

Grace Lutheran Church Council
January 12, 2023

Grace Lutheran Church Council met on January 12, 2023 with the following members present: Gary Anderson, Karen Hammel, Deb Boos, Mike Schlievert, Mary Schlievert, Joan Eckermann, Nancy Pries, Steve Blausey, Pastor Jaci, and guests Joyce Bruntz, and Bobbie Bean via cell phone. President Gary Anderson opened the meeting and Pastor Jaci offered prayer.

Good news:

Mike Schlievert is well and we are glad to see him on council.

Emerson St. John (Ben and Kassi) was baptized last weekend in Dublin, Ohio.

Joan has a new great nephew.

The annual report is almost complete.

We were able to have worship on Christmas Eve.

Jaci has a new nephew named Jack David.

Prayer Concerns were updated.

December council minutes were approved as submitted.

The December Financial Report was approved as submitted.

A motion was made by Mike, second Joan, to move \$10,000 of the surplus savings. \$5,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund and \$5,000 to The Board of Witness and Mission. Motion carried unanimously.

Pastor's Report:

The Christmas Eve service was cold but beautiful. The music was awesome.

Ladies Night Out – January 22 at 5:30 at Cousino's

The Lenten Theme will be "The Last Seven Words of Christ on the Cross." Pastors will among churches for the Wednesday Lenten services.

Board of Congregational Life – Reported by Mary Schlievert

The board met on January 10, 2023.

Attendance: Linda S., Nancy B., Joan E., Rachel B., and Mary S.

Old Business

- The Advent Soup Suppers had a small but steady attendance and 4-5 crocks of soup each week. We enjoyed relaxed evenings of conversation and fellowship.
- Mary shared her progress on the Photo Directory project.

New Business

- There will be a Potluck for the annual meeting on Sunday January 22nd. The sign-up sheet is out in the narthex. We will meet at 9:00 to set up Sunday morning. Water, coffee, tea, plates/plastic ware will be provided. People will be encouraged to bring their own beverage.
- We will draw names for Prayer Partners at the annual meeting 1-22-23.
- We have been approached by 2 people for our board to offer coffee and snacks after worship. After discussion it was decided to offer coffee no more than once a month, in conjunction with our board's events and/or education events.
- There will be a Valentine treat on Feb 12th!
- We will provide set-up for Lenten Soup Suppers beginning March 1st.
- We had some discussion on the funeral protocol and how to make it more helpful to grieving families. We will try to compile a list of possible workers to be on hand during funeral meals.
- We will organize our supplies in the fellowship hall storage room Feb 4th at 10 a.m.
- A kitchen purge and clean-up will take place in the summer. We will post kitchen clean-up rules and review the building use agreement.

To Do/In Progress:

- Explain funeral protocol at annual the meeting, and try to secure volunteers for funeral meals
- Complete the photo directory and update Council and New Member Photos
- Poster in kitchen regarding clean-up and fellowship hall usage
- Alert Board of Property about some of the kitchen drawers

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 7 at 6 p.m.

Board of Property – Reported by Steve Blausey

The Board of Property met on Jan. 8th at 9:30 am in the conference room with 7 members and 3 guest present. Devotions were read along with December's report to council.

Under old business, Steve read the quote for repairs that were performed to the boiler system by Dimech Services. The total cost for this work was \$3,650.00. This work has been performed and we have been billed for it. We also discussed the quote from CWS Environmental for water testing services this year. Randy stated that he would test through June and we will re-visit this issue then. Zach informed the board that we will need to find a cellular provider to repair the phone issue in the elevator. He is currently contacting companies that can provide this service.

Under Miscellaneous, Steve read a letter from Johnson Controls stating they recently received a systems trouble signal from our unit. Steve Simkus said he checked monitor on the evening it happened and that everything appeared to be working correctly once it was re-set. Steve informed the group that a new cross has been made and erected onto the boiler chimney. Also, Nancy Pries has requested that 2 tables be brought up to the lounge for the quilters.

Moving on to new business, Steve passed on a request from Jayne Klett stating she would like to see some "sprucing up " done to the lounge and Sunday school rooms and would like to see this done as a group effort. The board agreed and will help facilitate this process. Gary

informed the board that the Ottawa County Seniors will no longer be renting the Fellowship Hall effective Feb.2nd. Steve requested that we have a church representative accompany Hartford Boiler for an inspection on Jan 12th between 8-12. Someone will be available. Merlyn stated that he did some investigating of our organ as it has lost its volume capabilities. He is happy to report that it was just in need of new batteries. These batteries are located in the room directly behind the organ. He replaced them and he thinks he's got it repaired. The Board also discussed the viability of building a shelter house. It was decided to hold a separate meeting to further look into this. Merlyn also made the board aware that we may have memorials available for the purchasing of new furniture for the lounge and we may also look into using some of these funds for the Sacristy.

Having no other new business, we adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Board of Witness and Mission- Reported by Nancy Pries

The Witness and Mission Board met Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 9:30 am. John Heminger, Amy Simkus, Jayne Klett and Nancy Pries were present. We are working on a packet to be given out to visitors and new neighbors or new people in the community. We were pleased to receive \$505.00 from the Advent extra envelopes and donations from the soup

and bread Wednesday evening meals. This was only three weeks as compared to 4 weeks in Lent. This will provide "A Clinic Visit for a for a Child" at \$10 a visit.

Our choice for end of year extra funds would be to The Ability Center in Sylvania, Oesterlen in Springfield a Lutheran facility to help a foster child in transit, counseling for young people, babies in respite care, or St. Paul's Community Center near downtown Toledo. The project for Lent will be Water Filters through ELCA. \$30.00 each An Easter mailing, as we did for Christmas, is under consideration with extending the range a couple of miles wider. Jayne Klett told of her becoming involved in the church Sunday School program. She was wondering if

there would be money available for projects. We suggested using the Thrivent Action Team funds or funds in the Thrivent from policy holders for any project requested.

The next meeting will be Sunday, February 12, at 9:30.

Board of Worship – Joan Eckermann reported that the next meeting will be on January 17, 2023.

New Business –

The Annual Report is being prepared for the annual meeting. The Annual Meeting will be held on the fellowship hall on January 22 with a potluck brunch.

We need to appoint an Audit Committee for 2022.

The Ottawa County Resources (Elmore Golden Oldies) will be leaving Grace effective February 2, 2023.

Council took a short survey in response from the ELCA Annual Report.

A motion was made by Karen, second Mary, that \$200 be allocated for Pastor to purchase a new chair for her office. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steve, second Joan, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The next council meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hammel

Grace Lutheran Church Council Secretary

