



COMMUNITY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

6517 Finzel Road, Whitehouse, Ohio 43571

Church Council Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2023

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

Absent: Tammy Myers, Zach Weber, Carol Wiemken

Guests: Pastor Lee Ann Pomrenke, Jeff Baden & Brian Jones, Alex Ackerman

Call to Order & Opening Devotions: Kevin Swagler called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Sarah Rockwell led devotions and Laine Davis volunteered to lead devotions for the next meeting.

Agenda: Kevin added an item to the agenda, which Alex Ackerman and Pastor Pomrenke will speak to. Motion to approve the amended agenda made by Kara Yokum. Becky King seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Finance
 1. Treasurers Report- (Joseph) – Joseph discussed additional interest earned by combining a few accounts. He went over the status of contributions. Becky King moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Laine Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 2. Finance Committee Report (Kara) – See attached report. Discussion of Expense Reporting Policy document and Memorial Fund Policy. She requested we review these documents so that we can revisit this at our next meeting.
- Pastors Report – See attached report.
 - Pastor Lohrmann shared a document with recommendations for the Thank You Offering contribution of the past several months, with breakdowns of contributions already designated to different charities, representing local, national, and global ministries. Based on those breakdowns, he recommended we allocate these funds in the same proportions. Kara Yokum moved to accept Pastor’s recommendations. Don Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - Pastor shared an overview of his written report, announcing his decision to end his contract with July 16th being his last day. He thanked us for our care during his bypass surgery recovery and spoke to his joy in working with our congregation. He strongly feels that we are in a very good place and ready for

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a new pastor, when the Holy Spirit leads one to us. Pastor Lee Ann Pomrenke will continue to work with us.

- Education and Youth (Lainie) – No applications for the youth leader position. Intergenerational Sunday School is underway. 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be in New Orleans.
- Outreach (Zach/Tammy) – See attached report. Don noted that the cost for advertising in The Mirror went up to \$25 per week vs. the prior \$20. Sarah Rockwell moved that we continue with weekly advertising for \$25 per week. Pam Davis seconded. Motion carried.
- Property (Don) – See attached report. The needed part to repair the sign arrived today. Funds were approved in April, to be charged to the capital fund.
- Worship and Music (Carol) – See attached report.
- Social Action (Becky and Kathryn) – See attached report.
- Fellowship (Pam/Kara) – No Report/Summer Break
- Stewardship (Laurie) – Did not meet.
- Guest Attendee – Alex Ackerman and Pastor Lee Ann led discussion on social media options to help engage the youth.

Unfinished Business

1. 50th Anniversary – Blue Jean Sunday will be on September 10th. It will be the kickoff to this year's celebration. It includes a lunch. There will be one service at 9:00 a.m. They are planning to do Interviews to create "50 Stories for 50 Years". Kara Yokum moved and Becky King seconded to fund up to \$775 for a musician and sound system and \$500 in food cost for Blue Jean Sunday. Motion carried.
2. House of Worship Safety & Security Training - Michelle Gebhart, Becky King, Matt Dewitz, Carol Wiemken, Kathryn Whitacre will all be attending.

New Business

1. Membership transfer- Jessica Baden- St Thomas Lutheran, Bloomington IN – Kathryn Whitacre moved to approve this transfer, Becky King seconded this motion. Motion carried.
2. Gods Work Our Hands – Sarah is investigating additional options to go into the community to help those in need, ideally working side by side with them.

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3. Call Committee Update – Brian Jones and Jeff Baden attended to explain that the recent candidate has chosen to go elsewhere. There have been some learnings in the process. It appears the process is not a very efficient in getting the candidates to the congregation in a timely manner. As a result, the Call Committee is looking at options to get candidates into the interviewing process more quickly after they submit their profiles, and also to update the church's presence online to better represent who we are when candidates are looking at our web page and Facebook page. There is a shortage overall of candidates entering the ministry, which results in less candidates out there who are available to congregations in search.

Adjournment and Prayer

- Laurie Dewitz moved to adjourn the meeting. Kara Yokum seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:26, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: July 11, 2023

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