

Cross of Christ Church Council

November 15, 2022

6 p.m.

Minutes of 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.”

Officers	P	A	Pastors	P	A	Cabinets	P	A	Cabinets	P	A
Larry Jerviss <i>(President)</i>	x		Jeff Forbes <i>(interim)</i>		x	Amy Kulas <i>(Finance)</i>	x		Krin Abraham <i>(Personnel)</i>		x
Eileen Hegland <i>(Vice President)</i>	x					Jessica Brand <i>(Youth & Family)</i>	x		Kathy Olson <i>(Worship & Music)</i>		x
Patti Runningen <i>(Secretary)</i>	x					Keith Herek <i>(C of C Building)</i>		x	Sandy Erickson <i>(Education)</i>	x	
Patrick Forsyth <i>(Fin Admin)</i>	x					Wayne Runningen <i>(Stone Church Bldg)</i>	x		Heather Chapel <i>(Stewardship)</i>		x
Karen Christensen <i>(Financial Sec)</i>						Rich Botcher <i>(C of C Grounds)</i>	x		Rae Evenson/Elsie Olson <i>(W/ELCA)</i>	x	
						Holly Westby <i>(Evangelism)</i>		x	Vacant <i>(Youth Rep)</i>		

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 Jeff Forbes (absent)

3. Review of the Agenda
No additions

4. Reports

- a. Interim Pastor’s Report -I am at home in Austin while typing my report because I had a positive COVID test yesterday, Monday, November 14th-I was not feeling well Sunday, but masked up and did not shake hands with anyone. After talking to a Nurse in COVID Care I am quarantining for five days (Monday-Friday), and I will take a test again on Saturday to see if I am still positive or can return for Sunday services. I have alerted the Synod Office about my situation and I will hopefully hear from them soon. I will keep the Executive Committee, especially Larry, up-to-date on my condition.

Pastoral Acts: Funeral service for Wayne Bestor on October 22nd. Committal service was at St. Matthew's Cemetery in Granger, MN. His son Allan who had died previously was also part of a double Committal service.

New Bibles were given to Confirmation students in class who ordered them and presented to third graders during the Reformation Sunday service. Adults who have ordered them have also been picking them up from the office. We are waiting on the Large Print versions

Reformation Sunday and All Saint's Sunday went well and then the Stewardship Committee is in the middle of their Stewardship program, "Walk with Jesus". There will be a Celebration Potluck after service on the 20th of November as the Stewardship program finishes for 2022.

There will be a Thanksgiving Eve service planned for November 23rd starting at 6:30 p.m. A Thanksgiving letter has also been sent out with a special offering envelope enclosed.

In talking with the Executive Cabinet and the Synod Office I will continue through the month of December 2022, as the Call Committee continues their interviews for calling a Pastor. My last day will be December 31, 2022.

Monthly, I share devotions at Heritage Court at 10:30 a.m. on the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays with Holy Communion on the 2nd Thursday. I am also celebrating Holy Communion at Valley View Nursing Home on the third Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. (unless they call me to tell me that I shouldn't because of COVID or other outbreaks of illness).

In other matters, I continue to make general visits as time permits, bring Home Communion to shut-ins, and those staying in nursing homes. I also attend Conference and Interim Pastors' monthly meetings.

b. President's Report
None given.

c. Secretary's Report

Council meeting minutes from November 15, 2022.

Eileen Hegland made a motion to approve the secretary's report for October 18, 2022, and Jessica Brand seconded the motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Financial Administrator's Report

We had a surplus of \$2,880 in October. We had planned for a smaller surplus of \$1,235. Excluding the non-budgeted Stone Church improvements, expenses were about \$3,900 below budget. Giving was about \$800 below budget. For the year, we have a surplus of \$2,830 vs. a budgeted deficit of (\$16,221).

Amy Kulas made a motion to approve the financial report for October 18, 2022, and Sandy Erickson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Cabinet Reports

- a. Education-Sandy reported Good Earth Village offers week long Summer Programs. This is a week-long camp, and all day long. Will be in need of adult volunteers. The church will need to supply food and volunteers will need to be housed in Houston. More information to come.

Club 56 has 6 children in attendance, and around 15 children are in attendance for Sunday School. A Christmas Program is being planned. Alysia, Sunday School Director, will send out notices to children regarding the upcoming program.

- b. Evangelism-Holly Westby (absent)

- c. Finance

No report given.

- d. Personnel

1. Pastor Jeff's bridge contract: Until we call a settled pastor, we will need to extend Pastor Jeff's contract on a month-by-month basis. He is getting a significantly less base salary than what is suggested by the Synod guidelines; however, we do need to increase this base amount due to the cost of living (COLA) increases we have had nationally during this last year. Currently, he receives \$4083.33 per month along with the housing and benefits package. The housing and benefits need to continue as is; however, the pay should be increased to \$4438.60 per month to address the COLA (8.7%). He was also entitled to a week of vacation for each 13 weeks of service, which did not occur; therefore, he should also be granted a week of vacation during the month of December as well. Eileen Hegland made a motion to approve the pay increase in December, and Wayne Runningen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
 2. IT personnel: The Christenson girls are now in college and no longer able to continue as the IT support streaming our services on Facebook Live. Their proxy will continue through the remainder of this calendar year; however, we need to post and hire someone to take over the duties, starting on January 1. Unless the council feels this is no longer a service we want to continue providing for our congregation, the person hired will need to be paid at least the same amount as the girls currently receive (\$15 per hour). Church Council will put on Agenda for December.
- e. CofC Grounds-no report. Rae said men were planning to move the Pantry box, but it will now be moved in Spring.
 - f. CofC Building-Keith Herek (absent)

g. Stone Church/Cemetery

Wayne reported the Stone Church Project is completed. A photo book is available to view. Sidewalk is in and Van Gundy's donated a truckload of rock. It is all done and looks great!

La Crosse Monument came out to straighten stones. Estimate is \$2600.00. National Honor Society students and Denise Rostad cleaned out the flowers, etc. at the Stone Church.

Need to look at budget for following year. Would like to work on ceiling in Stone Church.

Wayne would like to talk either during church service, or at the Coffee Hour about Stone Church repair and renovation. Rae thinks an update by Wayne at church would be great! Eileen suggested pics be displayed at Cross of Christ. Amy suggested having a celebration at Stone Church in Spring. More to come!

Duane Hegland finished the mapping project and did a great job!

h. Stewardship & Mission-Heather Chapel (absent)

i. Worship & Music-

Eileen and Jake discuss music offerings through the month, along with organists. We will need to discuss upcoming Holidays music with worship committee and find out how it will fit with Sunday School activities.

Bell Choir is going strong and will perform on Thanksgiving Eve service and Nov 27th (?). Members involved enjoy this group.

Choir still struggling to find more consistent members, with a few past members returning occasionally along with a couple people 'trying it out'. Looking forward to time/talent sheet info in this area.

j. Youth & Family-

****Attention parents of Youth in grades 7-12****

We are looking for nominations to elect a President, VP & Secretary for the Cof C Youth Group to lead upcoming meetings & plan activities. Work with the Youth & Family cabinet as well as the elected Youth Rep on council.

November's event is on the calendar for Saturday the 26th, 2-4 pm. Learn to Bake Muffins from 2-4pm all youth welcome!

We won't have anything for December, we tentatively had something for the 10th, but decided it's a month to spend with family.

k. W/ELCA

On Friday, October 21st, we had election of officers, a thank offering program and a very interesting and informative presentation by Shelley Jerviss about our Cross of Christ library.

We plan to have our Annual Bazaar on Saturday November 19. In preparation for this event, we have potato peeling on Wednesday night beginning at 4:00 PM and lefse making on Thursday beginning at 8:00 AM. Bazaar will be Saturday beginning at 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM with lunch being served. Everyone is invited to come help, learn, and watch or, all the above.

Rae has camping fund that they have saved. They could propose to give towards the Good Earth Village Camp.

Have committee put together to replace the carpet in fellowship hall. Rae said that WELCA will help serve for Simple Supper as young people cannot make the simple supper happen as they work.

God's blessings
Elsie Olson and Rae Evenson
WELCA Co-chairs

6. Old Business:

- a. Church Insurance-Patrick reported no numbers or policy yet. Horihan Insurance is working on the policy. Still waiting to hear back. Hopefully by next month we will have an Insurance Plan for Cross of Christ.
- b. Nominating Committee-Ron Evenson, Krin Abraham, and Jacob Olson are on the Call Committee for 2023.

New Business:

- a. Amend Church By-Laws to include voting rights for confirmed members-(currently 18 yrs. old required). After reviewing by-laws, it does show they can vote. This is an attempt to get a Youth Representative on Church Council.
- b. Pastor Jeff contract expires November 30th – renew month by month (see personnel update)

- c. Call Committee Manual for Councils- Hand out for Church Council on Call Committee.
- d. Larry reported that the Call Committee interviewed two people. They have been turned down. The first candidate was wanting to do hybrid schedule, which does not seem feasible. The second candidate was not considered a good fit for our congregation. Waiting for other candidates to interview.

Owl Pancake Breakfast – March 4.

- e. Open I.T. Position to be filled by January (see personnel update)

Open Discussion:

- a. Encourage Volunteerism in Church
- b. Time and Talent Sheets have been coming in slowly.

7. Calendar –Up Coming events.....

- November 16 Potato peeling
- November 17 Lefse Baking
- November 18 Craft Club
- November 19 Bazaar
- November 20 Stewardship 3 program
- November 23 Thanksgiving Eve Service (No Confirmation/Club 56)
- November 26 Youth and Family Event
- November 27 No Sunday School
- November 30 Prayer Time/Group, Bell Choir Practice, Simple Supper, Confirmation/Club 5
- December 3 Holidazzle
- December 4 Cookie Walk
- December 9 WELCA Christmas/Installation of Officers
- December 10 Manor Christmas Event (AM)
- December 18 Sunday School Christmas Program

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

Meeting adjourned: 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Runnigen, Secretary
CROSS OF CHRIST CONGREGATION COUNCIL