

THE VIEW

September 2021

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NO. 9

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

The Liturgy of the Divine Service – Body, Blood, and Benediction

Reception of the Body and Blood of Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar is the pinnacle of the Divine Service. Yes, God bestows His grace upon us in the remembrance of our Baptism and in the hearing of His Word through the reading of the Scriptures, the liturgy of the worship, an the preaching from the pulpit, but without a doubt the central feature of the Divine Service is the reception of Christ Bodily in the Eucharistic Feast. In monthly expeditions of our newsletter to examine the Divine Service, we now reach its climax. How much closer of Christ can you be than to see him, touch him, hear his very words of promise, smell and even taste the elements by which he comes to us?

Repeating the announcement of John the Baptist when he saw our Lord, following the Words of Institution and believing the promise therein, those gathered for the Feast sing praise to God our Savior with the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God). Christ who was divinely present in the hearing of his Word in the Divine Service, comes to his people bodily to give the gift of Himself. His body and blood are there under the bread and wine to share the fruits of his cross with all who partake of the blessed meal.

Although differing from congregation to congregation on the method of distribution, it is conducted orderly and with great reverence. This is not a snack of morsels; it is a feast of deliverance in Christ and a foretaste of the greater Feast to come when Christ gathers us to himself on the Last Day. Unified in belief and practice, the congregation receives a treasure beyond what the senses can experience as the humble elements provide something greater than what the finest meal this world can offer. We receive it by faith and not by sight.

In my youth, it was the tradition of my home congregation for children to remain in the pew while adults approached the altar rail. For many congregations the tradition has changed. Now, children often come forward to witness the sacred gift being given to their parents and other members of the congregation who have been examined and prepared to receive it. Pastor will bless each child and remind them of their Baptism. A good practice is to teach them to make the St. Andrew cross,

which is crossing their arms over their chest to make an X-shaped cross. This is beneficial for several reasons: it permits them to participate in their own way, it focuses their attention on being reverent, it signals the servers that they are not yet to receive Christ's body and blood, and it helps control little hands. The same practice may be done by adults who have not yet been instructed concerning the Lord's Supper that they may also receive a blessing from the pastor.

After receiving the bread and wine, which is the body and blood of Jesus, the communicant is dismissed. How and when the dismissal happens depends on the customs of the congregation. If they receive as a group or "table" at a rail or at the entrance to the chancel, they may be dismissed together. If they come forward individually in a walk-thru method, the dismissal will likely be addressed to the entire congregation as a whole. Whether by table or to the whole congregation, the dismissal unifies the communicant with those around them. Communion is not an individual practice or "me time" with Jesus. Communion is Christ's unity with the entire body of Christ, and the dismissal, which proclaims the good news of God's grace through the body and blood of Jesus in this Sacrament, unites the believers to Christ and to each other. In response, the people say "Amen", which means "this is most certainly true".

Having completed all that the Divine Service had been building up to with the reception of Christ's true body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of His people's sin, the people respond with a celebration of the miracle they have just beheld. The post-communion canticle expresses the gratitude the congregation feels for this blessed gift. They may sing "Thank the Lord," but the traditional Lutheran response is the *Nunc Dimittis*. Simeon gave thanks to the Lord when he held his Savior in his arms. God's promise was fulfilled. We too have joyfully held our Savior under the bread and wine. His promise to us has been fulfilled in part in this Holy Supper and will be known in full at the unending Marriage Feast of the Lamb. As the Communion liturgy closes, the collect that is prayed reflects on the dual blessing of the Sacrament: the strengthening of faith and the ability it gives to love our neighbor.

Our journey through the Divine Service has come to its completion. The service concludes with the Benediction by which the pastor speaks the words that God commanded Aaron, the high priest, and his sons who would follow him in his office with which to bless the people.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, 'The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.' So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them." (Numbers 6:22-27)

God has truly blessed his people, and the Divine Service delivers to them God's gracious outpouring of favor, forgiveness, and peace for the sake of Christ our Lord. Jesus has reconciled us to the Father that we may know His love. In Word and Sacrament, we have received the fruits of Christ's cross. As the people go forth, they remain under the blessing of God's Benediction, and by faith the people respond, "Amen."

The Lords Supper-By appointment



Faithful People of Mt. Pisgah

Individual Confession/Absolution with Communion will be offered at the church to any who desire to receive it. Congregation members can schedule an appointment to receive the sacrament at their convenience for any time on Mondays from 9 AM to 9 PM or on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 6 PM. During their appointed time, the communicant (or family) will be the only one entering the sanctuary. The sacrament will be sanitarily prepared and placed on a table ahead of time, and the pastor will meet with them at a distance with a brief liturgy and consecration. Sterilization will occur before and after the appointment. This still leaves out the communal aspect of receiving the sacrament with fellow believers. But receiving the body and blood of Christ is far too important and necessary for the believer's wellbeing to continue without it.

Please consider making an appointment for individual communion.

Please call the church office during business hours (Monday-Thursday 9AM-3PM and Friday from 9AM-Noon) to schedule your appointment. We will make every effort to ensure that any interpersonal contact is minimal.

May God bless you with His mercy and grace.

Pastor Jon



SUNDAY SERVICES will be at 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM

BIBLE STUDY at 9:15 AM!!!

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:45 AM will broadcast live

on the website and additionally, posted later for viewing on the web page. A DVD is available outside church door in the red box.

NO NEED TO MISS CHURCH SERVICES OR EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Information for accessing church service or evening Bible Study

Online: Video will be found on the home page at <http://www.mtpisgahlutheran.com>

The service bulletin will also be available on the homepage.

Phone: Service will begin at 10:45 am, dial in direct with no access code to (508) 924-5662 or call toll-free (844) 802-6666 and enter access code 889956

Podcast: Search for "Mt Pisgah Lutheran" in your mobile device podcast app.

YouTube: Recording link will be published on the home page once it is available.

A DVD is available outside church door in the red box on the wall.

IAM is grateful to everyone who came out July 22nd to celebrate our groundbreaking for the new IAM Thrift Store coming later this year!



Showing their digging prowess with gold shovels from Henderson County Chamber of Commerce were (left to right): Darla Lindeman, IAM Administrator; Elizabeth Willson Moss, IAM Executive Director; Trey Ford, Vice President Cooper Construction Company; Rabbi Rachael Jackson, President IAM Board of Directors; Alicia Gash, Clothing Assistance Manager for IAM; Fair Waggoner, Hendersonville City President at United Community Bank; Rick Merrill, Vice President IAM Board of Directors and Chairman of the Thrift Store Development Committee; and Barbara Volk, Mayor of Hendersonville, NC City Government.

With their help, we are off to a great start!

The Ladies Guild

The next meeting of the Ladies Guild will be Monday, September 13, 2021.

Lydia Cassidy

Apple Festival is happening in September. **PARADE IS MONDAY SEPTEMBER 6**

The Keeney's have offered the firetruck for our use.

Details right now are the parade line up is at 1pm with the parade at 2pm.

We will have the children riding the firetruck with adults walking along side passing out pamphlets.

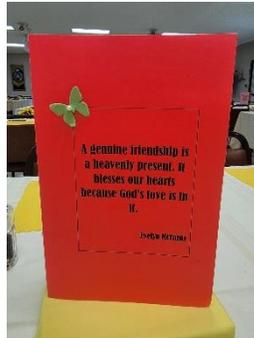
If you would like to participate PLEASE--Email or call the office so we can have a list of members.

Parish Life

AUGUST 2021

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

Thirty three of our church members received goodies in twenty four poke bags that were delivered the last week of July. They were much appreciated and we have received thanks from many of our shut ins.



A Friendship Sunday luncheon was held on August 1, 2021. Ninety church and family members were in attendance. It was exciting to see so many of our members once again.

CONFIRMATION RECEPTION

A reception was held for on August 22, 2021 for our confirmands Dailyn Rappley and Michele Maloney. There were approximately 35 church and family members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,
Lydia A. Cassidy

Many Thanks To All:

Being homebound the treats made me feel like I received a bowl gold. The Friendship book is a true delight. With many thanks it is truly a blessing to be remembered.

Love Kathleen Fox

The treats were such a wonderful surprise and the book is so great.

Many thanks Dave & Lee Marquardt

Thank you so much for your wonderful gifts to celebrate Friendship Sunday. It is so nice to be remembered. Jan Nelson



Thank you Parish Life and Ladies Guild

The reception following our examination was a wonderful treat. Thank you to all who attended our examination and reception. We are very thrilled to be members of Mt. Pisgah.

"Thank you to everyone for supporting us last Sunday, today we become one of you! I personally want to thank you for the kind words, gifts, cards, love and spelling my name correctly! :)"

Love, Michele Elizabeth Maloney

Thank you everyone for supporting Michele and I last Sunday. I am glad to become a member of Mt. Pisgah. I would like to thank everyone for the kind words, gifts, cards, and most of all the love.

Love, Dailyn Rappley



Mt. Pisgah's newest confirmands

Thank you to everyone who attended our confirmation service.



Prayers and Concerns

Surgeries and Illness

Brian Keeney	Sally Hardy	Helen Hutson (Montgomery)
Neil Motyka (Fry)	Joann Kapugi	Maureen Duemig
Joyce Boss (Kruse)	Melanie & family (Kaufman)	Elizabeth Kaufman
Mary Hill	Brenda Ridgeway (Amato)	Gretchen Sweetser (Mincer)
Mary Coffman (Rev. Coffman)	Ellen Trinkka (Montgomery)	Stacy Olson (Ryel)
Raymond Chang (Kirchoefer)	John & Linda Characky (Steen)	
Mike & Suzie Characky (Steen)	Linda Nielsen (Keeney)	Dietrich Fabricius
Jerry Kaufman	Ethan Wise (Dailyln)	Judy Fuchs
Mark & Julie Rorie (Armstrong)	Nancy Stang	Bill Kruse
Les & Mary Jordan (Doster)		

Homebound

Ann Cheadle	Kathleen Fox	Joan Ginter
Dorothy Lehman	Dianne Luecke	Jan Nelson
Eleney Selius	Louise Bauer	Warna Berryman
Judy Fuchs	Joann Kapugi	George Fuchs
Glenn Karnatz	Suzie Karnatz	
Dave & Lee Marquardt		

Compassion and Sympathy

Zagone Family at the passing of their nephew Jorge Miller

Other Prayers and Concerns

Our Preschool Staff, Children & Families
Evangelical Lutheran Church & School in Laotchikit, Haiti

September 2021

Mt. Pisgah Preschool News

Chapel Time has returned! Beginning Monday, August 30, join the children from our preschool as they sing praises to Jesus and hear God's Word. Due to current Covid protocols, please wear a mask while in attendance. Thank you!

A new bulletin board representing the school is in the hallway across from the Women's restroom. Be sure to take a look at all the latest.

From the August ECM Board Report from Katherine Montgomery, school director:

The school welcomes **2 new staff members--**

Amanda Al-Khazraji - She recently moved from New Jersey and comes to us with two years of experience. She and will be co-teaching with Mercedes Austin the one/two-year old, room 5.

Jen Hudson loves toddlers and comes to us with 13 years of experience. She will be lead teacher in room 6. All of these children are 1.

How we make a difference: One of our newly enrolled children has an open DSS case. I spoke with the social worker at length, and she is thrilled that the child is now in preschool. We provide safety and stability for these children.

One of our staff members said, “Working here has made me a better mom.”

--submitted by Kathy Kirchoefer, ECM Board Chair

Choir

Due to the rising rate of COVID in our area, **choir rehearsals will not begin in September as previously announced.** Rehearsals will resume when it is determined safe for groups to sing in close quarters again and plenty of notice will be given then. Recognizing the blessing of adding a vocal presence in our worship, all congregational members are once again invited to participate individually or as a duet or trio, either performing live or by recording an anthem. Please contact Lois Schweinler, (828) 551-2240, if you are interested in offering your talent in this way. She will be happy to provide a performance piece if you would like her to do so. As it says in Psalm 141, “Let my prayers rise before You as incense” – and that includes singing, too!

Lois Schweinler

Mission of the Month

Hunger Walk

Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sept and early October. It will not be at Jackson Park as in the past - we will just have to improvise what we need to do.



Birthday Blessings

09/04 David White

09/06 Maxine Tatreau

09/07 Anna Hawthorne

09/09 Michele Escude`

09/10 Jerene Creech

09/13 Elaine Fabricius

09/15 Dean Glossop

09/19 Linda Licht

09/20 Marianne Bugner

09/20 Garrett Hawthorne

09/22 Vicki Fisher

09/30 Sylvia Gonzalez

Updates:

Scot and Veronica Missling, 5428 Ox Rd, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Chuck Ginter update phone number 828-388-0771

Lisa Pellman – update- moved to 230 Southpark Drive, Spartanburg, SC, 29302

Outreach & Community Concerns



Thanks for all the school supplies. These will be delivered to Bruce Drysdale Elementary School the first week of September. Edneyville Community Food Bank was very grateful for our \$270 donation for their use in assisting needs of residence of Edneyville. On behalf of Mt Pisgah \$300 was sent to assist the two EMT's who were severely injured in a head-on accident while they were on duty. There are still cookbooks for sale in the Narthex - only \$4.00 for wonderful recipes from our members. Do you have one of our Mt Pisgah pens? We need to hand them out whenever we can to let people know who we are and where we are. Also if you would like to submit a request for Mission of the Month - please put it in Jan Tharp's mailbox.

Jan Tharp-Chair

Financial News



On August 22nd, we received \$3,786 in general offerings. For August, we have received \$17,231. Year to date we have received \$166,137. Budget YTD would be \$184,960. We are short \$18,823 compared to budget. The budget is \$5440 per week to cover expenses although we strive to control costs and expenses are coming in below budget for most weeks.

Thank you for your continued support of our church.

Stewardship Praise Report!

We celebrate the time and talents donated to two major projects in the church this year, the Kitchen and Fellowship Hall renovation and the Audio/Video upgrade. Both these projects are fully funded. Thanks be to God!

We give thanks to God for the quiet faithfulness of members of Mt. Pisgah, people who each week perform, without thanks or recognition, the work of the church. These many acts are too numerous to list because someone would be left off. But do you have time to give back to the church each week? There are some many ways to serve God. Can you transport someone to church? Take someone to a doctor's appointment? Sing in the choir? Plant a pretty flower bed? There are many flower beds around the church that need attention. Can you pray for others? Can you pray for missions, missionaries, those serving in the armed forces, emergency responders, officials in our government, teachers, our preschool staff, families attending our preschool? The list goes on and on! We need your help. You need to share a talent God gives you to serve and everyone living on this earth has some way to praise and serve the Lord!

While we praise God for these blessings, we need to practice faithful giving to the General Fund. The collection for the General Fund is consistently short by \$500 per week. The General Fund pays the weekly expenses of the church. Costs incurred and paid by the General Fund include church workers' salaries and benefits, heating and cooling, lights, phones, office supplies, postage, teaching materials for Bible studies & Sunday School, cleaning services, cleaning supplies and security.

The reason the church is not in debt due to these shortfalls is there were two federal loans which became grants (gifts) during the pandemic. Both loans were for \$121,000 for a total of \$242,000. The conditions of the loans that became grants were the business operated by the church would continue to employ the same amount of people as before COVID, we would pay people in quarantine during COVID, and pay people if they had to care for family members during COVID. These conditions were met by Mt. Pisgah so the federal loans became grants or gifts.

Everyone knows when you go to the grocery store, you always buy bread, milk, and vegetables *before* you buy the steak, chips and dessert. Let us practice this in our giving to the church by supporting the General Fund faithfully, and giving dedicated gifts as God provides bountifully for each of us.

Mission Committee

Our Missionaries in Prague, Czech Republic

Most of us remember and are familiar with the years when the Soviet Union's Communist government outlawed the worship of God in the Eastern European countries. The good news today is that believers are once more bringing to life the embers of Christianity in that region. Part of Mt. Pisgah's support of missionaries around the world goes to Pastor Dale Kaster and his wife Suzanne who are in the university city of Prague, Czech Republic.

Dale is pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Lutheran Church, overseeing the worship life of the English-speaking congregation and working with Deacon Martin who will be ordained October 3rd.

For the past year Martin has been in communication with the mayor of Varnsdorf, Bohemia about having a Lutheran service there in "the Red Church" which for many years has been an empty building and just part of their museum system. This Reformation Sunday both Deacons Martin and Dominik from Prague will be holding the first Lutheran service there in many decades, reaching out to that community with the Gospel of Christ. This will be the first monthly service as God rebuilds His church in that community.

The church in Prague is now exploring Jachymov, another town in Bohemia. Read what Pastor Dale said about a recent trip there: "...the reason we went there was to visit the church of St. Jachymov. This was the first Lutheran church in the Kingdom of Bohemia and among their pastors was a rather notable Johannes Mathesius, a guest in the Luther house and a copious note-taker at their dinner table, which is partially the source of the Table Talk. Later on, he took the post in Jachymov and remained there until his death.

Sadly, this church has not remained Lutheran; in fact, there is no Lutheran church in Jachymov at all. And so, we are here to keep that proclamation going and to call people back to the life-restoring Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Please pray for God's servants who are once more proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ in the Czech Republic.

News from Haiti

As one member of Mt. Pisgah said to me, “They just can’t catch a break.” This seems to be true but there are reasons to praise God in the storm of crisis. This gives us more reasons to continue praying for a nation of 11,000,000 people of whom one-third are children.

Bad news:

A major earthquake occurred on August 14, 2021 which scored 7.2 on the Richter Scale. This earthquake was centered near Jacmel in the southwest part of Haiti. 1,300 people are dead. 6,000 people are injured. 13,000



people are homeless. Then three days later, Tropical Storm Grace drops lots of rain on to people who are afraid to enter their homes because of aftershocks which always accompany any major earthquake.

Good news:

We give thanks to God that no one in Laotchikit was affected by the earthquake as the Lutheran Church & School of Laotchikit are located in the northeast part of Haiti in the mountains of the Central Plateau.

Why is Haiti so susceptible to earthquakes?

Haiti sits on a fault line between huge tectonic plates, big pieces of the Earth's crust that slide past each other over time. These two plates are the North American plate and the Caribbean plate. There are two major faults along Hispaniola, the island shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The island has a history of major earthquakes.

Bad news:

People of evil intent went into the Lutheran Church in Leogane in the southwestern part of Haiti. This church is near the National Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti (ELCH). Gangsters burned the altar in the church and the instruments in the praise band.

Good news:

Because of the violence in this area, Lutheran churches, in the ELCH synod, across Haiti are sending their seminary students to school in Laotchikit where Lutheran seminary classes are taught on Saturdays.

Bad news:

There are seven preaching stations with schools which will probably have to close if they do not receive a church in the US to sponsor the salaries of the teaching staff like Mt. Pisgah does for the Lutheran school in Laotchikit.

Good news:

The Haitian Lutherans are praying for more congregations to help. We are praying. If you know of another LCMS congregation, would you ask for their support? The budget for a small school in Haiti is \$3,000 per school year and approximately 100 children are educated. Members of the Mission Committee will be glad to provide information and answer any questions concerning support for these small schools.

More Good News:

Classes will start for the 2021-2022 school year in Laotchikit in September. 591 elementary students from K-3 to 6th grade attend elementary school in Laotchikit. Every school day, the students will hear the Gospel and share this news with their families.

Most children in Haiti stop going to school after 6th grade. By individual sponsors, students who attended the Lutheran School of Laotchikit are able to continue their education into high school. This gives them a huge advantage in Haitian society. More importantly, students are taught moral ethics which are desperately needed in leadership in Haiti.

Christian education scholarship program has 152 students in grades 7th through 12th. Students in high school walk two hours to attend school in Hinche each day. They take classes in French, English, Creole, Spanish, Science, Math and Social Studies. Please consider sponsoring a student to attend middle school or high school. Sponsorship for one student for one year is \$120. This includes their tuition, books and uniform. We need lots of sponsors!

Report cards are here! If you sponsored a student last year, look for their report card coming soon.



The budget for the Lutheran School of Laotchikit is \$21,000 per year. There is currently \$9,000 in the dedicated fund for this need. Please consider supporting this mission.



Foster Parent Training

2021 Fall Class Schedule

- Thursday, September 16, 2021
- Thursday, September 23, 2021
- Thursday, September 30, 2021
- Thursday, October 7, 2021
- Thursday, October 14, 2021
- Thursday, October 21, 2021
- Thursday, October 28, 2021
- Thursday, November 4, 2021

Hosted virtually through Zoom from 6-9pm

To qualify for licensing:

- Must be 21 years or older
- Must be able to pass an extensive criminal background check
- Able to attend all required classes
- Pass fire and safety inspections
- Have adequate space for a child

Space is limited! To RSVP, please contact:

Emily Justice @ (828)-694-6251

Denny McBride @ (828)-694-6260

Or email

Families4Kids@hendersoncountync.gov

Thank you for your interest in opening your heart and home to a child in need in Henderson County!

Dear members of Mount Pisgah Lutheran Church,

Blessings to you all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord! I pray that your summer has gone well. It's crazy to think that August is here already. This summer has been a crazy summer for me and Marie for many reasons. From having a baby in May to moving to our vicarage congregation in July! Many events have just made this summer fly by for the Sipes family.

I pray that Andrew's birth announcement reached you! Marie and I thought that would be a nice little thing to send out to family, loved ones, and those who support and pray for us. Andrew travelled quite a bit this summer! He travelled with us to a friend's wedding in Florida. He flew like a little champ! He also rode almost 8 hours to our vicarage congregation in Antigo, WI. We only stopped twice to feed him and change his diaper. We have been told that this kind of baby is a recruiter baby. He's so easy that we want to have more babies! At a little older than two months, he has just been sleeping, eating, and growing.

Like I said before, the Sipes family arrived in Antigo, WI in July—July 19th to be exact. We were welcomed with a crew of men and women from Peace Lutheran Church to help us unload the U-haul. The Pastor's wife, Shelly Karolus, had a dinner ready for us and everyone who helped us move—pulled pork, baked beans, and cheesy potatoes! It was so good! The people here are just great. Marie and I are feeling so loved and welcomed by the members at the church and Antigo in general! On Mondays and Tuesdays, the local park sponsors Music in the Park where a band comes and plays music for a few hours. Especially after COVID, it's nice to see community gatherings happening again.

Pastor Dave Karolus has put me to work these first couple weeks! I have already led morning devotions which occur every morning through Facebook Live, I've led chapel for their summer childcare program, and have visited a few of Peace's homebound members. This will definitely be a year of experiences! The Langlade County Fair is hosted by Antigo since the town is the county seat. I had the awesome opportunity to make cheese curds with the pastor and the director of Youth and Family Ministries and his wife—Blake and Hannah Brockman.

All in all, I am very excited to serve here at Peace Lutheran Church in Antigo, WI. Marie and I are both very excited for this year that is ahead of us. If you want to see anything that I'm doing this year, you can tune in on Facebook when you type in "Peace Lutheran Ministries Church School Childcare." We thank you so much for your continued prayers and support. We pray that God continues to bless you and keep you in his Word and promises.



In Christ,

Marie Sipes

SPECIAL CALLED CHURCH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 1, 2021

At 6:30 p.m., a special called meeting of the Church Council Executive Committee was held via teleconference.

Attendees: Steve Kirchoefer, Barbara Volk, Robert Hamrick, and Leah Ryel.

Absent: None.

The air conditioning system in the Preschool has failed, and it is incumbent upon us to authorize the use of funds previously set aside for the purpose of replacing the unit. Steve Kirchoefer's e-mail was attached to the Haynes Heating and Cooling bid proposal in the amount of \$5,525.00, to perform the work.

Motion was made by Steve Kirchoefer, seconded by Leah Ryel, and approved by all, to accept the bid from Haynes Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$5,525.00, so that they can replace the failed unit.

Meeting was closed by Steve Kirchoefer at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Ryel
Recording Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

In Person & Via Telephone Conference

June 17, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Steve Kirchoefer opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was declared.

Council members present: Steve Kirchoefer, Robert Hamrick, Sylvia Gonzalez, John Zagone, Judy Morin, Jan Tharp, Kathy Kirchoefer, Lydia Cassidy, and Leah Ryel

Others present: None

Absent: Barbara Volk, Diane Sanborn, Homero Gonzalez, Wendy White

Kathy Kirchoefer offered the devotions. The Vision Statement was read by all.

Minutes of the May 20, 2021 meeting were approved by Jan Tharp & seconded by Lydia Cassidy, approved by all.

Minutes of the June 1, 2021 Special Called Church Council Executive Committee meeting were approved by Steve Kirchoefer & Robert Hamrick.

Sylvia Gonzalez presented the May 2021 Financial News, and the Financial Reports as of May 31, 2021 (attached).

Income Statement for the Month of May:

The May Income Statement shows a net loss of \$4,051. The Church had a loss of \$4,745. The Preschool had a gain of \$694. YTD net gain is \$108,279. The May 30th offerings of \$4,976 could not be deposited until June, so they will be included in the June Offerings. We also did not receive the Water Bill or the Garbage Hauling Invoice for May until June 1st, due to the holiday. They will show on the expense reports in June. We will continue to give the Church membership weekly offering numbers in the Wednesday e-mails to inform members of where we stand.

For May, we had 4 Sundays, since the May 30th was deposited in June, and 2 payrolls. Offerings were \$1,692 below budget based on a 4-Sunday month. For the Preschool, we are not receiving any additional State funding at this time, except to replace the tuition that we were required not to charge the parents for March and April, and extended to May. Please note that the Preschool expenses for May are ~\$10K under budget, for the 2nd month in a row.

Second Round of PPP Loan/Grants:

All of the documentation has been uploaded to the United Community Bank, as requested, showing how the PPP Loan was used. These documents are being reviewed by the bank, and they have submitted a request for conversion to a grant to the Federal Authorities. We have not heard back on the status, but do not expect any issues. The above YTD net gain includes the PPP funds. Sylvia checked with the bank, & all should go well for changing the PPP to a grant; things are just moving slowly.

New Cleaning Service:

Jan-Pro started cleaning May 1. We have been in contact with them, as they did not show up for the cleaning two out of three times. One time, they came on Monday instead of Saturday, and another time not at all. They will be reassigning our cleaner for June, and will give us credit for the missing services. In the meantime, office staff and Preschool have been cleaning as needed. Sylvia now has the cell 'phone number for our contact.

Dedicated Gifts Account:

This dedicated account will be used to maintain funds for the new Fellowship Hall flooring and the new audio/video equipment. The balance at the end of May was \$23,532, and we are seeing more activity in June for this account. The flooring quote is ~\$16,500, so the balance will be available for the new audio/video equipment.

Sylvia just learned that the price for flooring has increased to \$3.99/sq. ft. Our usual contact has been out sick, so Sylvia has been speaking to someone else. If the flooring cost is greater than we had been told, there will be less of a balance from the donation for the sound system.

Steve says that only part of the system is in, & we will have everything in the system balanced when all parts have been received.

Robert says that there are 4 children going to Camp Lind Haven this Summer. Funds are normally taken from the Sunday School account.

Motion #1:

Kathy Kirchoefer made a motion to use some of the Sunday School funds to send 4 children to Camp Lind Haven. Robert Hamrick seconded the motion. All approved.

Pastor Christensen was absent & had no report.

Outreach & Community Concerns report (attached) was presented by Jan Tharp. A check for \$250 was presented to Blue Ridge Prison & Jail Ministries, May's MOM. June's MOM is the Medical Loan Closet. We and Parish Life will work on "pokes" for homebound, for August 1.

Elders' Report (attached) was by John Zagone. On 6/13, we'll return to broadcasting the Service in wide angle, then post-process to add words. DVD's will be distributed. Question regarding when to celebrate with an event, now that COVID restrictions are being lifted. Starting 6/20, Communion (individual cups) will be served from the rail, and ushers will return. Communicants will be separated in family groups. Rudy Eidam has a new baby grandson.

Steve suggested having just one Service at 10 a.m. on August 1, then have a luncheon immediately afterward. Discussion about how to notify everyone about the change for that day.

Motion #2:

Steve Kirchoefer made a motion that we hold just one Service at 10 a.m. on August 1 (Friendship Sunday), with the luncheon to follow, Leah Ryel seconded the motion, & all approved.

Steve will start a working document related to this event. John will send Leah a copy of the new pictorial directory & the old one, to distribute to Council.

Christian Education had no report, as Diane Sanborn was absent.

Early Childhood report (attached) was by Kathy Kirchoefer. Katherine Montgomery reported that there is a proposal to increase tuition. Increase will be competitive with other preschools in the area. Graduation in the park was quite popular. Katherine will be eligible for Medicare in 2024, retirement in July 2026. New staffing to arrive in July. Porcia's sister, Mercedes (graduate of our Preschool) will teach in the 1-year old class. Barbara and Joyce will help to train her. Michele Maloney will be volunteering again this Summer, and Dailyn, Mary's granddaughter, has been hired (now age 16). We anticipate having fewer difficulties in finding staff. There are problems with graduating children not leaving in a timely manner. Enrollments for Fall are being worked out. Sandboxes are being made with excess lumber. One outdoor "Little Library" has been installed. Gift card w/note of appreciation was given to first staff recipient. Pastor would like to return to performing Chapel Service, but adults must continue to wear masks (per requirements), and he doesn't want to.

There was no report from Stewardship; Wendy White was absent.

Missions report (attached) was sent by Wendy White. The Board voted to send \$4,000 for summer support from the Haiti dedicated fund to pay the salaries for the Vicar, School Principal, Girls' House Parent, and Gate Keeper, plus funds to feed children living in the shelter. A large sewing school will

take place this Summer in Laotchikit. Sewing machine costs \$213. They request \$800 for fabric and to pay teacher for the summer school. They will not meet in July. Parish Life had no report, per Lydia Cassidy.

Board of Inside Property report (attached) was by Judy Morin. The dark color of flooring for the Fellowship Hall was chosen at Sunday's Congregational meeting. Dedicated offerings will cover the cost. Air conditioning in the Preschool went out, and was replaced within a week of the loss. New grab bar was installed in Ladies' room. Judy said that a member requested one in the Men's room, and it was also installed.

Board of Outside Property report was given by Sylvia, who said Homero stated that a light board to the sign needs to be replaced. All of the stone work for the sign has been completed.

Old Business was previously covered.

New Business: Robert Hamrick stated that Maxine Tatreau will move to Colorado in August to be near a son. That will be acknowledged on August 1, Friendship Sunday.

Robert Hamrick said that some people have suggested having a handbell choir at Church. Handbells are expensive, but some members have previously performed in handbell choirs at other churches, and may be amenable to doing so now, as well.

Next meeting will be held July 15. Jan Tharp will offer devotions. The meeting will be held as this one was, with teleconference available, or in-person.

At 7:53 p.m., Steve closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Ryel

Recording Secretary

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Prayer Shawl 1 PM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	2 Quilter's Ministry 9 AM	3 Mission Board 1 PM	4
5 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM	6 Labor Day Holiday Preschool and Office closed	7	8 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	9	10	11
12 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM	13 Ladies Guild 1 PM	14 Elder's Meeting 7 PM	15 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	16 Quilter's Ministry 9 AM Pastor Circuit Meeting Council Meeting 7PM	17	18
19 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM	20	21	22 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	23	24	25
26 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM	27	28	29 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	30		