

Council Minutes

April 15, 2024

Attending: Dan Strehlow, Dolores Pemble, Alex Zuzek, Dave Fry, Natalie Carda, Maria Gathje, Jen Klos, Warren Thomas, Pastor Geier, Lois Twedt

Call to Order by President Dan Strehlow at 6 p.m.

Secretary's Report, Lois Twedt

Alex made a motion and Warren seconded the motion to approve the Secretary's Report as written. The motion passed.

Treasurer Dolores Pemble

No Council Action Required

The Finance Ministry Team met on April 8, 2024. We reviewed the March Financial Reports with minimal discussion. Pastor updated us on the progress with Interserve. The Audit team met on March 22. We are awaiting the final report which will be submitted to the Council upon completion.

A motion was made by Warren and seconded by Alex to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed.

Vice President Alex Zuzek

Council Action Required

1. Mini Split AC units were installed in the old sanctuary Thursday, April 11, at 8 a.m. Both units will be on the west side of the room. The old ones will be removed and disposed of properly.
2. Window replacement is needed for 3 windows on the courtyard side. One is broken but size replacement warrants doing all three. Dan Strehlow will bring the need before council for discussion. Cost for the windows to be installed by volunteers would be possibly \$2200 to \$2500. If approved the windows would be ordered. The Finance Committee will consider this purchase.
3. Light bulbs will be replaced in the large sanctuary on Sat. Apr. 27 at 1 p.m. Five volunteers is the minimum for doing this job. Six bulbs will be replaced with the tall ladder. This is a 3 hour job. Steve Wolverton heads this team.
4. Kitchen sanitizer has been cleaned of lime. This is now known to be necessary to be done every month so the machine does not become inoperable. The ELC uses it frequently for sanitizing toys. Steve and Glenda will be sure this gets done.

5. Date for a yard clean-up is Saturday, June 22. By then weeds will be prevalent and some shrubs will need trimming.
6. Interior paint touch ups needs to be done after the garage sale. Significant chips are noted on the gray and brown paint throughout the narthex and halls. A person will be secured to do this. Touch ups only, no full walls.
7. Brick posts (not all) on 15th street side are crumbling. Glenda will ask Steve Mollick, a brick layer, to advise us on action. Some fascia on the front side of the church needs to be looked at.
8. Wood chips for the playground was discussed as they are seriously needed. Becky was given a source through Gary McDougall. It was mentioned that The Tree House may be able to obtain the product for us and if so, we could possibly get it done with volunteers. This issue is very undecided, but it needs doing. Bids are being gathered.
9. The possibility of a concrete walk-way between the east door to the Columbarium was discussed. No action taken. We'll keep the matter open and maybe get a plan drawn yet this year.
10. The need was raised to replace the present towel dispenser with a battery operated one which is more efficient than what is in the kitchen now. Towels are being wasted with the present dispenser. One was in the garage which Steve Wolverton will install and remove the old one. The new one will create a small space problem but we're going to try it to see if we can get used to it.
11. The black iron fences were painted in early April in a black satin finish. The furniture was included in the job. \$995 from memorial funds were used for this needed improvement.

Serving Ministry Report—Dave Fry

No Council Action Required

Fellowship Ministry

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SAINT PAUL SAINTS GAME: FRIDAY, June 21 7:07--Fireworks afterwards—Dolores Pemble offered to contact Saints representative, as she has had season tickets for years. We need half of money down before can order the tickets, with final numbers a month ahead. She helped with the event at her other church, and offered to help in any way she could. We decided to have someone selling tickets the month of April after all services. We're hoping to sell 30 tickets, at \$20 each. If we get half sold, we will order for lower bowl seats. Lista will do the publicity for bulletins, screen and a poster on kiosk. Checks or cash to St. Philip's. Tickets can also be purchased in the office during the week. Dolores has Saints gear we can borrow when selling on Sundays. April 7 Glenda; April 14 Mary C; April 21 Glenda; April 28 Camille
2. OUTDOOR SERVICE: Sunday, June 23—Double Down Daredevils to lead the service. Camille can pick up the two flavors of ice cream cups ahead. Kathy S, Mary C, Darla and Glenda can help. Coolers at church. Will need to get ice or ice packs for that morning.

3. BLOODMOBILE MARCH 14: Thank you to those who helped on the day: Kathy Stockman, Katy Lindberg, Patty Todnem, Mary Rock, Deborah Dreher, Judy Werner, Steve Wolverton, Becky and Jay Raimann. There were 32 pints of blood collected. Next Bloodmobile will be August 22.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE DAY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24: We signed a card thanking Lista for all her work. Camille will get a bouquet of flowers.

2. PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT: Adult Forum had Superintendent Champa visit. A couple of weeks later a panel of three teachers also spoke. There was a discussion of how could we as a church community supports our schools, staff and students. Pastor said Camille Johnson-Oster would like to be part of the efforts from St. Philip's. Our discussion focused mainly on how we could support teachers and staff, especially since we have many members of our congregation who are presently working in schools in Hastings and other communities. Pastor talked to ministerial leaders. Some already collaborate with certain schools. Some parent groups help on conference days. There are about 50 staff members in each elementary school and 100 in each of the middle and high school. We thought we could have a blessing of teachers, (similar as we do with students' back-pack blessings) the weekend before school starts (Labor Day weekend). We could also provide treats and notes of encouragement to the staff during workshop week. We weren't sure if we'd do all schools or choose certain ones.

3. EASTER: Eight dozen donut holes were served between and after services with 148 members of congregation attending at 8:30 and 198 at 10:30. Bells chorus led us at 8:30; teens with brass and wind instruments in addition to chorus ensemble at second service were greatly enjoyed.

4. APRIL 30 PRESCHOOL PANCAKES DAY: Parents and preschoolers will be served pancakes before heading out on a field trip that morning. Pastor will make pancakes, Lois Wroge and Camille can help serve. Teachers will be busy with students. Glenda said there are plenty of syrup packets if they want to use them. Kitchen grill top can be used and electric grill, does someone have one to share? Pastor thought Amy might be able to help and Darryl Nelson may also. If any others are available to help preschool that morning at 8:00 let preschool staff or Camille know.

5. GARAGE SALE JUNE 8: Because of set up that week, we will not plan on a meeting the month of June. We can discuss via e-mails the business of Saints outing and Outdoor Service held later in the month.

Stewardship

The Stewardship Ministry Team continues to be on hold following Lent. Gerri Lundby will continue to recruit at least two households to submit articles on "Keeping Connected" for the monthly newsletter. We continue to keep the theme of "Community Grows Here" through the execution of our programs and projects.

HR Report—Natalie Carda

No Council Action Required

Nothing to report.

Worship Ministry Report– Maria Gathje

No Council Action Required.

Service Debrief: The Lenten, Holy Week and Easter services were well-received and well-attended. The Bells, Brass ensemble, Holden singers, and Choir performed very well. The Maundy Thursday service had eight children receive first communion. Pr. Geier is making notes about how to improve on the lighting next year for Good Friday. The children's sermon on Easter Sunday was great, with the children actively participating. Attendance at Sunday services has continued to increase, averaging about 150.

Communion/Worship Leaders:

- Deborah Dreher will be purchasing wine from now on, streamlining the process.
- The altar guild suggested that the old altar paraments, now stored in bins in the sacristy, be donated to a church. This was approved. Becky will inform the altar guild.
- The new communion tray covers, purchased with memorial money from the Diischer family given to WELCA, have arrived.

April/May/June Music:

- April 7: (traditional service) Children's choir
- April 10: Unity
- April 21: Guest contemporary band with Sam Willis and four to six HS students
- April 28: Bells with dedication to Ellen
- May 5: Little children's choir
- May 12 (Mother's Day) Older children with adult choir
- May 19: Unity
- June 2 (traditional service, grad recognition): Choral ensemble
- June 9: Bells
- June 16: Unity
- June 23: Outdoor service

April 21 Service: There are two guitarists and a percussionist to play with Sam Willis. Kelsey is choosing music familiar to HS students. She and pastor will confer about service format. Kelsey will check to see if musicians have their own amps. Microphone set-up will be the same as for Unity. Lyrics will get to John for slide preparation within a week. Scripture: John 10: 11-18, Acts 4: 5-12. & I John 3:16-24

Learning Ministries Report –Jen Klos

No Council Action Required

Preschool:

*numbers for fall 20 m/w/f spots filled and 10 t/th
this years numbers 29 and 25

*Pancake breakfast and field trip April 30th. Pastor, Lois, and Camille are helping with the breakfast. Glenda is letting us use the leftover pancake syrup from Stewardship Breakfast.

*Looking into prices for our woodchips replacement on the playground. Will be a couple of thousand dollars to get the playground grade ones we need. We will be using Raise Right Funds to cover this.

ASG:

Sessions with Dr. Champa and the teachers were well attended and appreciated. In follow-up - Camille Johnson-Oster contacted Pastor about our church adopting a school and asked Pastor to consider contacting other churches through the Ministerial Association to get all the schools covered. Pastor thought maybe McAuliffe for us since close by, unless already "taken". Maybe do something for the teachers during conferences fall and spring. Pastor Bzoskie's church does the police department, and Crossroad's has been doing things for the HMS, but other churches might be available for the other grade schools and HHS. Carrying it out belongs to a different committee, not us, but Camille J-O willing to be our chairperson.

Rest of this school year: Easter, then session with two HS students, the two sessions on the fentanyl crisis already publicized, followed by-

Lisa's 3 sessions on homelessness whose announcements are already in for spring, then done with Sunday Forums until fall.

Thoughts for Summer:

Lisa is thinking of doing something on spiritual practices. Maybe informal, maybe in the Prayer Garden, Sunday evenings, start in June but maybe start with bulletin announcements, not newsletter.

Pastor is willing to do something around the fire pit again this year. He will be gone the end of June and end of July. Maybe something on the third Sunday of June, July and August Fireside on Sunday evenings.

First day of programming for fall Sept 15. Could be Pastor's 3rd Sunday.

Pastor had some suggestions for fall:

1. At Ellen's funeral, several people were asking Jesse and Kara about funeral planning and arrangements. They said they would be happy to come and do a presentation some time. 612-741-9821 Jennie to contact.
2. Also, Collen Fritsch has shared a willingness to lead a session on dementia, both advocating for victims and caring for care givers. 651-302-3200 Jennie to contact.

Aim for last two Sundays in September for these two

3. Chuck and Doug also talked about schools and law enforcement on active shooter/other emergency planning. Maybe in October. They will talk and bring back more ideas next month.

Faith Formation:

Recap of the last month

*First communion

*Easter

*Family game night

All three of these events went well.

Upcoming items

Feed my starving children May 1.

End of Sunday school event May 5th.

Preparing for graduation Sunday June 2

VBS updates. Forms are out and supplies have started to be purchased.

We briefly discussed Interserve and are excited for that to get started.

Communication/Marketing/Tech Report – Warren Thomas

No Council Action Required

Cameras/sd cards have arrived and will be installed soon. We are canceling the Comcast camera plan and disconnecting one Landline number for the fax machine which is no longer used.

Pastor Geier – April 2024 Council Report

- I have attended our various ministry team meetings and continue to be thankful for the dedication of so many members.
- I attended the South Conference meeting for considering a possible new ministry in Rosemount at Lord of Life Lutheran on March 21st.
- I attended our South Conference meeting at All Saints Lutheran on April 11th.
- Eight young members celebrated receiving their first communion on Maundy Thursday.
- I led our preschool chapel on March 20 & 21, and April 10 & 11.
- I attended the Hastings Ministerial Association at Hasting Family Service on March 27th.
- I led worship at Oak Ridge on March 27th and at Regina on April 3rd.
- Our Family of Faith Fun Night on April 13th was well attended, and a good time was had by all. More than one person suggested that this be a quarterly event.
- I am coordinating a meeting with Sue Megrund from InterServe for a meeting with our potential interim youth minister, Nick. It is looking like will be meeting Tuesday, April 30th at 7:00.
- I am also excited to cook and serve pancakes for our preschool staff and families on April 30th before their field trip.
- We are getting ready for our Spring service trip to Feed My Staving Children on May 1st.
- Our Sunday School End of Year Celebration will be May 5th.

On a personal note:

My weekend away visiting grandchildren was very enjoyable. My next time away from St. Philip's will be May 14th-18th when Amy and I go to visit her father in CA.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.

Your Servant in Christ,

Gregory A. Geier, Pastor

Old Business:

Interserve Discovery Team:

Pastor Greg Geier

Dan Strelow – President

Becky Kaphing – Faith Formation

Emily Wormley – Student

Peyton Thomas – Student

Vanessa Haltvick – Parent

Tiffany Stewart – Parent

Kristian Ronning – Parent and Teacher

Kathy Leudtke – Youth Advocate

Meeting on April 30 at 7 p.m. with potential interim youth minister.

New Business:

A motion was made by Alex and seconded by Warren to approve the repair and purchase of 3 windows that face the courtyard, pending approval and recommendation by the Finance committee.

A motion was made by Warren and seconded by Alex to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Submitted by Lois Twedt, Secretary