

Lutheran Church of the Cross
Council Meeting Minutes
“Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts”
February 10, 2022, at 6:30 PM

Call to Order

New president Cherie Krueger called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

In attendance Pastor Lisa Ahlness, Deacon Janie Hague, Cherie Krueger, Ron Borth, Mike Geiermann, Kari Harris, Mike Human, Sarah Dahl, Janice Martin, and Art Wheeler.

Devotions

Pastor Lisa led the Council in opening prayer.

Approval of the Minutes for January and review of Annual Meeting.

No changes are submitted for the minutes. Ron moved and Mike G seconds approval of the December minutes. Minutes are approved. There is some discussion regarding the minutes from the recent Annual Meeting: those minutes will be approved at the next annual meeting. Sarah notes that her name was spelled incorrectly in the annual meeting information.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Art Wheeler reports that January 2022 was a good month for LCC financially and on par with January of 2021, with specifics in the Treasurer's report. Overall, income was greater than expenses. Art explains the difference in total budget and operating expense in the written treasurer's report is the money transferred to the Promissory Note fund (column #1 and #2). For the benefit of new Council members, Art reviews some areas of his report. The earnings will change each month. He reminds the Council that voting to approve the Treasurer's report is approval of monthly disbursements to be made (page 3 of report). Ron asks about AFLAC private insurance. Art reports this is selected by the staff and is a payroll deduction for them. Art highlights page 4 credit card charges. 4 individuals have LCC credit cards: Robin Johnson, Connie, Pastor Lisa and Deacon Janie. Page 5 is payroll information. Page 6-7 have Profit and Loss information with \$7,974.98 Profit for January. Janice suggests that Art supply a January 2021 and 2022 side by side financial comparison.

Janice moves/Mike H seconded/ Treasurer's report approved.

Other financial discussion

The monthly payment previously discussed for the lease of the new copier to Fireside Office did not include sales tax. The updated payment is \$298.49/ month for the remaining 59 months. There was actually a net savings of \$11.47/month.

\$1000.00 was received via a funeral home for a donation to the River Team. This has been transferred to savings under Worship and Music.

Vanco donations amounted to \$33,746.25 for credit cards in in 2021. The total for Credit Cards and ACH totaled \$97,048.22. This total is about 21% of the total General Fund contributions last year. LCC is paying a clearance fee that comes out to \$65-70/month. There is an option when donating through Vanco for the contributor to add in the fee.

Endowment Committee

Ken Will speaks on behalf of the endowment committee. The new bylaws in the congregational constitution, recommended by attorney Murray Sagsveen and the Mission endowment fund, were passed at the annual meeting. The committee is working on recommendations for investment of church assets.

Missouri Slope

President Cherie invites Missouri Slope board member, Paul Gurholt to speak on behalf of Missouri Slope. Residents continue to move into the new facility: there are now more than 100 residents in the new location and about 40 remaining in the old facility. LCC and 8 other churches support Missouri Slope. The Capitol Campaign Fund: \$1.6 million has been raised so far. The goal is to raise an additional \$500,000 from its member churches over a 5-year period. This will support various projects, including finishing the chapel (which is currently roughed in).

Pastor's Report

Pastor reports this past month she has been working with the Nominating committee, attended the Missouri Slope Meeting, and worked on the job description for the Worship Coordinator position. The description is completed and is being posted. The new personnel committee will then take over for hiring. Robin will be done as of April 31st, or sooner, if possible. Pastor took part in a Bible study held at the church with a Rabi that was well received, and the Rabi may come again in the future. She has taken part in tech study, Conference check ins, Dean's meeting for Heart River Conference, Confirmation, the Wired Word current events, and a monthly meeting at U Mary. Planning for Lent and a legacy planning class (series of 5 sessions held from Lent to May) is underway. There will be a Taize (French prayer service) joint service with St. George's March 23rd at 6 pm. The Mission Endowment Committee met today.

Deacon's Report

Deacon Janie has been leading confirmation, which has had good attendance. Church school attendance ranges from 3-10 on Sunday. 3rd graders had class and were presented with their Bibles. There is a Healing Service scheduled for Feb 27th at 6:30 PM. There is a series for Lent. Youth activities lately have had no attendance. For first communion, Karen Will will bake bread with the youth and there is a lesson 10-1 PM on Saturday April 2nd. Deacon Janie is taking part in a continuing ed extravaganza out of MN, that is online. She is leading studies for the Synod on How to Lead When You Don't Know where You Are Going and Growing Young. The National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis this summer has been cancelled due to ongoing COVID concerns. Youth are skiing at Huff Hills Saturday March 5th. She also notes that the garbage outside is being used for non-church refuse such as furniture.

Old Business

Mission Endowment Fund- see above.

Personnel Committee The description is completed and is being posted on some local sites, as well as the Synod site. Council members who know of any individuals who would fit the description are encouraged to have that individual apply. In addition to a Worship coordinator, an additional accompanist may be needed.

Family Coordinator

Deacon Janie reports that she has not met with the small group intended to discuss and make recommendations regarding the contribution to support Family activities, due to new incoming board members.

New Business

Council Meeting Schedule: Generally, meetings will be held the 2nd Thursdays of each month. However, the next 2 meetings will be held Tuesday, March 8th and April 21st.

Organizational Charts and Committee Assignments

Updated organizational Charts are distributed and council members volunteered/assigned to the various portfolios. Worship and Music- Kari, Generosity- Janice, Christian Education- Mike G, Congregational Nurturing- Sarah, Congregational Operations- Mike H and Ron

Business suggested for the next meeting: neighbor complaints about ice on the sidewalks.

Mini Council Retreat

Saturday, March 5th 9-AM to noon at LCC. Note this is the same day as the youth ski trip to Huff Hills.

Meeting was adjourned.