

Minutes of the February 8, 2022 Congregation Council Meeting

Present: Pastor Mark Laatsch, President Matt Vanni, Vice-President Linda Davis, Secretary Terrie Porras, Stacy Hansen, Jeff Hines, Jeremy Sallgren, Jim Briar, Betty Kohrt, Chris Nelson, Gail Sieglaff, **Cindy Smith, Kaden Starzynski.**

Absent: Bill Taccolini

Present to Report: Patti Treptow, Judy Raygo, Treasurer Debbie Villas

Meeting Called to Order: at 6:10pm by President Matt Vanni. Judy Raygo handed out 2022 Congregation Council (with contact info) and 2022 Committee Membership Rosters. Matt called for review and approval of agenda. Jeremy Sallgren motioned to approve, Cindy Smith seconded, motion carried. Pastor Mark installed Chris Nelson to council. Matt welcomed new council members Chris Nelson, Gail Sieglaff, and Cindy Smith. Returning members took turns introducing themselves.

Opening Devotion: Pastor Mark read Micah 6:6-8 and a devotion entitled “Holy Shadow” from the book “Elijah at the Wedding Feast” by John Shea.

Secretary’s Report: Matt called for review and approval of the 1/11/22 minutes. Motion to approve minutes made by Stacy Hansen, seconded by Betty Kohrt, motion carried. There were no correspondences.

Youth Advisory Council Report: Kaden Starzynski reported they met last month and ate “Walking Tacos”. They started planning activities for next year and would like to go on a mission trip.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Report: Debbie reviewed financial reports. In 2016, Ardyce Wells passed away and left money in her trust for the church. Her gift was never received. Debbie is working with the trust office at SNB&T, completing paperwork, and anticipates we will be gifted between \$8,000 and \$8,500. Debbie also noted that the church has a \$500 bond. She investigated and found it will mature in 2029 with a value of \$1000. Finance Committee recommends we keep the bond (verses cash it out) until it reaches full value.

ACTION ITEMS: Old Business – where we’ve been.

Bulletin Sponsorship: Stacy reported letters to sponsors are ready to be mailed. Need to print sponsorship forms for the bulletins, Stacy will work with Larry Plude on this. Goal is to have sponsorship forms in the bulletin starting March 6, 2022 (first Sunday in March).

Swanson Fund Policy - Nothing new to report. Plan is for Bruce Peters and Vic Klumb to write a first draft policy on “Investment of Funds” but Vic is recovering from surgery right now.

Coffee Fellowship – Terrie reported we need more people to sign up to host. She volunteered to work with anyone who wants to help and needs training. She also has placed a “How to Host the Holy Grounds Coffee Hour” reference sheet in the drawer under the Bunn coffee maker in the kitchen. A Host sign up sheet was passed around so members could sign up to host as able.

Reports – where we are

Youth & Family Ministry Director: Patti presented her report as written (note all the wonderful programs Patti has created and continues to shepherd). She shared that the Pajama Party during the annual meeting went well. Gail asked if Sunday School attendance is down. Patti shared, yes and that we live in a community very dedicated to sports and it is hard to compete with sporting activities. But, she has spent 20+ years working with children, loves children, and will continue to do all she can to nurture their faith and family faith.

President's Report: President Matt Vanni expressed appreciation for Pastor Mark, Judy, Patti and Lee & Carol Parish. He commented that many people do not see how well they work together and how smooth the church runs because of their work. Their work and support make our service on council much easier. He thanked all council members for volunteering to serve and was thankful for the good core group he will be serving with. Also, he is grateful for the support of our congregation. We are a blessed church. In 2022, his hope is that we are able to reach out to our community more. He welcomed our new members and said to feel free to call him if they have any questions.

Committee Reports

Youth: Stacy reported their next activity on 2/27 is sledding at Water Tower Park followed by snacks back at church. If weather does not permit, they will play board games at church instead of sledding.

Learning: Patti reported they have not met.

Endowment: Pastor reported they have not met.

Fellowship: Terrie reported the Coffee and Donuts, served at the Annual Congregation Meeting, were well received by members. We did have 3 dozen donuts left over but were able to donate those to the Abundant Life homeless shelter. Planning a Painting Potluck activity for the end of Feb or beginning of Mar. Next meet on 2/15.

Human Resources: Pastor reported they have not met.

Memorial: Betty reported they have not met due to many members being ill.

Outreach: Terrie reported they do not meet regularly because, graciously, our chairperson Patti Treptow, organizes events, which we then discuss over email, and finally gather to do the event. Our next event, on Sunday 2/13, is the "Super Bowl of Caring". The congregation is asked to donate cans of soup (souper bowl, lol), which we will gather up and donate to the St. Vincent De Paul food pantry. A poster in is the Narthex and an article was published in the Messenger.

Policy & Procedure (P&P): Pastor reported they met. Nothing to report.

Property: Jeremy reported; 1. Presented a bid (see attached) from Leo Barker to make additional repairs to the outside mosaic window located behind the old choir loft. Currently there are 2 small spots of

rot in the wood frame around the window. Although it is currently structurally sound, if we allow further rot, it will eventually fall out. Mr. Barker will enclose the current window with plexiglass held in place by a PVC frame to protect it from further decline. It was noted that the window is from the early 1900's and probably came from the old church (not the 13th street location). Matt reported that he shared the bid with the Finance Committee (as requested for purchases over \$500) and that they recommend we fix it. Motion made by Betty to approve the bid of \$4100 and go forward to fix the window, seconded by Gail, motion carried. 2. The kitchen oven is not maintaining consistent heat. Have received a bid from Hank's Refrigeration of \$1,140.35 to replace defective valve, may take time to get the valve (due to supply chain issues). Cost to replace the oven is estimated at \$5,600. Motion made by Gail to repair the stove by replacing the valve, seconded by Stacy, motion carried. 3. The stained-glass window over the 13th street entry will be going out to C.J.'s for repair this month. The "grapes" will be replaced with a more heat tolerant material (the current material has swollen from sun heat and is about to pop out). 4. Have received one bid for replacement of carpet from entry door to top of entry steps (from both 13th and 14th St.), more bids to come in. 5. Outside soffit and fascia repair with gutter replacement is scheduled with contractor to be done this summer. 6. Outside 13th street entry stairs crumbling. Being looked at by contractors for their recommendations.

Stewardship: Jeff reported they have not met.

Worship: Pastor reported they have not met.

Pastor's Report: Pastor presented his report as written. Will not hold a midweek evening lent service because only 6 people attend the midweek evening advent services. However, he will stream the midweek morning lent service on Facebook so it will be available for those who want to worship at a later time. Planning to use the music synthesizer for these services as there will only be one hymn.

ACTION ITEMS: New Business – where we are going

Facebook Live Training: Matt reported that although we have a new streaming camera (which runs on a church cell phone using Blue Tooth technology), we need people trained on how to use it. Pastor knows how to run it, but is unable to use features such as zoom in and out because he is conducting the service. Also, if Pastor is gone, we need someone who knows how to run the camera. Matt, Stacy and Linda volunteered to be trained. Pastor Mark instructed them to come to service at 7:45a.m. and he would train them. It was noted that many members watch Facebook, including those who have left the area (snow birds).

Long Term Project/Goals – Holy Grounds Coffee Fellowship (see Coffee Fellowship report above)

President Matt adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m. on a motion by Matt, seconded by Jeremy, motion carried. Pastor Mark closed with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terrie Porras, Council Secretary