



COMMUNITY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

6517 Finzel Road, Whitehouse, Ohio 43571

Church Council Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2023

In Attendance: Kevin Swagler (President), Kara Yokum, (Vice-President), Sarah Rockwell (Secretary), Lainie Davis, Pam Davis, Laurie Dewitz, Becky King, Tammy Myers, Don Schroeder, Kathryn Whitacre, Carol Wiemken, Pastor Lohrmann, & Joseph Perkins (*Treasurer*).

Absent: Zach Weber

Guests: Laurie Mauro, Cynda Pontsler, Jeff Baden, Michelle Gebhart

Call to Order & Opening Devotions: Kevin Swagler called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Becky King led devotions and Don Schroeder volunteered to lead devotions for the next meeting.

Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda made by Kara Yokum. Becky King seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitor Presentations:

1. Michelle Gebhart went over her approach to preparing for the handouts for our council meetings as well as the approach for submitting information for monthly newsletters. The email with council reports is due by the Thursday before our meeting – there is a template for the written report. If you can't get it in on time, please print copies for council meeting and send Michelle an electronic copy. She requests that we submit information for newsletter articles 2-3 weeks before the end of the month. Please send photos in that timeframe as well. Email Michelle if you have something to put on the official calendar.
2. Laurie Mauro presented information related to sectioning off some of our property behind the building and creating a prairie garden to support native plants and species, which is an environmentally positive project. This could include room for quiet meditation once established. (See attached). Cynda Pontsler is partnering with her in this initiative. They are also working with Metroparks resources for direction to approach this project. Council President, Kevin Swagler, suggested she move forward by reaching out to the Property Committee for support and then have the property committee reach out to council for approval.
3. Jeff Baden presented a request for funding to create a video to better promote our congregation to potential candidates. This video or videos could be uploaded to the church website. They are exploring website redesign as well.
 - Don Schroeder moved to approve up to \$2500 from memorial funds to authorize promotional video for call committee purposes. Kara Yokum seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Our Purpose – “Making Jesus Known”



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Committee Reports

- Finance
 1. Treasurers Report- (Joseph) Joseph is getting Church Windows set up on a locked computer in the former Music Director's office. He will train Michelle and one other person on the program. The information will be locked up.
 - Don Schroeder moved to accept the finance report, Laine Davis seconded. Motion carried.
 2. Finance Committee Report (Kara) – The Finance Committee audit is approximately 75% Complete – There have been no major findings. We currently have 2 ways to contribute electronically. The finance committee is exploring the possibility of adding Venmo.

- Pastors Report
 1. Pastor discussed adding an additional person to support him one Sunday per month. This will help free him up to do more outreach and visitation and will give him some opportunities to get away for a weekend. This person is Pastor Lee Ann Pomrenke. She grew up in St. Steven Lutheran Church in Sylvania and has recently moved back to the area with her family. She is married and has 2 young children. She will lead the service, including preaching, and lead the adult Sunday School on those Sundays.
 - Kara Yokum moved to approve funding of \$8000 for the next 12 months to compensate Pastor Pomrenke. Laurie Dewitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 2. Pastor suggested we designate a gift in the amount of \$2500 to LIRS and \$1000 for the ELCA Disaster Fund from our Thank Offering Fund.
 - Becky King moved that we designate a gift in the amount of \$2500 to LIRS and \$1000 for the ELCA Disaster Fund from our Thank Offering Fund. Tammy Myers seconded. Motion carried.

- Education and Youth (Lainie) – See attached report.
- Outreach (Zach/Tammy) – See attached report.
 - Community of Christ Toolbox (part of Outreach Committee) – See additional attached report.
- Property (Don) – See attached report.
- Worship and Music (Carol) – See attached report.
- Social Action (Becky and Kathryn) – See attached report.

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- Fellowship (Pam) – Successful Toledo Museum of Art tour – Thanks to Lisa Alleman for and the Nofzinger' for hosting a pizza dinner after the tour. Trivia Night planned for March 4th. See attached report.
- Stewardship (Laurie) – See attached report.

Unfinished Business

1. Signing of Bank Cards - Completed
2. 50th Anniversary – A small committee has been established and will meet Sunday, (2/26) after the 10:00 service. They will reach out for help for tasks as needed.

New Business

1. Request for removal of membership. Roz Rober, moved from area and has joined another congregation.
 - Kara Yokum moved to remove Roz Rober from membership. Tammy Myers seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. Executive Committee appointments of Financial Secretary and Treasurer – as required, the Executive Committee met after the last council meeting and they appointed Joseph Perkins as Treasurer and Michelle Gebhart as Financial Secretary for 2023.
3. Network upgrade and new computer needed for the Treasurer's office at a cost of \$1087.99.
 - Don Schroeder moved to use Memorial Funds to pay for this upgrade, Kathryn Whitacre seconded. Motion carried.
4. Michelle is often multi-tasking during the day, making it difficult to open the door to let people in. After researching options:
 - Don Schroeder moved to authorize funding for an electronic motorized conversion kit to enable Michelle to open the door from her desk in the office at a cost of up to \$2139 from the capital fund. Becky King seconded. Motion carried.

Adjournment and Prayer

- Sarah Rockwell moved to adjourn the meeting. Kathryn Whitacre seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:43, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: March 14, 2023

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