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DRAFTPeace In Christ Church Council Meeting Agenda

**Date:** February 16, 2023

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Council Members present:** Pastor Tim Ludwig, Pastor Caleb Weight, Bob Kanuit, Amy Kanuit, Michele Lox, Larry Erickson, Liz Shannon, Perry Collins, Grant Forsyth, Angela Swenson, Julie Hendricks, Julie Smith

**Council Members absent- Taylor Wheeler,** Allison Stone

**Others present -**

**Item Owner**

**Call to Order**

**Devotion / Scripture Pastor Tim/Pastor Caleb**

**Reports**

1. Secretary Report Allison Stone

Meeting minutes are now available to all members through a link in the Weekly E-News.

1. Treasurer’s Report Liz Shannon

Liz reported that we started the year with a negative balance.

Motion by Julie Hendricks to approve, seconded by Michele Lox, passed.

1. Community Michele Lox

Ruby’s Pantry didn’t get a lot of people this month because of the bad weather.

Christmas bell ringing was successful. Brought in more than $1,000 in one day.

1. Discipleship Angela Swenson

Sunday school attendance has been good. Still working on a new curriculum.

Youth group has had good attendance. MOPS off to a good start.

Confirmation speeches will be in May and Confirmation Sunday will be in the fall.

Preschool will raise tuition by 10%.

Discussed the church process of doing background checks on all volunteers who work with youth. Need to write a policy. Bob Kanuit will look for samples and Pastor Ludwig will look into what other churches in our district are doing in this area.

1. Elders Perry Collins

Perry reported that Elders met last Thursday. Pastor reached out to shut-ins. About 10 people remain on the list. Men’s retreat was successful. Last time they met was in 2020 and some 1st timers came this year.

1. Operations Julie Hendricks

Julie was happy to report the front gutter fix has been working during the melting. Grant was able to adjust the refrigerator and it is no longer freezing the food. Guardian Angel training is rescheduled for 6:30 p.m. on 2/26/23. Julie looked into the cost of an OSHA approved ladder to access the roof. Cost came in at more than $10,000. No decision made to purchase at this time.

1. PIC Life Amy Kanuit

Men’s Group and OWLS hosting Ash Wednesday chili cook off. Proceeds will go to New Hope for Families. OWLS will visit their facility this week and go to lunch after. Amy received an update from Sharon Fairbanks. Cookie Walk group will meet soon to discuss purchasing a new scale and possibly buying some padded chairs for the fellowship area. Amy said the cost of Easter breakfast catering is up $2 per person this year. Suggestion was made for a sign saying free will offering is $10 per person to cover the cost.

8. Time and Talent Julie Smith

Stewardship campaign is over. It was well received with 90 families submitting pledges. Liz will ask Pam to compile the data for a total estimated giving number for 2023.

9. Worship Larry Erickson

Larry received a report from Beth. The sanctuary piano will get tuned and there was an issue with the organ that is being taken care of. Larry purchased supplies and is in the process of doing an AV room revamp to organize and label things. New projector bulb was ordered. The current one is dim and will be kept as a back up.

**Old Business**

1. Security Plan/Team update. Dean Benson will install a special lock on one of the back bathroom doors. This is needed as a barricade in place for that area of the church.

**New Business:**

1. **Background Checks. Pastor Weight researched costs.** It was decided that we should pay more to get county and state searches along with the National search we are currently doing.
2. **Duluth Loop update - discuss offer from Minnesota Power. Bob brought a map of the area and discussion ensued. It was decided that we should accept the offer.** Julie H. made the motion and Angie seconded it.
3. **Start working on the 2024 budget - efforts to balance? Bob Kanuit is concerned about the current 2023 negative budget. He wants to work towards a balanced budget for 2024. He asked council members to start looking at areas they can cut and get back to him with their suggestions. Angie asked about the Building Fund and it was pointed out that this is for additional mortgage principal payments only. The current mortgage payments due come out of the general budget. Amy pointed out that we should use our designated funds when we can since they are not part of the operating budget.**

**Next Meeting: March 16, 2023 at 5:30 pm.**

**Closing Prayer**

* The minutes of all the committee meetings will be filed in the church office, posted on the church website, and electronically sent to all members of the council.
* At each council meeting, there will be an opportunity for council members to report on:
  + Major events that their committee has scheduled
  + Recommendations that will need council approval