

Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes
November 10, 2022

Grace Lutheran Church Council met on November 10, 2022. Members present were: Steve Blausey, Nancy Pries, Joan Eckermann, Mary Schlievert, Deb Boos, Karen Hammel, Gary Anderson, Pastor Jaci, and guest Bobbi Bean (via phone).

Good News:

It is the 247th birthday of the Marine Corps.

Today is Martin Luther's 539th birthday.

The Genoa and Elmore seniors met this afternoon and sang Happy Birthday to the Marines.

Mary's friend's surgery went well.

Announcement:

Forty two members attended the Congregational Meeting on November 6, 2022. The following were elected to serve as 2023 Grace Council Members:

President: Gary Anderson

Secretary: Karen Hammel

Treasurer: Mike Schlievert

Financial Secretary: Deb Boos (elected to a 2 year term in 2021)

Chair, Congregational Life: Mary Schlievert

Chair, Board of Property: Steve Blausey

Chair, Board of Witness and Mission: Nancy Pries

Chair, Board of Worship and Music: Joan Eckermann

Prayer concerns were updated.

The October 13, 2022 secretary's report was approved.

The October 2022 financial report was approved.

Pastor's Report:

Ladies Night Out will be on November 13 at 5:30 at Oregon Inn.

There will be a Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace theme for advent.

Thank offering Sunday will be on November 20th.

Board Reports:

Board of Congregational Life – Reported by Mary Schlievert

We had great attendance at the Reformation Sunday potluck with 39 people in attendance. The next meeting will be on January 10, 2023. After the meeting, the committee will clean the kitchen and storage room. There will be a potluck after the Congregational Annual Meeting on January 22, 2023.

Board of Property – Reported by Steve Blausey

The Board of Property met on November 6th at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room with 3 members present. Steve stated that he received an email from Joyce saying Hartford Insurance had contacted the church wanting to do a boiler inspection soon and that we need to call them to schedule this. Steve called them the next day, left a message, and hasn't heard back yet. We finally received a quote from CWS Environmental to do water sampling to do water sampling for the church. We will table this discussion for now until more members are here to make the decision. Zach has been working on the

phone issue and requires more information to proceed. He will gather more information and follow through on this problem.

Steve received a note in his mailbox from an anonymous individual that stated the toilet paper dispenser in the men's restroom has been empty for several weeks. This prompted a discussion about church cleaning.

In new business, due to no heat in the sanctuary last Sunday, a service tech was called out. The thermostats were found to be faulty in the sanctuary. We will need to replace both of them. The technician also did some work on the registers. The heat is back up and working now. Some information about gas suppliers was read and the decision was made to continue with the current supplier. Steve received an email from Joyce letting us know that Central Exterminating was here on October 27th. A date of November 19th has been selected for fall clean up. In an effort to get more BoP members here, Merlyn suggested that Steve send out a group text a couple of days ahead of meetings as a reminder. We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Board of Witness and Mission – Reported by Nancy Pries

Backpacks, personal care kits, and quilts have all been shipped.

Postcards will be sent out to homes in a three mailed radius of church advertising our services, the option of parking lot worship, and emphasizing the Christmas Eve service.

Creating flyers for the Suburban Press.

Advent monies will be donated to Good Gifts – Clinic Visit for a Child.

We will be adopting residents from The Luther Home of Mercy for Christmas. Watch for more information in the narthex.

Jayne and Lee Klett made grape jam from the grapes in the courtyard. The profits from the sale went to Operation Oreo.

Board of Worship – Reported by Joan Eckermann

The board met on Tuesday, November 1 at 8:00 p.m. All eight members attended in person. We began the meeting with prayer.

Old Business

We reviewed worship during the autumn season so far. Sincere thanks go to Ruth Ann Anderson for her presentation on Katie Luther on worship on October 30.

Gary brought up the decline in worship attendance since we've been back in the sanctuary since the summer. Discussion followed. Some ideas included advertising the option for attending in the parking lot for those that might have physical challenges or don't feel comfortable worshipping in the sanctuary. It could be added to our Facebook page and placed on our outdoor sign.

New Business

For All Saints Day this Sunday Bobbie will chime a bell from the organ when the names of those who have died in the past year are read. Joan will make a reminder announcement about the Hanging of the Greens on November 20.

We reviewed worship plans for the Advent and Christmas season. Bobbie will make a request for volunteers to present special music at a short recital before the Christmas Eve service. Joan will put a sign-up sheet for Christmas Day lectors on the table in the Narthex. Regular Sunday worship will be held at 10:30 a.m. on New Year's Day. Christmas decorations will be taken down on Saturday, January 7 at 11:00 a.m. and volunteers are requested to help.

Looking forward to Lent and Easter, Ash Wednesday is February 22. Wednesday mid-week soup suppers and worship will take place on all five Wednesdays in March. There will be a pastor rotation as in the past few years. Holy Week begins April 2 with Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion and continues

with worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. There will be more discussion at the next meeting about Easter Vigil. Easter Sunday is April 9.

Other Items

We'll continue to use the communion kits and follow the current format for the foreseeable future.

Our worship liturgy will switch to Setting 4 beginning on January 8.

Our next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. following the choir rehearsal.

Old Business

History Review – On hold until after the Annual Meeting.

Allocation of end-of-year surplus will be determined at the end of the year.

The next Council Meeting and Christmas Party will be held on December 15th at 6:30 at the home of Mike and Mary Schlievert.

A motion was made by Steve, second Nancy, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting concluded with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hammel
Church Council Secretary