

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Coos Bay – North Bend
Council Meeting Tuesday, March 28, 2023
 Held via Zoom

Present: Richard Whitwer, Linda Strine, Kathy Jacobson, Leslie Green, Carol Foster, Debbie Wright, Pastor Alyssa, Ken Denton, Linda Mitchell, Intern Emily, Vern Simpson

Absent: Calum Stevenson, James Monsebroten, Kallie Mill

Guests: Mary Jo Audette, Financial Manager; Harper Thompson, Marshfield Key Club

1. Quorum established and meeting called to order at 6:01 pm
2. Devotion/Prayer with Linda Mitchell on the Presence of God
3. Distribution Of 2023 Documents For Council Members
 - New Rosters are in the Office
 - Updated Constitution copies will be in the office next week.
4. Financial Discussions
 - A. Treasurer's Report – Ken Denton/Mary Jo Audette

In February the \$2,300 expense are missed donations in 2022 to local non-profits. Without this we had \$24,493 February expenses. February's regular giving of \$12,098 is way short, and will be again in March. The end of February Balance sheet shows a negative \$992.94 General Fund balance. The \$10,769 transfer from Endowment-Fellowship Hall floor to reimburse the General Fund for past Lot taxes posted March 1 (and another \$2000 from the Labyrinth will post March 27). As of (March 25, Saturday), we have \$13,065 in the general checking account. Current payables = \$4,228; current payroll = \$10,949 (cash needed to pay employees on 3/31); payroll taxes due 4/15 = \$2,143

The Treasurer's Report was considered accepted and filed.

Expenses are significantly outpacing regular giving by around 1.5 to 1. We can't keep paying the bills with special gifts and surplus designated accounts. It is time to have a conversation about increasing overall giving or cutting expenses or both, seriously and significantly. It was decided to hold a Council retreat April 22nd to address current and future budget issues.

Focusing on evangelism was noted as something to emphasize.

B. Money Counters: There is an accountability need to always have two people available to count offerings each Sunday and at special events. It was moved by Richard Whitwer and seconded by Linda Strine to add Vern Simpson, Carol Foster, Linda Mitchell and Debbie Wright to the current list of Linda Strine, Debbie Cox, and Irene Sund as counters. Motion passed unanimously.

Ken Denton is working on writing up procedures for this. It was discussed that it would be easiest to put into effect if a schedule was created for certain Sundays.

5. The Minutes of The Council Meeting Of February 28, 2023 and the Special Council Meeting Of March 21, 2023 were distributed and stand approved as emailed. Lynn Danner prepared the Annual Meeting Minutes and were attached for review. They will be approved by the Congregation at the next Annual Meeting in January of 2024.
6. Pastor's Report: See attached

Friendship Process Update:

Phase	Timeline	Action Steps & Events	Key Questions
Friendship Phase 1: Coming Alongside (Shared Experience)	March-April 2023	A) Friendship Team Formed B) Process affirmed C) Councils met together	A. Will we commit to this friendship process?

The team will report to both councils beginning in April. The full team the first month, then a couple representatives. Councils will meet together at some point socially

7. Intern’s Report: See attached
8. Committee Reports
 - A. Lot Committee Update – Ken Denton: The architects are working on the next set of plans. Water and sewer will need to tie in with Thompson passing west of the labyrinth. Ken has mailed off the property tax relief paperwork to the State.
9. Unfinished Business
 - A. Pacific North West Key Club

Harper Thompson of the Marshfield Key Club attended and presented their proposal of the nonperishable food/hygiene boxes as discussed last month. Various questions were answered: Location – should not be a problem, looking at near the labyrinth; the box will be on a 6' post and three feet square; advertising will be done at school and through the city council and social media; the congregation can contribute products for the box; we will keep in close contact as this develops. Richard Whitwer moved to enter into a partnership with the Key Club to provide this service. Second by Vern Simpson. Motion passed unanimously.
10. New Business
 - A. Susan Paterson Susan has resigned from the Council based on other obligations. She does want us to keep her in mind for special projects during the year. We do not need to replace this position but Linda Strine will contact a suggested person to see if they are interested in being appointed until the next annual meeting.
 - B. Building Use Applications
 - a. AA is requesting continued use of our Adult Sunday School Classroom on Tuesday evenings. Attendance has dropped but one person is hanging in there hoping to get more to attend. Motion to approve by Linda Mitchell, second by Kathy Jacobson, passed unanimously.
 - b. The Sand & Sea Quilters are requesting acceptance of their Building Use Applications to continue their multi-year practice of meeting at our church. Their intent is to include July and August in their schedule so they are meeting all year round, and their paperwork is in order. Motion to approve by Linda Mitchell, second by Kathy Jacobson, passed unanimously.
 - c. Karen Johnston is asking the Council’s permission for the Knitters’ Group to hold their Spring Sale on May 7 in the Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour. This is the Sunday before Mother’s Day. Motion by Kathy Jacobson to approve, second by Linda Mitchell, passed unanimously.
11. Miscellaneous/Good Of The Order

- A. Council Retreat: See discussion above in the Treasurer's report. Agenda, place, and facilitator will be determined by the Executive Committee.
- B. South Coast Equity Coalition Open House – Ken Denton: The open house has been rescheduled to March 30 from 4:30 to 6:00.
- C. Stained Glass Window as Memorial: A family is looking to commission a stained glass hanging for the sanctuary similar in size of what is presently there. They were referred to the worship and music committee who has responsibility for sanctuary and narthex decorations.

Adjourn at 8:14 with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting, April 25, 2023

Devotion/Prayer – Kathy Jacobson

Respectfully Submitted, Richard Whitwer, Secretary

Pastor's Report March 2023

Pastoral Acts

3/6-8 Dean's Retreat

3/9 Community Outreach planning meeting

3/14 Ministerium

3/18 Internship Spaghetti Feed

3/19 Friendship Team initial meeting

Upcoming

4/6 Maundy Thursday 6:30pm Gloria Dei

4/7 Good Friday Ecumenical service Noon Gloria Dei

4/9 Easter Sunrise 6:30am

4/24-25 Pastor Alyssa out of town (make up days off/vacation)

4/26-28 Intern Cluster Retreat

4/30 Sharon Magnuson, Mission Funding Director will join us for worship and presentation following worship, Faith may also join us for worship/presentation

5/15-16 Internship Conference (Zoom)

Pastor Alyssa is planning vacation time mid-end of June, dates TBD.

Other

Parochial report submitted to ELCA Churchwide

We have been assigned an intern! Intern Breck's bio was published in Sunday's bulletin. Pastor

Alyssa had an initial Zoom meeting with Intern Breck

Leadership learning opportunities

"Engaging Conflict for Growth" OR Synod Lay Education Program,

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm, 6 weeks, beginning April 13

"Healthy Congregations" Lombard Mennonite Peace Center – leadership to influence the health of the congregation, dealing with congregational anxiety, confidence in responding

to challenges. 6:30am-2:30pm, one day event, June, September, November

Intern Report for Council: Intern Emily Ronsberg, March 2023

Pastoral Acts/Events:

- D. Organized midweek Lenten Taizé services on March 1st and 15th
- E. Led Lenten Book Study, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
- F. Ecumenical Community Outreach Planning Meeting on March 9th
- G. Ministerium meeting on March 14th
- H. Attended Q&A on March 16th
- I. Friendship Team meeting on March 19th
- J. Attended soup supper and Holden services at Faith Lutheran on March 8th, 22nd

Other:

- B. Continued voice lessons with Dave
- C. Helped with Spaghetti Fundraiser for Intern 12 on March 18th

Upcoming:

- D. Final midweek Lenten Taizé service on March 29th
- E. Wrap up conversation for Lenten Book Study on April 2nd
- F. Holy Week: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services
- G. LGBTQ+ Inclusive Youth Ministry Class (online through Wartburg), April 20-22nd
- H. Intern/Supervisor Cluster Retreat, WA, week of April 24th