

**Cross of Christ Lutheran
Church Council Agenda
October 17, 2023
6:00 pm**

Minutes of October 17, 2023 Meeting

Mission Statement: “As a fellowship of believers, it is our mission to joyfully proclaim the gospel of Christ in word and deed, inviting people to worship together, nurturing them in the Christian faith, loving one another and serving a world in need.”

1. Call to order – 6:00 pm

President: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Council: Amen.

2. Devotions-Pastor Dana Jackson

3. Review of the Agenda

4. Reports

a. Pastor’s Report

Important to acknowledge who we are in our role on the cabinet. As leaders we come together in the council meeting, and this is the opportunity to have conversation at the meeting.

b. President’s Report

c. Secretary’s Report

Council meeting minutes from September 19, 2023

Ron Evenson made a motion to approve secretary’s report and Diane Larson seconded the motion.

Motion carries unanimously.

c. Financial Administrator’s Report

September

Giving was on budget for September. We budgeted for \$14,916, and we came in with \$14,909. This **does not include** the \$5,940 that was donated for the lighting project in September. (The rest of the donations came in during October.)

Expenses were higher than budget for September. Most of the difference is in payroll expense. We did a one-time catchup payroll for the financial secretary; other payroll items and associated payroll taxes were also above budget.

For the month, we had budgeted for a deficit of \$5,282. Due to the higher expenses, our deficit was \$11,302. We are still beating budget for the year, however.

As information, we recorded recent larger, unbudgeted expenses (carpet, lighting) and associated donations “below the line” in Other Income/Expenses. You can find this at the bottom of the last page.

Year to Date

For the year, we are doing better than budget by \$10,900. Giving is above budget by \$6,700. And year-to-date expense are about \$4,200 below budget. These do not include the impacts of the carpet and lighting expenses or donations.

Submitted by: Patrick Forsyth

Wayne Runningen made a motion to approve the financial report and Mike Berg seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously

5. Cabinet Reports

a. Education

Cabinet Members:

Diane Larson, Alysia Woodard, Krin Abraham, Kayla Coil, Lisa Skifton, Pastor Dana Jackson, Sandy Erickson

We met on September 20 and came up with the following goals:

1. Define our cabinet's responsibilities and assign cabinet members to lead and assist in various areas.
2. Reintroduce adult education
3. Create a budget for other education items outside of Sunday School and VBS.
4. Create a cradle roll program.

Following are updates from the education cabinet's activities.

Sunday School:

We have had 10-20 children attending Sunday school. We are currently breaking into 2 groups, younger and older children, to provide an age-appropriate lesson for the children. It has been decided that in January we will be re-introducing the rotational model. The cabinet will be meeting to determine the lessons that will be taught and devise a promotional strategy to build excitement in the youth and encourage members of the congregation to volunteer as teachers and helpers.

Club 56:

Club 56 has leader, Lisa Skifton, and is off to a great start with 10 youth participating. Each week, the youth help restock the activity bags that the young children use during Sunday services. They have come up with ideas for the year's activities and are working on understanding how their daily lives and their spiritual lives are connected.

Confirmation:

We have 17 students in 7th & 8th grade Confirmation.

We spend the first 30 minutes of class in study and the second half in Bell Choir.

The Confirmation Students were incredibly helpful during the Fall Dinner with 16 students present.

Business Trick or Treat:

Alysia and Diane have agreed to do the Fishers of Men theme at Houston's business trick or treating event held on Friday, October 27. We will be set up in the parking lot area of the new community center and Carlson's Roasting Company.

Adult Education:

Krin Abraham has agreed to lead an adult education program. This will be held in the library, if available, after church during fellowship on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month beginning on

November 12th. We are working on adding this to the calendar and promoting this educational opportunity.

Christmas Program:

Pastor Dana and Alysia are finalizing the Christmas program for this year and are planning to focus on the nativity.

Houston Holidazzle Tree:

Cross of Christ Sunday school will be creating ornaments for decorating a tree in the city park again this year for Houston Holidazzle.

Submitted by: Diane Larson

b. Evangelism

Ellen and Brad Hungerholt have been helping Mike Berg with Hunger Task Force project. Brad and Mike collected food from several businesses and delivered to Hunger Task Force. Youth/Family Roadside-Ditch clean-up is coming up on Sunday, October 20th. I have been helping with Meals on Wheels. Will be working on goals with Ellen and Brad.

c. Finance

Preview of 2024 Cabinet Budget. Draft Cabinet budget at next church council meeting. Please review and let Patrick Forsythe know, and we will talk about this at next meeting.

d. Personnel

e. CofC Grounds

1. The bees in the fire pit are taken care of.
2. Dirt was spread and seeded in the holes from the stump removal.
3. Apple trees are trimmed up in parking lot.
4. The second lawn treatment has been completed and lawn is looking better.

Submitted By: Chuck Halvorson

f. CofC Building

Update on Lighting project: Key Electric will meet on Thursday and then pencil in time to start project. Will keep you posted.

g. Stone Church/Cemetery

There was a Cemetery Board meeting to discuss the Tennison Wall. Someone is coming to put a bid in on it. Denise applied for a grant for this project. More to come! Cemetery Clean-up took place. Students were available to help. Stone church winterized and ready for winter. Ceiling in dining area has been repaired.

h. Stewardship & Mission

Working on updating the brochure. Need feedback on goals for 2024 and think about projects you want done in 3 to 5-year period.

i. Worship & Music

Brainstorming new ideas at meeting recently.

j. Youth & Family

We have a game plan through January with youth and intergenerational activities. We had a successful 2nd Family Fall Fest! Served approximately 100 people.

We set goals at our last meeting for the 2024 year:

Continue to increase attendance from all ages, especially those that have been confirmed during youth events. Hoping that by setting the 4th Sunday every month helps.

Encourage more younger and new adults to help with events, we will reach out to them individually instead of just making an announcement that we need help.

Build a working relationship with Education Cabinet.

Create consistent schedule, plan is to have activities on 4th Sunday of each month.

Encourage youth to partake in youth camps at GEV & ELCA Youth Gathering. Cabinet will need to gain a better understanding of what camps are offered when and where, cost and potentially have financial assistance. Advertise in church, Parish Visitor, FB, emails to parents & posters.

October 22nd –teaming up with Evangelism for highway clean-up, potluck after cleanup and yard games and board/card games for those inside. After church.

November 19th - decorate for Christmas with activities for younger kids and food. Details to come.

Submitted by: Jessica Brand

k. WELCA

A heart-felt thanks to everyone for a successful Fall Supper. 824 delicious meals were served.

75 quilts, 40 school kits and 27 care kits were delivered to La Crosse for a shipment to Lutheran World Relief. Many thanks to Twyla Thorson and Sharon Knudsen for delivering these items and to everyone who donated and worked on our quilts and kits.

Looking ahead:

This Friday, October 20th will be election of officers and Thank Offering.

Our Fall Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 18th.

Submitted by: Rae Evenson and Elsie Olson

ASBESTOS BIDS - Submitted by: Lyn Halverson

\$12,170 - Asbesterol

\$16,000 - \$17,000 - Ka Moua Construction

\$25,700 – MAVO

Lynn Halverson recommends Asbesterol. Chuck and Lynn would like to continue to make arrangements until next summer. Motion made by Ron Evenson to approve Asbesterol, and Wayne Runningen seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

l. Youth Representative

6. Old Business:

7. New Business:

- a. Podium is needed at Owl Center for an event. Ron Evenson will deliver.

8. Open Discussion:

9. Calendar –Up Coming events.....

- October 20 WELCA meeting 2:00 p.m.
- October 22 Evangelism/Youth & Family Roadside Ditch Clean-Up
- October 25 6:00 Simple Supper/Confirmation/Club 56/Bell Choir
- October 27 Houston Business Trick or Treat (CofC at Community Center)

- October 29 Reformation Sunday worship
- October 31 Halloween
- November 1, 8 & 15 Simple Supper 6:00 /Confirmation/Club 56/Bell Choir
- November 5 All Saints Sunday/Noisy Offering/S.C. Cemetery Mtg./Day Light Savings Ends
- November 6 Ruth Circle (7:00 Ruth Kempter)
- November 10 & 11 Hobby Huddle
- November 11 Veteran's Day
- November 12 Stone Church Committee Mtg./4-H
- November 14 Executive Council Mtg.
- November 18 WELCA Bazaar
- November 19 Time of Thanks Sunday Worship Service/Caring Collection
- November 21 Council Mtg.
- November 23 Thanksgiving Day

Benediction President: Almighty God, Father, and Son and Holy Spirit order our days and our deeds in his peace

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Runningen, Secretary

CROSS OF CHRIST CONGREGATION COUNCIL