiquette. As a parent I had the honor of attending all the classes, as my oldest was one of the repeats and my youngest was the need for the younger class. The classes were meaningful and heart warming.



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Second, thank you to everyone who supported the Youth with their bake sale at the craft fair and the leftovers on Sunday. It is a wonderful fundraiser for their trips. Thank you to Erica for her leadership and time for fundraising efforts.

Katie

Sunday School

- Sunday School continues to be a positive experience for those that attend!

Christmas Program Update

- Our Christmas Program is set for Sunday, December 19 at both the 8:00 and 10:30 services.
- We will livestream the first service, so we are asking families that want to have their children included in the recording to sign up for the 8:00 service.
- We've had a great response from our 3rd-5th graders, JYG kids and high school students, and I look forward to having a regular Christmas program again this year!!
- On Thursday, December 16, Pastor Greg and I will lift up a skit and message from the Christmas Program. I will be looking for a couple of kids to help that night as well. We're hoping this will be a "treat" for our Thursday evening folks.

Birthday Party for Jesus

- We are planning to have a low-key version of a Christmas Party for Jesus on December 19 between services. Since families are not required to attend both services, the main purpose of this event (to fill time between services) isn't as important. But we do have quite a few kids participating in the program that will be there for both services and others who may want to stay a little after the 8:00 service or before the 10:30 service as well.

Christmas Eve Family Service

- After discussions with Pastor Greg, the music team and Worship Planning, I will not be organizing a Family Service at 3:00 on Christmas Eve. I think this is a good decision to move to two "traditional" service that day and will increase attendance at the 3:00 service.
- I will still plan to do a Children's message at the 3:00 and 4:30 services and will hand out Christmas "goodies" before each service.

All People's Christmas Meals

- We've had a great response to supporting All People's with 50 Christmas meals this year.
- We've already received the \$1200 needed to purchase the turkeys. There are about 10 dozen Christmas cookie tags and about 20 grocery bags that need to be picked up.
- We will continue to promote this to the congregation over the next few weeks.
- I do have a \$250 Thrivent card that we can use to purchase any grocery items that remain.
- Our older youth will help deliver the supplies to All People's on December 12 after second service.

Refugee Donations

- We collected hundreds of items for Lutheran Social Services that will go to refugee families as they are resettled in the Milwaukee area over the next year.
- We are coordinating when we can drop off those items and will be looking for a volunteer (or two) to drop off the personal hygiene items and 50 quilts from our quilters.

First Communion Classes

- Nine students (and two additional youth who were repeating) completed first communion instruction.



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- 8 of the students attended classes on two Sundays. One student was younger and completed a separate younger elementary student meeting at a separate time. All kids attended the November 14 class with Pastor Greg. Each child also completed a project and will meet with me on a one-on-one basis before their first communion.
- We will lift up these young people in worship on November 21.

“The Star” Movie Night

- We are excited to have the return of our annual Christmas movie night on Friday, December 10.
- We will have pizza (folks can spread out in any room and eat, if they feel more comfortable) and watch the movie in the worship center.

Thrivent Grants

- We have been VERY busy in the office with folks coming forward that want to use their Thrivent grants by the end of the year. We’ve processed about 15 cards (at \$250 EACH) in the last 6 weeks. If your area could use a grant to help cover the cost of supplies, please let me know. The more we all utilize these grants, the more it positively affects the overall budget!

Other Business

- Nominating Committee – president elect, secretary, worship planning
- MET Team – council provided names, exec team met to discuss and reached out to those on the list. Need to firm up appointments and then approve by council; also need to discuss appointing certain positions. Aim to finalize members by 11/23/21
- New Business
 - Annual Meeting Preparation – January 23rd after 2nd service and chili luncheon. Report needs to go out Jan 6th, then there is a forum the week prior to discuss the budget.
 - 2022 Budget – will be discussed prior and good portion of Dec council meeting set aside for this.
 - Endowment Fund Distributions
 - Vote – James motion to approve endowment fund distributions, Jodi 2nd, motion carried.
 - Vote – James motion to approve \$1500 donation from Special account for Family Promise, Kirstin 2nd, motion carried.
 - Mask Policy – sending out Grace Notes on council decision

Closing Prayer: Pastor Greg

Next meeting Dec 16th at 7:30