

Council Minutes

July 31, 2023, 6:00 pm

Attending: Dan Strehlow, Deborah Dreher, Natalie Carda, Warren Thomas, Pastor Geier, Becky Raimann, Lois Twedt, Glenda Schnirring, Al Todnem

Call to Order at 6:05 p.m. by President Dan Strehlow

Secretary's Report, Lois Twedt

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

Treasurer Deborah Dreher

No Council Action Required

Review of June 2023 Financial Reports: Comparing Actual Giving to Budget, Giving is under Budget by 10.8% and Expenses are 17.56% under Budget. Our overall financial situation is still strong. Net Income is \$45,624.

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Warren to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed.

Vice President Sadie Reiners

No Council Action Required

- A planned grounds grooming day was put on the calendar 3 months ago for July 15. There are specific assignments spelled out for all parts of the property. We will spare the milkweed for the Monarch's due to members who have brought that important issue to our attention.
- Tundra began its prep work for the re-sealing and striping of the parking lot. Tundra knows about VBS and will hold off its work until that is over.
- Steve Wolverton now has the bulbs which will be installed over the chancel area sometime this summer. It will take a rented Lyft to do it.
- We'll pay attention to the sign corner as soon as the road construction eases. Right now, it's a mess.

Serving Ministry Report--Pam Hoffman

Council Action Required

Fellowship Ministry

- *Ladies Night Out - Those that went had a good time.
- *Produce share will be starting soon.
- *Plans are well underway for Philadazzle which will be on 12/3.
- *LeDuc concert and pie will be on 8/20.
- *Bloodmobile will be here on 8/24.

Stewardship

*The Stewardship Team re-convened Tuesday July 11 to begin planning the fall campaign. Commitment Sunday will be Dec. 3.

*Temple Talks will begin in Sept. with one each month until Dec. 3.

The theme will be “Community Grows Here”. This theme comes from one used by Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Vienna, VA. It was found online by Glenda who offered it to the team along with many other choices.

*Al Todnem and Glenda Schnirring presented Stewardship’s desire for an expansion of its 2023 budget. A “Drawn to the Word”, community mural “package” is an idea they would like to have St. Philip’s active with beginning in Sept. It’s felt it would build community within the congregation along with more enthusiasm for outreach regionally and globally. This involves the painting of a mural that would be displayed in front of the sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. The cost would be \$2000.

*Gerri Lundby continues to find two households per month to write a short story about their family and its tie to St. Philip’s.

HR Report—Natalie Carda

No Council Action Required

Nothing new to report.

Worship Ministry Report– Marjorie Peterson

No Council Action Required.

The Worship and Music team did not meet this month.

Learning Ministries Report –Abby Mattimiro

No Council Action Required

Preschool:

No report received.

ASG:

No report received.

Faith Formation:

No report received.

Communication/Marketing/Tech Report – Warren Thomas

Council Action Required

Council discussed bringing fiber optics into the building at a \$200 increase per month in cost. It was decided to hold off on that item. Warren is looking into ways to decrease our monthly internet costs, possibly switching to Hiawatha Broadband Communications and purchasing our own monitoring cameras rather than leasing from Comcast.

Deborah will reach out to Ellen, Glenda and Lista to determine if some VHS tapes currently in the library need to be saved or discarded.

Pastor Geier – July 2023 Council Report

- The normal regimen of staff, ministry team meetings, etc. with the caveat that I was on vacation for two weeks, (which was wonderful.)
- I believe that I am caught up on pastoral care with those who were hospitalized or in transitional care.
- Thanks to everyone who helped in any way with the funeral and luncheon for Mary Lou Christenson.
- Becky Kaphing and I (mostly Becky) have been working together on getting everything ready for VBS and the outdoor community worship service next Sunday at the Hastings Rotary Pavilion.
- I am grateful for all of the volunteers who showed up to work on our landscaping and for those who gave of their time for our VBS ministry.
- I will be taking vacation time July 24-27 and August 1-4 (No Sundays) and will be gone Sunday, August 20th. Dorothy Sandahl will provide pulpit supply.
- There will be a family serving event on August 26, from 9-11:30 at Feed My Starving Children.
- Pastor continues to encourage Faith Statements from the confirmands.
- Pastor is pursuing a trip to Tanzania organized by our synod, to visit our companion synod there. This would be an enriching experience for Pastor. He would be gone January 23-February 6.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.

Your Servant in Christ,

Gregory A. Geier, Pastor

Old Business

The Tools for the Church discussion was tabled to August meeting.

We need to recruit an individual from the congregation to lead a H.S. youth group. We will use the bulletin and newsletter, as well as personal contact, to try to find this person.

Pantry food distribution is gathering information.

New Business

Natalie made a motion to increase the Stewardship Budget by \$2000 to allow the mural project to move forward. Deborah seconded the motion. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Deborah and seconded by Warren to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Submitted by Lois Twedt, Secretary