

# **Council Minutes**

**June 17, 2024**

Attending: Alex Zuzek, Dolores Pemble, Dave Fry, Natalie Carda, Maria Gathje, Jen Klos, Pastor Geier, Lois Twedt.

## **Call to Order by Vice President Alex Zuzek at 6:00 p.m.**

### **Secretary's Report, Lois Twedt**

Dolores made a motion and Dave seconded the motion to accept the Secretary's Report as written. The motion passed.

### **Treasurer Dolores Pemble**

#### **Council Action Required**

The Finance Ministry Team approved the May financials via email this month as there was no meeting scheduled. We also reviewed the audit report. The audit committee reviewed records as they were directed and found no issues. There was some confusion on the payroll records, but learned they are audited at a later date by the HR Team. They did suggest that the audit be conducted prior to the February annual meeting. However, the FM Team does not believe that is possible because the year-end financial reports are not approved by the council until the third Monday in January. This timing would make it difficult to complete the audit report by the first Sunday of February for the annual meeting. The FMT is looking at reviewing the Audit checklist prior to the next audit to clear up some of the discrepancies.

Following much discussion on the timeline for the audit and a check, by Dave, into the constitution and learning that the Audit Committee should be made up of 3 voting members, each elected for a 3-year term with one member being replaced each year, several motions were made. Natalie made a motion to have the audit completed before the annual meeting, scheduling the audit between the January Council Meeting and the Congregational Annual Meeting. Jen seconded the motion and the motion passed. Natalie made a motion that Dan meet with the current audit committee to discuss the 3-year term, asking them all to remain in the role for 2025 and determine which member will then be on for 1, 2 and 3 years to comply with the rules of the constitution. Jen seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Jen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Dave seconded the motion. The motion passed. Jen made a motion to accept the May Financial Report. Dave seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

### **Vice President Alex Zuzek**

#### **No Council Action Required**

Saturday May 18th was marked as a grounds grooming day. The turnout was light, (about 14 people) Good things got accomplished through the help of Bruce Arndtson, who picked up 9 buckets of mulch

from the Tree House and brought it for distribution in key spots at the front and on the 15th St. sides of the church. All islands were weeded which helped the appearance a lot. The junipers along the narthex windows were trimmed and dead spirea were removed. Work started at 9 and the last people left at 12:30. Workers were Steve Wolverton, Patty and Al Todnem, Pam and Kent Hoffman, Bruce Arndtson, Trish Bremer, Dave and Robyn Tank, Katy Lindberg, Dave Fry, Lois Twedt, Bruce Akins, Bill Pavlish, and Glenda Schnirring.(apologize if I missed someone).

Another project ahead of us is the installing of 3 casement windows on the east side of the old sanctuary. The installation is expected to be done by knowledgeable volunteers with Dan Strehlow as the lead in this.

Window washing will be scheduled in June with Fine Shine.

Gary McDougall who is the lead person regarding the columbarium did grooming around it recently and will plant 5 spirea on the corner that goes around the south side of the church.

During a dry spell in mid-May Dan Strehlow brought in equipment to dredge out black soil that had made the west driveway ponding catch slow to dry. The removed dirt will get deposited in low spots on the property with some of it down by the corner sign. That effort began during garage sale prep week.

Enormous thanks to all members of building and grounds who execute many tasks without incurring a cost to St. Philip's. (Steve Wolverton fixed a kitchen faucet during garage sale prep week after the volunteers had gone home).

Jen made a motion and Natalie seconded the motion to accept the Vice President's report. The motion passed.

## **Serving Ministry Report—Dave Fry**

### **No Council Action Required**

#### Fellowship Ministry

Fellowship has no meeting in June.

We welcome all to help with our first Philadazzle planning meeting on June 20.

We're looking forward to Saints game, June 21.

We'll be serving ice cream after outdoor service June 23.

July meeting is July 9.

#### Stewardship

The Stewardship Ministry Team remains on pause. Gerri Lundby continues her task of finding fellow members to write their story in the Staying Connection section of the newsletter.

Dolores made a motion and Jen seconded the motion to accept the Serving Ministry Report. The motion passed.

## **HR Report—Natalie Carda**

### **No Council Action Required**

The HR Committee did not meet this month.

## **Worship Ministry Report– Maria Gathje**

### **No Council Action Required.**

Service Debrief: Average attendance continues to stay about 160. Services are going well. Choir and Bell choir music was greatly appreciated. It was nice to see John singing and providing his strong voice. Julia Ronning's piano music was appreciated.

#### Music planning:

- June 9: Bells
- Maria added that LuAnn was going to look at forming a bell ensemble to play sometime during the summer.
- June 16: Unity
- June 23: Outdoor service
- September 8, Rally Day: In August there will be confirmation of planning for worship with possibly having the band from Shepherd of the Valley again.
- Becky is in the process of scheduling song leaders for July and August.

#### Outdoor Service:

- MaryEllen Fox has received a copy of last year's bulletin for planning the DDD music.
  - Ice cream will be served by the Fellowship Team. They have been asked to do this closer to the south end of the building so as to encourage people to stay seated and listen to the music after the service.
  - Becky spoke with Mary Charlson about a shade cover for the servers. She has one that will be provided. A few people will be needed to help put it up.
  - The cart with the small cross will be used for an altar.
  - Communion will be served using the disposable individual cups. Lista is checking to see if more need to be ordered.
  - Becky will see that the altar and offering plates are in place and provide needed service for the band.
  - In case of rain, the service will be inside.
  - A suggestion for future years was to possibly have a service down at the river pavilion.
- A motion as made by Jen and seconded by Dolores to accept the Worship Ministry Report. The motion passed.

## **Learning Ministries Report –Jen Klos**

### **No Council Action Required**

#### Preschool:

No meeting this month.

#### ASG:

No meeting this month.

### Faith Formation:

\* Sunday school was discussed again. As of now going off numbers from last year of students who REGULARLY attended Sunday School, we are planning a pre-k/k group, a 3/4 group (with one second grader who regularly attended) and a 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. 1st/second graders who occasionally attend will be placed in one of the other groups. If we get more in the 1/2 grade we will assess. We also will make the push to get more people involved in teaching Sunday school.

\* We gave Nick a overview of what our ministry team does as well as what we could do more of if the team was bigger.

\* Lots of VBS updates were given. Volunteers are looking good with just a few holes to fill. Currently student numbers around 50 with calls coming into the office. We decided food 4 kids/united way would be where our offerings would go. I'm going to be reaching out to Hastings FD and PD to see if they'd be willing to bring vehicles and members to an end of the week celebration celebrating local heroes. Also looking into treats for that day.

A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Natalie to accept the Learning Ministries Report. The motion passed.

## **Communication/Marketing/Tech Report – Warren Thomas**

### **No Council Action Required**

CMT did not meet. There is nothing new to report

## **Pastor Geier – June 2024 Council Report**

- Normal ministry team, contemplative prayer meetings (although not all the ministry teams meet during the summer months.)
- Visited nursing home and home bound members and celebrated Holy Communion.
- Amy and I enjoyed feeding 53 volunteers on June 4 as they prepped for our garage sale.
- I attended the Hastings Ministerial Association on May 22.
- I led our last preschool chapel of the school year on May 21 & 22 and then was present for the closing programs on May 23 & 24.
- I led worship at Oak Ridge on May 29 and at Regina on June 5.
- I participated in our Synod Candidacy Committee on June 6th

- I attended several graduation parties.
- We are incorporating Nick into our ministry team and he is working closely with Becky and the Faith Formation team in addition to the Discovery Team.
- I have conducted performance appraisals for the eight ministry team members who report directly to me.

On a personal note:

- My apologies for not getting this report submitted sooner
- I will be on vacation from June 28-July 7. Pastor Elizabeth Damico Carper will lead worship on June 30th and Pastor Dorothy Sandahl will lead worship on July 7th.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.

Your Servant in Christ,

Gregory A. Geier, Pastor

A motion was made by Jen and seconded by Dave to accept Pastor's Report. The motion passed.

### **Old Business**

Update on the Audit status was discussed under the Treasurer's Report.

Interserve will be part of Learning Ministries, and Jen will include it in her report.

No date has been selected at this time for the Augsburg Singers.

The exploratory team for Complete the Dream is optimistic on reaching the goal.

### **New Business**

None

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Dolores to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Lois Twedt, Secretary