

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Coos Bay – North Bend

COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, July 25, 2023

Present: Richard Whitwer, Linda Strine, Kathy Jacobson, Kallie Mill, Leslie Green, Debbie Wright, Ken Denton, Vern Simpson, Linda Mitchell, Pastor Alyssa

Absent: Calum Stevenson, James Monsebroten, Carol Foster

Guests: Mary Jo Audette, Financial Manager, Cathy Denton

Quorum established and the meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Devotion/Prayer provided by Linda Strine on Psalms 26:1 integrity
2. The minutes of the regular council meeting of June, 2023, were distributed and stand approved as emailed.
3. Financial Reports – Ken Denton/Mary Jo Audette

Revenue & Expense Report:

- A. Ordinary Revenue:
 - Total Revenue for June was \$17,246.50.
 - Major Contributions: \$0
 - Designated Giving—“Intern Ministry” Fund \$90.20.
 - This is the highest regular revenue for the month of June since 2018 per the 5-Year Revenue Report: 2019-2023!
- B. Ordinary Expenses—No unusual expenses paid this month
- C. Other Income/Expense: Donation of \$1500 received for Ruth’s Closet.
- D. Difference of Revenue vs. Expenses: Total Expenses — \$22,434.05 vs. Revenue of \$17,246.50 = Shortfall of - (\$5,187.55)
- E. How did we manage this shortfall in June?
 - Transferred \$1,138.14 from Umpqua fund “Seminary”
 - Transferred \$5,000 from Morgan Stanely fund “Suspense”
 - Remainder of unpaid expenses moved to accounts payable to be paid in July or later

Balance Sheet:

A. Umpqua General Fund: Beginning Balance: (\$184.19); Ending Balance—\$1,064.82

B. Umpqua Designated Funds—Beginning Balance: \$66,749.14; Ending Balance - \$66,989.30

Notable Changes: (\$1,138.14) withdrawn from “Seminary Fund and transferred to GF to help meet monthly expenses as approved previously by Council. Zero balance now in “Seminary”
\$1500 deposited into “Ruth’s Closet-Other”

C. Morgan Stanley Acct—Beginning Balance: \$105,581.22; Ending Balance—\$100,933.11

Notable Changes: (\$5,025) withdrawn from “Suspense” and transferred to GF to help meet monthly expenses as approved previously by Council;

D. Mission Investment Funds combined balances of \$1676.32 as of 6/30/23 remains the same other than the addition of less than \$1 of earned interest.

July Outlook:

Our ordinary revenue (including the quarterly donation of \$6000) for July, and the fact that we do not have to pay Intern Emily’s July stipend and associated payroll expenses, we may not need to find funds from Designated or MS Funds this

month. However, our final fifth Sunday of July will not have an envelope collection as we are meeting at Faith Lutheran for a combined service.

Council Actions Requested:

Motion by Kathy Jacobson; second Leslie Green to accept the following recommendations from the Finance Committee:

- A. Umpqua Bank Designated Account Funds:
 - 1) Camp Lutherwood Scholarships: Balance of \$2,567.50; return funds to Endowment Committee for redistribution in 2024. Funds to be designated and placed in Morgan Stanley for possible use next year.
 - 2) Youth: Balance of \$5,195.57: Maintain the Youth Fund where it is and encourage congregation youth to consider attending ELCA World Gathering in 2024
 - 3) Other: Balance of \$165: Transfer balance to Umpqua General account and close this fund out on Balance Sheet
 - 4) Council Discretionary Fund: Balance of \$37.50: Balance will be transferred to Umpqua General Account and this fund will be closed out on Balance Sheet
- B. MS Account:
 - 1) Outreach: Balance of \$235.09: Transfer balance to Pastors Discretionary Account in UD account and close out this MS line item on the balance sheet.
 - 2) Contingency: Balance of \$4.75: Transfer balance to Morgan Stanley General Fund or Maintenance Fund
- C. Future Discussions: Source of play equipment funds; member directory (electronic and/or paper)

Monthly Mission Support to Oregon Synod: We have contributed \$1,750 to the Oregon Synod for years for their use in ministry. Discussion about reducing or eliminating for awhile. The donation has not been made for May or June. Discussion around this contribution being part of our congregation "tithes" for benevolences and whether income reductions should relate to this budget item also. We have tried to maintain 10% of our income going to benevolences. Ken Denton moved to reduce Mission Support to \$1,250 for the rest of the year to include May and June payments. Motion died for lack of a second. Discussion will continue next month.

The Treasurer's Report was considered accepted and filed for audit.

4. Pastor's Report was presented and attached to the minutes.

5. Committee Reports

- A) Friendship Team: Cathy Denton, Representative from Gloria Dei
 - Fifth Sunday Joint Service: Joint Worship with Gloria Dei and Faith Lutheran at Faith at 10:30 on July 30th.
 - God's Work Our Hands Worship and Potluck on September 10th at 10:15 at Mingus Park with Faith. Bring your own chairs. Needs: reader, ushers, greeters and communion assistants. Pastor Alyssa will preside and preach.
 - Some ideas for God's Work Our Hands projects were presented. These will be in collaboration with Faith. The next Friendship meeting is at Gloria Dei on August 9 and recommendations for projects will be finalized.
- B) Lot Committee: No report this month.
- C) Vacation Bible School: Richard Whitwer reported an excellent week of Vacation Bible School. All told, we had 16 different young people attend with an average of 12-13 per day. Kay Kerridan took care of registration. Lynn Danner organized the event and provided the opening/closing. Sara/Jeff Buskerud provided science activities and games; Janet Tilton provided the daily lesson; Richard/Kathy Whitwer provided crafts; and Connie Reager and Susan Patterson provided treats. Vern Simpson, Kay Kerridan, and Pastor Alyssa.
- D) Building/Grounds Committee was presented

6. Unfinished Business

- A) Building Use Request: Following receipt of additional information, it was moved by Richard Whitwer; seconded by Ken Denton; and passed unanimously to approve the recent request by Lisa Reed to use the church facility for health and wellness activities.
- B) Vend West Coffee Contract: Richard Whitwer reported that a new agreement with Vend West includes paying \$25 per month to rent two air pots. We will purchase our own fair trade coffee. A basket for donations toward this expense will be available. It was decided that weekly counters would gather donations and put the basket away before their task is completed in order to appropriately account for those funds. *(Subsequent to the Council meeting there was additional discussion which resulted in a recommendation that donations be placed in an envelope and left in the kitchen drawer. Barbara would then gather and deposit Monday morning.)*
- C) Council Membership: It was announced that James Monsebroten has resigned for person reasons.
- D) Buildings And Grounds Committee Report

7. New Business

A. Audit Committee Report

Audit Committee Chair John Meynink provided the attached Audit Report covering the 2022 Audit of Church Financial Records and the 2022 Audit of the Endowment Fund. Having no questions, it was moved by Richard Whitwer; seconded by Kathy Jacobson; and unanimously passed to accept the report.

- B. Endowment Fund Committee 6-Month Report: Ken Denton will follow up with Anna Warner about questions and review the report next month.

8. Miscellaneous/Good Of The Order

A. Synod Updates – Linda Strine

- The Synod has a pro bono attorney available for congregational legal issues
- There is a fundraising Zoom training September 20; cost \$50.
- Congregations are encouraged to define how many members there are for voting purposes. We are in the process of mailing out letters of inquiry to people on the mailing list that may no longer be members or associated with Gloria Dei.
- Facilitators are being recruited for a Church-wide PSA project partly addressing “Christian Nationalism”.

Next Meeting: August 22, 2023

Devotion/Prayer: Leslie Green

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 with The Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Whitwer, Secretary

Pastor’s Report July 2023

Vacation was wonderful!

Finishing up the last course of my MSW

VBS Success! Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it happen!

7/22/23 June Phillips Memorial Celebration

7/24/23 Kathie Hodgin Memorial

Intern Emily's internship wrapped up and ended well.

Intern Breck will arrive mid-September, tentative first Sunday will be September 17, 2023.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a supervisor.

Coming up:

7/29/23 Pride in the Park

7/30/23 Worship with Faith at Faith

8/1/23 Pastor/Leader lunch at Camp Lutherwood – Who is interested in going? (Arrive any time after 10:00, will include a walking tour of camp and lunch at Noon)

9/10/23 God's Work Our Hands Sunday