



# COMMUNITY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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6517 Finzel Road, Whitehouse, Ohio 43571

## Church Council Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2023

**In Attendance:** Kevin Swagler (President), Kara Yokum, (Vice-President), Sarah Rockwell (Secretary), Laine Davis, Pam Davis, Laurie Dewitz, Becky King, Tammy Myers, Don Schroeder, Katherine Whitacre, Carol Wiemken, Joe Perkins, Pastor Marcus Lohrmann

Absent: Zach Weber

Guests: Jeff Baden & Brian Jones

**Call to Order & Opening Devotions:** Kevin Swagler called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Laine Davis led devotions and Becky King volunteered to lead devotions for the next meeting.

**Agenda:** Kevin added an item to the agenda, Motion to approve the amended agenda made by Kara Yokum. Don Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Committee Reports

- Finance
  1. Treasurers Report- (Joseph) – Joseph reviewed the current state of income and budget. A correction was made to the submitted reports (see attached). Becky King moved to approve the amended finance report, Tammy Myers, seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  2. Finance Committee Report (Kara) – Discussion of the policy recommendations from June meeting, detailing expense reimbursement and also the Memorial Funds policy recommendation. Laurie Dewitz moved to approve the expense policy. Tammy Myers seconded. Motion carried. It was decided to table the Memorial Funds policy until August to give the council time to read through it.
- Call Committee Update
  - Kathryn Whitacre moved to confirm the call committee's unanimous decision to move forward to the negotiation stages of the process with the discussed Pastoral candidate. Becky King seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Pastors Report – See attached report.
  - Pastor Lohrmann recommended we continue to include Michelle Gebhart in future council meetings. He shared his opinion that we are blessed with very strong leadership in this congregation and also noted his affection for the

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wonderful youth that he's been fortunate to get to know during his tenure. He encouraged us to stay focused on the youth.

- Education and Youth (Lainie) – They will be reaching out to determine interest in the ELCA Youth Gathering 7/13/2024-7/16/2024 in New Orleans, LA. There is a possibility of chartering a bus with other congregations in the area to transport the youth and chaperones to the event.
- Outreach (Zach/Tammy) – We were unable to get volunteers for this year's Cherry Fest. We will try again next year. The campout is August 4<sup>th</sup> at the church. All are welcome, even if they don't stay all night.
- Property (Don) – Prairie Garden – The area is tilled and ready for planting next year.
- Worship and Music (Carol) – There was some discussion about the back of the sanctuary being closed at the back of the church. This was done to contain noise when the service was going on while people arrive for Sunday School, etc. We will wait to see if the upcoming safety training will have some influence on this.
- Social Action (Becky and Kathryn) – There is a blood drive at the end of August. Rose Ackerman is starting up a Quilts for Lutheran World Relief.
- Fellowship (Pam/Kara) – No Meeting/Report
- Stewardship (Laurie) – See Attached Report

### Unfinished Business

1. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – They are meeting on Monday evening. The current focus for planning is on Blue Jean Sunday will be on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
2. God's Work Our Hands – Sarah Rockwell is exploring opportunities with a new organization – Urban Wholistics.

### New Business

1. Discussion on keeping one service through September to make it easier for supply pastors and on Pastor Lee Ann. We will maintain a single 9:00 am service through September and revisit if we do not have a new pastor at the conclusion of September.
2. Review of needs for Supply Pastor services – Pastor Lee Ann Pomrenke has agreed to continue with us. Synod has another candidate, Robin Schmitz, to work with Pastor Lee Ann to share supply pastor duties.

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### Adjournment and Prayer

- Becky King moved to adjourn the meeting. Laurie Dewitz seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:17, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: August 8, 2023

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