

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Pastor Paul Bulgerin	*Darlyne Holle	*Aimee Lempke
*Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen	*Trudi Biefeld	*John Walch
*Laurie Gosselin	*Lisa Bernd	Peg Lade
Jim Mulholand	*Alissa Burgos	*Pat Murack
*Kerry Feutz		

The meeting began at 7:25p.m. with President Darlyne Holle presiding.

**Devotion:** Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen

✓ Approval of the September 2016 minutes

**PASTOR PAUL'S REPORT:**

**“Stewardship For All Seasons” (SAS) Program:** I’ve been spending a lot of time this past month working to get all the pieces of the stewardship program in place for November. The stewardship theme is “Forward In Grace” and is designed to build upon our “Grow In Grace” capital fund appeal.

Heidi and I met with a number of the council executives to discuss the budget for 2017. I am working with the number that we will need at least \$60,000 more in 2017 for our budget. This is the number I am using in the materials going out to the congregation.

Steve Korinek and I have been working on the appeal brochure that will be sent to the congregation the week of November 6. Steve’s graphic design talents are wonderful and he is preparing a useful and visually appealing brochure that lays out the stewardship program for the congregation.

Pastor Heidi and I met to go over the giving of all Grace members to come up with “hoped for gifts” for each giving unit in the church. This “hoped for gift” will be part of the letter that goes out the week of November 6.

Lisa is working on all these letters which have to be individually typed up and signed.

Pat Murack will give one temple talk about rolling your “Grow In Grace” gifts, or at least a good portion of them, into your regular giving for 2017. I am working to recruit a second person to do this as well.

Letters have been sent to several families at Grace asking if they would consider funding part of the \$1700 cost for the SAS program.

**Phoning Volunteers:** Finally, we need a group of about 15-20 volunteers who would be willing to make 5-7 phone calls the week of November 21 to those who did not turn in their commitment cards on November 20. A calling script and the names of the people to be called will be provided. *I am hoping that members of the council would be willing to help with this. This does not involve asking for money, just encouraging people to return their cards by the next Sunday. Please let me know if you are willing to help with this.*

**Nominating Committee:** The group has started talking to prospective council members. We are meeting again after worship on October 23 to see if we have had any initial success recruiting council members for 2017.

**Dedication Sunday:** My thanks to Pastor Heidi, Lisa and everyone else who put together such a meaningful and memorable service of dedication for our new church home! I’ve heard many complimentary comments about the day.

**Confirmation:** I’m continuing to write lesson plans for the classes I have not taught in the past. This will involve a lot of work this year, but then I will have the lesson plans for the future.

I met with the ninth graders on October 18 for their second gathering of the year.

**Confirmation Retreat:** Jessica Korrison and I will lead the eighth grade confirmation retreat at Pine Lake Bible Camp on November 11-12.

**Holy Communion Preparation Classes:** I will lead these sessions on November 6, 13 and 20. We have a very small group of fifth graders this year.

**JYG:** We've had two events for the 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade Junior Youth Group and both of them were very well attended with about 25 kids at each of them. The next event is the "Blanket-a-thon" on November 6 where the kids will work all Sunday morning in the gathering area making tie blankets for the La Casa shelter in Milwaukee. After church the group will go to La Casa to deliver the blankets and have a tour of the shelter. Jessica Korrison and Kelsey Mantel are going excellent work in leading JYG events. Erica and I enjoy working with them.

**Boundary Waters:** We've opened registration for the trip which will be next July 19-26. I will lead the trip. We hope to get 24 kids and adults going.

**Worship Attendance:** Attendance is up over last fall. The last three weeks we have had at least 300 people in worship over the weekend. This is good to see.

**Sabbatical:** I am eligible for a sabbatical in 2017, but am going to push it back to 2018. I'll keep the council updated on my sabbatical plans when I begin to develop them.

**Synod Stewardship Fair:** I'm a member of the synod's stewardship team and have volunteered to have Grace host the synod Stewardship Fair next February 11-12. This is a Friday night and all day Saturday event attended by about 100 people from around the synod.

## **PASTOR HEIDI'S REPORT:**

**Worship:** The dedication service turned out wonderfully and went smoothly from my accounts. Thanks to all who said yes to participating in the service, to making/serving food, doing the special thumbprint art project, preparing special music, making the bulletins, inviting special guests...it was a day to celebrate our church building AND our church family! God is so good.

Some friends from All People's will be joining us for Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday and for the Celebration Service prior! We will get to meet Pastor Aida Muniz, the new pastor at their Havenwoods Campus.

I'm planning and leading the Thanksgiving Eve Service this year.

Thanks to Pastor Paul for covering for me while I was very sick on Sunday morning. I couldn't have been here, and you definitely wouldn't have wanted me around!

**Advent Devotional:** Stories are coming in for my Advent Devotional project. I could still use a few more people who are willing to write. I'll be pairing Bible verses and a short prayer with each devotional and writing and introduction. Ed Borkenhagen will be formatting it for me.

**Publicity/Grace Community Crew:** Pat Murack has been working hard on the craft fair! Some more publicity is going out for that now, too. We will be working on some publicity for Christmas time and an "invite a friend to church" Sunday.

**Women's Book Group:** We had about 10 of us for our first discussion, and it was a deep and meaningful one. We even had several people who had never joined a book group before, which was great to have some brave souls with new perspectives.

**Bishop's Installation:** I attended the Installation of Bishop Paul Erickson. The Beloins also came (I let them know there was an ASL Interpreter) and some of them sang in the special choir! Bishop Erickson is coming to meet with people in our synod on Tuesday, January 31. He will be at Grace in Thiensville (I volunteered our Grace as a meeting place, but apparently the pastor at Grace-Thiensville is quicker!!!) If you're interested in meeting with him or coming to have dinner with him, please let me know.

**DIRECTOR OF INVOLVEMENT:**

**Stewardship Program:** Much of my month has been spent working on the Stewardship Program. I have already sent out one congregational mailing & a second one will be going out early next week. When I send out a mailing I have to print, fold, label & stuff each envelope. I am also working on sending everyone in the congregation a personalized stewardship letter. I hope to have all of them done by early next week.

I have ordered the pledge cards. I will be double labeling all of them & including them in the stewardship packets.

I also went out & got bids for printing the brochures. We will be using Digital Edge. A big thank you to Steve Korinek for putting together our brochure. It is beautiful.

**Building:** I have been working with the fire marshal & Joe Smallwood at Catalyst Construction to figure out when our building needs to be annually inspected. I will be calling some companies early next year & getting some bids on who will be able to do that for us. The hood will need to be inspected by the end of November. That is required every 6 months.

We have gotten the cooling system corrected & the heating system should be ready to go. We may have to tweak it when it gets colder but that should not be as hard to correct as the cooling.

**ADA Door Information:** I got the information for the ADA doors from Catalyst Construction. The total cost to update the doors is \$4770. I passed this information on to Darlyne & she said she will contact the people who were inquiring about it.

**Time & Talents:** I printed, folded & assembled the congregational Time & Talents packets. Time & Talents was last Sunday. We had time during the service to fill them out. I got some back. Many will trickle in over the next few weeks. I will start working on them over the next month. I also left the box out for people to pick theirs up if they were not here last week.

**Trunk or Treat:** Christian Care will again be hosting Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30 after the 10:30 a.m. service. Korey Gierach will again be helping me organize & host this event. We have a few volunteers signed up to help but could always use more help.

**Building Promotion:** Has anything been worked on for building promotion or advertising the availability to use our building?

**Book Study:** I had my first book study session on October 12. Ten women came & we had a great discussion.

**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.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

All budgets needed by November 10<sup>th</sup>!

1. Our offerings through September are behind by \$23,100.66 (were \$15,834.36 behind at the end of August). Another slip. Our total income for the year to date has still outpaced our expenses by \$8,707.32 (we were \$17,220.71 ahead at the end of August) – which also fell back over September. Our total budget cash decreased by \$8,513.39 in September to a total of \$10,765.81 as of month-end.
2. There were really no significantly unusual expenses in September, but coming up in October; we will see the hit from the WeEnergies annual budget 'balance' payment of \$6,587.97. I am watching to see what the new budget monthly payment will be – have not gotten that statement yet, but I'm estimating it will be about \$2202.00 going forward starting in October. I'll let you know what that is once I get the statement.

**VPT:**

Nothing from Vision Planning - there have been no meetings since May.

I did send an email to Janet to inquire when the group will be meeting next to work on the use of the new kitchen/fellowship areas.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**

CEC Meeting September 29<sup>th</sup> 7pm-8:30 Meeting

**Rally Sunday:** Went well from everyone's perspective. We had a lot of families' stay that do not always stay for church. We will continue that format this year

**HYPE:** Pat and Chantal will be leading HYPE again this year. Events have been scheduled through December. HYPE room is stocked and ready to go.  
Events include: Game Day, Service at All People's Church, Selling food at the Craft fair, Helping with B-day party for Jesus

**JYG:** Jessica and Kelsey will be leading JYG again this year. They have multiple events planned. JYG had a strong start last Sunday. Let's hope this continues. JYG room is currently being furnished. I am going to wait to see if we have a large number at education hour before purchasing more furniture.  
Events include: Olympics, Lock-in, Blankathon for La Causa and visiting La Causa  
Shopping for Lasata, Quake, Famine

**KFC:** Mari and Cindi will be leading KFC again this year. I will also be assisting at the meetings. They have their schedule done for the year. They will have meetings the third Sunday of the month (with a couple exceptions) from 11:30 – 1:30. One change for KFC is that they no longer want to organize and send the college care packages. We will have to discuss other options. KFC will be helping with Trunk and Treat this year again. They will run the games and will also have two trunks they will be decorating.

Both JYG and HYPE have discussed doing Drop-in days or nights where kids can just come and hang out, do homework, play games and just relax. We are still working on this option.

**Youth Program Review:**

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**Quake:**

**Christmas Program:** Working on all ages participating. Need to focus on the 3K (as many of them are very young) and getting JYG and HYPE involved. Katie is working hard on the children's Christmas eve service. We are purchasing books and glow sticks for the service.

**Budget Next Year:** We need to do a better job of telling Ed which budget category the expenses came out of to better track our budgets. Sunday School and Confirmation (4500); VBS (10); Confirmation Camp (3150); HYPE (600); KFC (300) are all ok to stay the same. For 2017 we want to increase the JYG budget to \$800 (from \$400). They have a lot of lock ins, famine, events etc. They also had 25 people at their last event. Thus we are requesting an increase in their funds to correlate with the increase of involvement of the students.

**Katie's Hours:** Katie Eippert has been working well over 20 hours a week since she has started. She thinks it is due to the start of the new year and VBS etc. She is expecting things to calm down over the next few months and

will be under 20 hours to balance things out. We need to monitor her hours going forward to make sure it is within the position guidelines.

**Time and Talents:** Updated the list and email to Lisa.

**Additional Business:**

- Discussed Right Now Ministries
- Discussed Ruth's memorial - tile cross outlines by wood (maybe cherry)
- Discussed ways to get the parents of birth to 3K involved - Frolic E-newsletter
- Erica discussed leading a Parent Study during the 9:15am hour once a quarter or so

**FELLOWSHIP:**

Committee is working on a possible Christmas tour in Milwaukee. They will organize the Pie Social and Birthday Party for Jesus.

**OUTREACH:**

Several small projects are still in progress for the month of October.

1. Small plastic containers are being collected for St. Ben's Meal Site.
2. Bulletin insert for Lutheran Disaster Response (Hurricane Matthew)
3. \$80 (remainder of Outreach budget) given to APC KWTS. Request of funds from Linda Muth as their program is in need of money to continue the rest of the year.
4. Grace Notes article to inform congregation of APC Praise Dinner. (Asking to sponsor a table for their annual Thanksgiving Dinner.)
5. One Can Plan Food (four grocery bags) taken to Family Sharing.

**Family Promise Update:**

Next host week, Sunday, November 27th to Sunday, December 4th.

Presently we have one family and one single woman in the program. Both are very motivated in finding jobs and housing. They might be gone prior to our week.

New family, Mother, Father and 3 yr.old daughter. A work related accident, mother lost job, family lost apartment. Father now has good lead in employment.

Single female, Due to Medical issues lost employment and has been "couch hopping". She is job searching and looking for housing in Port.

Our case worker reported housing calls this year:

Jan-Aug. 8-16 calls for shelter

Sept. - 24 shelter calls, there is definitely a rise in housing needs as the weather changes.

Since FP is a short term shelter program, we never really know who we will host until the Friday prior to hosting.

During our next host week, we will run a FP Christmas cookie fundraiser. We are working now on advertising and the logistics of the sale during hosting. The funds raised will go to the Family Promise office as our contribution for 2016. We will ask for cookie donations on Thursday, pack on Friday, sell to the public on Saturday morning from 9-12pm and again on Sunday morning between services. We will need lots of help on Sunday morning to take down classrooms and run the sale. Our team is awesome, and I know we will have plenty of hands to make it work.

Our past host week went well, our new church home was ideal for hosting. Groups using the church during the week were very considerate and reached out to me personally to make sure they weren't in our way. Two of our team members, Barbara Wallace and Cheryl Herboek surprised us with curtains and rods for all classrooms prior to the week for only 45.00. It worked out so well, and gave our guest much needed privacy. We noticed in staying overnight in the nursery, two shelves of toys are not anchored to the wall and could be a danger for any young guest playing in there. We also noticed in trying to plug in a fan, an outlet on the south wall was not working. Washington county reported some thefts, both from volunteer's purses and from contribution jars left out at church. While this has never been a problem with Ozaukee, we will designate a safe spot for purses. It would be a good idea, if any donation jar is in the gathering space during our next week, it should be locked in the office.

**WORSHIP:**

The Worship Planning Team met on October 4<sup>th</sup> with an opening devotion by Eryn.

We discussed the change to alternate liturgy #10 (which had already taken place) and no one had received any comments from the congregation either positive or negative.

We reviewed Pastor Paul and Pastor Heidi's service plans for the upcoming month.

Discussed timing of the Christmas Day and New Year's Day worship services and made the decision to have both of them at 10:00am. We are hoping that will eliminate some of the confusion caused by multiple services during the busy holiday season.

The Jubilation choir Christmas "cantata/song service" will be held on Sunday, December 11 during the normal 8:00am worship service. Some form of the cantata will be done at the December 8<sup>th</sup> Thursday evening service as well.

We want to replace the 2 members of our team who have recently left. Jan Jacques has retired and Beth Walch is serving her internship in Minnesota. We have developed a list of four possible congregation members to fill these two openings. Peg will contact the people on the list and report back to the team.

The Musician's Retreat hosted by Eryn on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, was attended by no less than 28 musicians from all the different musical groups at Grace. We shared a potluck meal, enjoyed a short "class" led by Zach on the history of music from the Reformation to today, participated in some table games to get to know each other and had a nice evening of fellowship.

The requests for budget \$ for 2017 for the Jubilation choir, the Praise Team and the two bell choirs were turned in to Aimee Lempke.

Our next team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Devotion will be led by Deb Donovan.

**PROPERTY:**

Other than a tightening balance remaining on the property budget, I have nothing new to report for property. I'd like to remind everybody the property budget is close to being exhausted for 2016, and that no new expenditures should be made for the remainder of year.

**CHRISTIAN CARE:** No Report**BUSINESS OLD:**

- ✓ Technology Committee Update
  - Ran into a problem with the company we planned to get the new switch and routers from. Found a new company at a slightly higher cost but we are still on track to save money annually with the planned technology update.
- ✓ JYG Special Collection for Fleece
  - Motion was made to approve the JYG to collect fleece for their blankets. Motion was seconded. Motion passed with 9 approval votes.
- ✓ Staff Salary Verbiage for Stewardship
  - Discussed the most effective way to include this topic in the Steward letters.
  - Council also discussed what our salary goals are and how to achieve them. These decisions are needed to make the 2017 budget.
  - Motion was made that for preliminary budget planning purposes we give all the non-rostered staff that have worked a full year in 2016 a 3% increase. In addition, all rostered staff will be brought up to synod minimum guidelines plus Grace reimburses them for the Social Security Offset. Motion was seconded. Motion passed with 9 approval votes. Motion passed with 7 approval votes and 2 members abstaining.

**BUSINESS NEW:**

✓ Baptismal Font

- Jim Scott provided an update on the condition of the Baptismal Font at Grace. He has concerns with the ability for him and the three other members who clean it to continue to maintain it.
- Council agrees to look into the best way to fix the current Font.

**NEWS/NOTES/SHARING:**

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen