

Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes
April 11, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church Council met on April 11, 2024 at 7 PM with the following members present: Mary Schlievert, Mike Schllievert, Joan Eckermann, John Hemminger, Karen Hammel, Steve Blausey, Deb Boos, Gordon Hille, and Pastor Jaci.

Mary called the meeting to order and Pastor Jaci offered opening prayer.

[

A motion was made by Steve, second Karen, to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Reported by Mike Schlievert

Mike made a motion, second Steve, that we allocate the quarterly interest from our CD as follows: 10% to Directed Benevolence, 10% to maintenance, and the remaining amount to Operation Oreo and the Scholarship Fund. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report - Reported by Pastor Jaci

~Attended the Affirmation of Vows Ceremony with the Synod in Arlington, Ohio during Holy Week.

~Holy Week went well.

~Garrett Wolfe's First Communion is coming up.

~Been dealing with Portico issues.

~Avenue Concert was a great community event (lots of people I didn't know) and Haley was super nice!

~Met with Clyde to discuss the upcoming schedule.

~Ruth Ann's Memorial Service will be on April 20th.

~Ladies Night Out will be held on April 21st at Rayz Cafe at 5:30.

Board Reports:

Board of Congregational Life - Reported by Mary Schlievert

Mary reported that the board needs a board chair. The next meeting will be on April 16th at 7 PM.

Board of Education - Reported by Gordon Hille

Gordon reported that the next board meeting is yet to be determined.

Board of Property - Reported by Steve Blausey

Steve reported that the next board meeting will be on Sunday, April 14th at 9:30.

Board of Witness and Mission - Reported by John Hemminger

The board met on April 10, 2024. Benevolence payments were made to Redeemer Lutheran from First Fruits and CRU from Directed Funds. \$1278 was collected in Lenten offerings and went toward the purchase of 51 ELCA hygiene kits. Reviewed current First Fruit and Directed Funds balances. *Scheduled Temple Talks* – April 14, Margaret Weisz from Liberty Center in Fremont, May 12 – Drew Tucker from Hope Woods Lutheran Outdoor Ministries. Ideas were shared on improving communication about opportunities and needs of the church. *Community involvement* - suggestions discussed included the Portage River Festival and Genoa homecoming parade. *Resources on hand to welcome visitors that are not being used* – Information Packets and pocket crosses. *Care and compassion* – prayer shawls. *Visitor information* – cards in the pew – no collection box to put them if someone does fill them out. Past practice of placing them in the offering plate has been eliminated since we don't pass the plates. The next board meeting will be on May 8, 2024.

Board of Worship - Reported by Joan Eckermann

The Board of Worship met on April 9 at 7:00 p.m. with four members attending and two members absent. The meeting began with prayer.

Old Business

We reviewed our Lent and Easter worship. Rachel Beeler created a detailed list of altar guild duties for Holy Week. A copy will be put in a binder to be kept in the sacristy for future reference.

We discussed how our communion procedure is going. We decided to eliminate the pouring chalice and only use the tall pitcher for pouring wine into the cups. We'll also ask the deacons to prepare the bread trays beginning on September 8 when we move back into the sanctuary. The deacons and altar guild members will be asked to rinse out the plastic cups and place them in a recycling container to be placed in the sacristy. We'll see if our cleaning person can empty it into the recycling bin in the furnace room on a regular basis.

We also discussed the deacon and lector sign-up lists. We decided to ask Joyce to create printed schedules as in the past and place them in the mailboxes. This will start on June 2 when we begin summer worship.

New Business

We reviewed our worship plans for the remainder of spring and summer. Pentecost is May 19, and worship will begin with a special procession that includes the cross, a fire bowl and ribbon sticks.

Summer worship in the Fellowship Hall will begin on June 2. We'll ask the Board of Property to ask the Jazzercise instructors to move their classes to the basement beginning on June 1. We'll set up the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, June 1 at 10:00 a.m. and will ask for volunteer assistance. We'll ask the Board of Property to check the speakers since there were crackling sounds coming from them the last time we used the sound system. The radio transmitter will also need to be checked before worship begins. People that worship in their cars will be asked by the deacons to park near the Fellowship Hall door.

The blessing of the backpacks will take place during worship on August 18.

We'll move back into the sanctuary for worship on September 8, which is also God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.

Other Items

- The choir's last Sunday before the summer break is May 19.
- Lori will be gone on May 12. She'll contact Ryan Erard to be our substitute organist.
- The CCLI license is usually renewed in May. Pastor Jaci will ask Joyce about this.
- June 30 will be the next Youth Sunday.

Our next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, July 30 at 7:00 p.m. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Old Business:

1. We have vacant Council positions: Vice President, and Board of Congregational Life Chair.
2. The Audit Committee Report has been signed and turned in.
3. Parsonage Task Force Report - Met Tuesday night. Mike shared a presentation at the meeting. There was a water leak in the crawl space of the parsonage. The water is currently turned off in the parsonage, and it was temporarily turned off at the church. A shut off valve was located, and the water in the church is now back on and running.
The next meeting will be April 24 at 7 PM.
4. Avenue Concert - Attendance at the concert was 90, and 70 were served for dinner.

5. Jazzercise Contract - The contract will be revised. Steve will take care of it.

New Business:

1. Pastor Jaci's three year contract is up for renewal. Pastor will contact the Synod to begin the process for renewal.
2. A Southern Gospel duo contacted us to find out if we would host a concert in May. We will not be hosting another concert at this time.

Good News:

The Avenue concert was a good community event.
Easter Sunday worship was well attended.

Prayer concerns were shared.

Announcements:

~The next council meeting will be on Thursday, May 9 at 7 PM.
~Ruth Ann's Celebration of Life will be held on April 20th at noon, with an hour visitation prior to the service

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

The meeting concluded with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hammel
Church Council Secretary