

Grace Lutheran Church Council
August 8, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church Council met on August 8, 2024 at 7 pm with the following members present: Mary Schlievert, Mike Schlievert, Karen Hammel, Deb Boos, John Heminger, and Pastor Jaci. President Mary Schlievert called the meeting to order and Pastor Jaci offered opening prayer.

A motion was made by Mike, second Deb, to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2024 meeting. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report - Reported by Mike Schlievert

June - Currently at a \$1,484 deficit. We received interest from the Money Market and 2 of the CD's that are with Huntington. This gives us interest for the quarter of \$2,243 to allocate.

A motion was made by Mike via email on July 9, 2024, second Karen, to disburse the quarterly interest as follows: Maintenance \$224.31, Directed Benevolence \$ 224.31, Operating Expenses \$1,500, and Operation Oreo \$294.51. Motion carried.

July - Giving was below budget by a wide margin, which is common for July. Insurance was due, so expenses were a bit higher than normal, as well. This resulted in losing \$6,500 for the month. That included the \$1,500 from interest allocated to opening from June.

Pastor's Report - Reported by Pastor Jaci

- Ladies night out was rescheduled, but was still well attended.
- Blessings of the backpacks will be on August 18th and after service, there will be a party in the parking lot!
- Mud Hens game was good.
- Attended Genacross board meeting to discuss gifted land to Lucas county - Isaiah 117 house. Genacross is going to donate land for a Lucas county Isaiah 117 house!
- We will send cards to members who are of concern.

Board Reports

Board of Congregational Life - Reported by Mary Schlievert

There will be a Parking Lot Party on Sunday, August 18th after worship. There will be games for all ages! A new Board Chair is needed. The next meeting will be held on August 13th at 6 p.m.

Board of Education - Submitted by Jayne Klett

Summer activities included three sessions of Crafternoons, two sessions of Sermon on the Mount study with the confirmation students, and one work session to clean a classroom and to pull weeds.

A new class for preschool age children will be offered this coming year. There are 5 potential students for that class. Peggie Avers has taken the lead on planning the curriculum and class schedule. More teachers are needed to cover this class, as teachers will rotate monthly. If you are willing to give teaching a try but need mentoring - or- if you have experience and would like to mentor a teacher, please let Peggie or Jayne know.

The elementary class will be moved across the hall so that the preschool class can have the double room. Preschool size chairs are being purchased with Thrivent Choice funds. There are no adult classes being planned at this time. Operation Oreo will be the recipient of the Sunday School offerings. The children will be involved in packing the boxes and creating cards of encouragement. There will be opportunities for the entire congregation to join the children in supporting this project, which is now in its 23rd year. Stay tuned!

Gordon Hille has resigned as Board of Education Chair. A new Board of Education chair is needed.

Board of Property - No report

Board of Witness and Mission - Reported by John Heminger

John reported that the board did not meet. The next meeting will be on August 11, 2024.

Board of Worship - Submitted by Pastor Jaci

The board met on August 4, 2024 at 11:35 a.m. following worship.

Old Business

- Review of late spring and summer worship so far
- Average summer attendance is 40.

New Business

- We'll return to worship in the sanctuary on October 6, possibly sooner if the weather is cooler. We'll also switch back to Liturgy Setting 1 then.
- The choir will resume singing on September 8. This is also Rally Day and God's Work, Our Hands day.
- We'll move worship items to the sanctuary on Saturday, October 5 at 10:00 a.m.
- Choir rehearsals begin on Tuesday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m. The choir will sing two Sundays each month for now.
- Youth-led worship is scheduled for September 29. Pastor Jaci will confirm how many youth will be attending that day.
- Reformation – October 27.
- All Saints Sunday – November 3. The annual congregational meeting for budget approval and election of the 2025 Church Council will take place after worship.
- Christ the King Sunday – November 24. Hanging of the greens will take place after worship.

Looking forward to Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

- First Sunday of Advent – December 1
- Wednesday soup suppers and worship – December 4, 11, and 18 with the meal at 6:00 p.m. and Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00.
- Christmas Eve worship - Tuesday, December 24 tentatively beginning at 8:00 p.m. We'll confirm this at our November meeting.
- Christmas Day – no worship
- December 29 - Lessons & Carols service will be led by Joan. There won't be communion that day.

- Epiphany season begins after January 6. January 5 is the 2nd Sunday of Christmas.
- We'll take down the Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m.

Other Items

- Lori will be gone on September 15. Ryan Erard will be the substitute organist.
- There was a suggestion from Nancy Pries to have a special liturgy at the beginning of worship each time a liturgical season color changes. She attended a service at a church that did this. After discussion, we decided to put a short article in the bulletin and the power point when each the liturgical colors change. Rachel offered to take care of this.
- At our next meeting we'll discuss Altar Guild procedures.
- Board chair for 2024 – to be determined.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. following choir rehearsal

Old Business

- There are three vacant council positions
- Vice President, Board of Congregational Life, and Board of Education.

New Business

- Boards need to have a proposed budget for 2025 to Mike by September 12th.
- The slate of officers for Grace Church Council was discussed.

Good News!

- We are thankful for rain and homegrown produce!

Announcements

- August 11, 2024 - Parking Lot Party with food truck, multi-generational activities and ice cream treats!
- September 8, 2024 - Rally Day! God's Work, Our Hands project!
- September 29, 2024 - Youth Sunday
- The next council meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 7 pm.

A motion was made by Karen, second Deb, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.
The meeting concluded with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hammel
Church Council Secretary

