

## **Council Minutes**

**May 15, 2023, 6:00 pm**

Attending: Dan Strehlow, Deborah Dreher, Pam Hoffman, Natalie Carda, Abby Mattimiro, Warren Thomas, Lois Twedt, Glenda Schnirring

### **Call to Order at 6:00 p.m. by President Dan Strehlow**

#### **Secretary's Report—Lois Twedt**

Deborah made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report. Pam seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### **Treasurer Deborah Dreher**

##### **No Council Action Required**

Review of April 2023 Financial Reports: Comparing Actual Giving to Budget, Giving is down by 15.2%. Expenses remain about 20% under Budget, so our overall financial situation is still strong. Net Income is \$24,768.

Two more gifts of \$1000 and \$200 have been given to the cost of the new projector.

Pam made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Warren seconded it. The motion passed.

#### **Vice President Sadie Reiners**

##### **Council Action Required**

The B&G committee met Monday May 8. (Absent - Steve Wolverton) A heavy agenda was as follows:

1. The team heard from Brain Flaten (Premium Electric) whom we've consulted regarding the sanctuary lighting which is currently served with halogen bulbs. Glenda shared that replacing 48 Sanctuary halogen light fixtures with LED fixtures would cost \$21,700 with an approximate \$4400 rebate. The work would take approximately one week to complete. Currently six volunteers work to replace halogen bulbs 3-4 times a year. This involves positioning the tall ladder or maneuvering a rented lift. Because of the cost of new projector, parking lot maintenance, and taxes on 15<sup>th</sup>, Warren made a motion to begin communication with the congregation to consider donations and to include this item in the 2024 budget. Natalie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Trees -B & G met with city officials and selected 3 Red Oak and 2 Hackberry to be planted on the Pleasant Drive boulevard in the fall. These trees will be provided by the city. A recent invoice (\$2824.50) for boulevard tree removal of seven trees is at St.Philip's expense.

3. We will ask Precision to begin a weekly watering schedule for the 11 new trees planted in 2022.

4. Typical spring tasks were reviewed and assigned (vacuum ceiling vents, put shovels/salt away, clean filters on two courtyard AC units, clean and lube spreader, cut tall grasses around all ponding basins, spray weeds which are not near trees, sweep out garage during garage sale week, re-set timer for outside lighting).

5. A grounds grooming day will be announced for Saturday 9 a.m. July 15, for weeding and shrub shaping, plus add new mulch around new trees. (July 9 was the date in '22). Significant grooming has been done by Al Todnem in the courtyard and front of fences.

6. Window washing will be done by Fine Shine either May 11 or after June 10.

7. Discussed the idea of a ground drain to address snow melt from the snow piling from the parking lot. This past winter we left the snow on the parking lot to avoid back yard flooding of one or two neighbors. Glenda will consult with Precision who will give advice on drain location. Contractors Gartzke or Bauer are recommended. Will seek a price.

8. Glenda shared the need for cleaning, sealing and striping of the parking lot. This item is in the 2023 budget. A motion was made by Deborah and seconded by Natalie to engage Tundra SealCoating to do the cleaning, sealing and striping in 2023 for a cost of \$16,740. The motion passed.

## **Serving Ministry Report--Pam Hoffman**

### **No Council Action Required**

#### Fellowship Ministry

New Members-7 households joined.

Finalizing plans for Ladies Night Out on 6/28.

Ice Cream Cups will be ordered for the 6/18 Outdoor Service with Fellowship members handing them out.

Bouquets of flowers and notes were given to Preschool teachers and aides for Teacher Appreciation Week.

Philadazzle plans will be starting soon. Hopefully the committee members from last year will be willing to help again.

Camille is going to check with Lista to see if there are any volunteers willing to give rides to members to church.

#### Stewardship

No formal meeting of the Stewardship Ministry Team was held in May. "Staying Connected" will remain in the Newsletter as developed by Gerri Lundby.

Results from the Time and Talent survey are being distributed to committee chairs for their use in expanding their ministry teams.

## **HR Report—Natalie Carda**

### **No Council Action Required**

The HR Committee will be meeting in July to discuss some new items.

## **Worship Ministry Report– Marjorie Peterson**

### **No Council Action Required.**

Service debrief: Things going smoothly. Attendance is gradually increasing towards 150. There were 175 in attendance on May 14.

Sanctuary: All social distancing tape has been removed. Masks will still be available for any who wish to use them. Offering envelopes and cards were replaced in the pews prior to Easter.

Worship leaders: It has been a challenge to get volunteers to serve as worship coordinators. Glenda is recruiting and announcements will be made.

Music: Additional stand lights were purchased. The piano has been tuned and the humidifier repaired. Organized music groups will not meet again until fall. Ellen is working on a summer schedule.

Future planning: June 18 is the date of the outdoor service. Posters are being made for community businesses. We are hoping to order a banner for the outdoor corner sign.

This team approved of having SPLC host the Rivertown Days worship service held on July 23 at 9:30 am. VBS will sing some songs, and vocalists will lead familiar hymns. A keyboard will be made available, and Pastor Geier will check on a sound system. Loose offering will go to local charities. Attendees may write checks made out to local churches or charities. A suggestion was made to arrange car-pooling from SPLC to the downtown site.

Discussion on method of collecting offering. We will continue to see how people are feeling as we re-adjust, as this was recently re-introduced to our service.

## **Learning Ministries Report –Abby Mattimiro**

### **No Council Action Required**

#### Preschool:

- Next year's spots filled (capacity for spots is 32 per day)

M/W/F 26

T/Th 19

Our spots full for this year are M/W/F 25 and T/TH 23

Last year at this time we had 33 total spots full

- We took our first field trip since May 2019 to Dodge Nature Center, and it was a huge success. Using the money from the Sharing Tree donation, we were able to cover the cost of the trip for all of our students. Parents who went with did pay a \$10 fee. We had 26 parents join us as well.
- We had a licensing visit on May 2nd that went very well. No violation was found on this modified visit. We can expect to have a full visit next spring.
- Year in review/ budget were covered. All in all, the year was very successful both from a student/teaching standpoint and financially. We were able to get back to "normalcy" more and more each month coming out of the pandemic. Through state grant money, sharing tree donation, parent's donations of snacks and supplies, and careful budgeting on staff's part the \$30,000 possible deficit that we were looking at last summer will end around a \$2,000 deficit which is covered in our bank account.
- Our next planned meeting will be for August 14th at 5:30 unless anything comes up over the summer that needs to be addressed sooner.

ASG:

No report received.

Faith Formation

No report received.

## **Communication/Marketing/Tech Report – Warren Thomas**

### **No Council Action Required**

Jen Klos & Katie Thomas would like to present the opportunity to have the church host a "Ruby's Pantry" Jen and Katie would like to discuss this idea with the council. They will attend the June meeting. Warren and Bruce will try to attend a Ruby's Pantry in the coming weeks, to see how manageable it is when offered in a church parking lot.

## **Pastor Geier – May 2023 Council Report**

- Our Family of Faith Fun Night was a success with 50+ people of all generations participating.
- The normal regimen of staff, ministry team meetings, etc.
- I am sad to think that I only get two more chapel times with our preschool until next fall.
- Every single confirmation student participated in the service event at Feed My Starving Children.
- On April 26th, I attended the Hastings Ministerial Association.
- After attending the "Tools for the Church" synod event on April 29th, I asked Justin Grimm to share the PowerPoint and demographic info that we used. I have attached them for you to peruse and will have hard copies of the demographic sheets at our meeting.
- On May 4th I attended and participated in the National Day of Prayer Breakfast hosted by the HMA.
- I am grateful St. Philip's was able to host the handbell extravaganza on May 6th.
- I attended our synod's assembly on May 12th and 13th at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi.
- I have agreed to lead a Protestant worship service at Regina Nursing home once a month. (For at least a while...)
- I have started performance appraisals for our staff ministry team and plan on having them completed by our June meeting.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.  
Your Servant in Christ,  
Gregory A. Geier, Pastor

## **Old Business**

Discussed adding music score to projected lyrics for the contemporary service. Natalie suggested providing the accompanying music by using a keyboard. It was also suggested to insert the music in the bulletin. Difficulty of music may be because songs are chosen that correlate with the liturgy. The discussion was tabled until the June meeting.

Tools for the Church discussion was tabled until June, when Pastor is available to present his thoughts.

## **New Business**

Cleaning, sealing and striping of the parking lot was discussed during the Buildings and Grounds Committee report.

A motion was made by Abby and seconded by Natalie to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Lois Twedt, Secretary