

Council Minutes
August 23rd, 2021

Call to order 6:02pm

Attending: Deborah Dreher, Abbie Schultz, Marjorie Peterson, Sadie Reiners, Cindy Toppin, Katy Lindberg, Bruce Arndtson

Absent: David Weisser and Pastor Greg Geier

Opening prayer by Marjorie Peterson

Secretary's report July 2021 Minutes were approved. Motion to approve by Bruce with a second made by Pam. Approval passed.

Treasurer Deborah Dreher

The Finance Ministry Team (FMT) did not meet, however they approved 2021 July Financial Reports via email.

St. Philip's Lutheran Church continues to be in a strong financial position. General Giving, Capital Giving and Misc. Giving are 2% over Budget, and Expenses at 2% below Budget.

Motion to approve the financial reports was made by Cindy, with a second by Bruce. Motion passed.

Vice President Sadie Reiners

The following buildings and grounds update was provided by Glenda Schnirring:

- Ten volunteers responded to the call for weeding in late June. Areas of focus were the east door area, the front stretch along 15th St. in front of the fences, the strip of Junipers along Pleasant and the area by the new columbarium. These four areas were prepared for mulch which was delivered and spread by Precision during the 3rd week of July. Cost was just over \$1900.
- Air conditioning had become a great concern when it was discovered the Youth Room AC unit would not perform. Binder was called in to assess the unit as was Controlled Air and Bathrick's in Hastings. Bathrick's got the AC unit working again for a temporary time which was wonderful for the garage sale. There's a small leak. Bathrick's had the product which is not in production to get it going again. The fact remains that the Youth Room unit should be replaced.
- The seven wall mounted units in the old sanctuary, old narthex and fellowship are all out but one. These units are not built anymore and have become obsolete to repair. Bids for these units have not been solicited.

- Steve Wolverton has tended to routine calls for the building during the past month with bulb replacement and restroom commodes malfunctioning.
- B & G will meet in Sept to evaluate the grounds care during winter and summer. Precision presently has that contract. One outside bidder has requested to be considered.

Serving Ministries Pam Hoffman

The Stewardship Ministry Team is looking to the fall campaign. The theme will be “The Grace of Giving’. Stewardship Sunday will be Nov. 21 with the ingathering of pledges for 2022. Three speakers will be recruited for personal stewardship messages prior to Stewardship Sunday. The campaign will again be for two commitments during the one appeal, General Fund and Mortgage Fund. One hundred thirty-five households responded in 2020. A greater response will our objective.

“Keeping Connected While We’re Apart “ remains a monthly feature from Stewardship. Gerri Lundby has become the chief recruiter for these writings.

Coffee system -

A Bunn system will be ordered. It is similar to the system we had previously. No date has been decided for starting to have coffee available on Sundays. Machine will be delayed delivery due to inventory.

HR Cindy Toppin

Worked with the Preschool on getting salary survey data. Assistant teachers were well below the market so the Board voted to raise them.

The co-directors requested a meeting with HR and the Board to discuss the teacher/director salaries and how it would impact their budget. This meeting is set for September.

HR is collecting data on other positions as well and will discuss if action is needed.

Learning ministries Abby Schultz

Faith Formation Team Meeting

August 11, 2021

Kayak trip- Aug 21, 4 kids signed up right now

- It was recommended to keep worship time at 930 and then proceed to Sunday school at 1035.
- Cherub choir is back for preschool-1st grade. Led by Lizbet and Katie Thomas

They will keep them after Sunday school opening to practice for 10-15 minutes

Youth who help with cherub choir can disperse afterward

- We do want to bring Worship wonderers back eventually but it doesn’t seem like a need at the moment since very few families are coming to in-person worship right now

- Sarah will look at more past calendars/binders and bring up at next staff meeting about when and if to have a Christmas party/ notes about the program.
- Prince of Egypt movie night for 7th graders
- Discussion on the Mentor Orientation for next Spring.
- Discussed plans for Rally Day
- Confirmation- Sept 26, 9:30am (during worship)
Stole making/confirmation rehearsal- Sept 25
- Post card for Sunday school kids reminding them of SS (made by Carol)

Worship & Music Report Marjorie Peterson

A motion was made by Cindy Toppin to continue with one service starting at 930am after Labor day with an education hour after the service. Future arrangements will be discussed when attendance rises to 200. If that number rises to 200, the recommendation would be to switch back to our traditional schedule with two services and the education hour between. Communion will continue to be served using the kits. Katy gave the motion a second. Motion passed.

Mask policy for Unity:

The committee approved their request to sing their anthems without masks if remaining behind the shields. This will be revisited if changes occur with the virus.

Becky Raimann will be in conversation with John Diischer and our financial director regarding budgeting over the next several years for a laser projector.

Communication and Marketing Bruce Arndtson

Still working on live streaming. We appreciate the technological efforts made by Pastor and the team.

Pastor Geier –

Pastor Geier – August 2021 Council Report

- Working with the confirmation class to share their faith statements. Each faith statement is a victory in more ways than one. 😊
- VBS went better than expected in many ways, but we were notified of a positive Covid-19 test from one of the children on Friday, so we followed protocols in letting families and volunteers know (with two regrettable oversights.)
- Between Rally day on September 12th and confirmation on the 25th, I am thinking a dedication/blessing of the columbarium on September 19th after worship might be our best bet.
- For some reason, several of our worship videos have been flagged for copyright infringement by Aditya Movies. According to their Facebook page, “Aditya Movies is another arm of Aditya Music.

One stop destination for Blockbuster and Superhit Telugu & Hindi Dub movies.” However, when I investigated the material they claimed was theirs, it was things like the Apostles’ Creed, parts of the Lord’s prayer or Bible passages. I have spent considerable time refuting their claims one by one and thus far have been successful in getting our videos back online. I don’t think there is a high demand for our previous worship services but was troubled by the notion than anyone can claim infringement without cause. I will let you know if this continues.

New Business: Cindy Toppin made a motion to allow the River valley band use of the sanctuary under CDC guidelines for the Christmas concert December 12th. Marjorie gave it a second and motion was approved.

Ongoing use of the Church and sanctuary will be discussed at the next council meeting. Where is the prior policy that outlined the usage of the building?

Council adjourned 633pm Motion made by Deborah and seconded by Bruce

Submitted by Katy Lindberg Council secretary