

Minutes of Congregation Council Meeting
September 19, 2023
7:00 pm

- I. Call to Order 7:00p
 - A. Attendance: Mike Berkheimer, Dean Black, Bob Bolen, Faye Casciano, Mike Epperly, Kristin Ervin, Amy Grubb, Sue Mathieu, Nina McNally, John Osenbach, Denise Rohrbach, Pastor Mark Wimmer, Pastor Cindy Camp, Pastor Tami Reichley
 - B. Excused: Mark Stanziola, Hayden Fermier
 - C. Devotions – Faye Casciano

- II. Adoption of previous month's Meeting Minutes. **Motion:** To approve minutes from the July 2023 monthly council meeting by Sue Mathieu with a **second** by Bob Bolen.
APPROVED.

- III. Staff Reports
 - A. – Pr. Wimmer: no action items
 - B. – Pr. Cindy: no action items
 - C. - Pr. Tami: no action items, but a reminder of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday on 9/24/23. The team made big requests of the congregation, and the generosity from the congregation was amazing. Also, a reminder that 10/1/23 is a New Member Open House Information Session in the All Saints Room.

- IV. Old Business
 - A. Art work: a committee was formed to examine all of the church's art work. They have determined what should stay and will have a proposal for where the remaining items should be displayed.
 - B. Call Process: the Call Committee actively continues their work to find and call a senior pastor. The Call Committee will update the congregation monthly on where they are in the process.
 - C. Property Manager: Finding a candidate continues to be a challenge. Mike Berkheimer made a suggestion to create a hiring team to focus exclusively on the Property Manager position.
 - D. Storage Space Cleanup: the team worked tirelessly over the summer to clean out the many storage areas throughout the building. There was a request for a diagram showing locations where items are now housed so that staff and mission team members can find stored items.

- V. Mission Team Reports
 - A. Stewardship: Mike Berkheimer: has been launching a lead-in to the stewardship campaign with brief videos before services the past two weeks. Stewardship Sunday is

10/8/23. Pledge cards will go out after the services that day. Cards will be requested to be returned no later than Sunday, 11/19/23.

- B. Mission Team Fair: Nina McNally and Amy Grubb: Fair is 10/15/23: planning is underway; emails have gone out to the various mission teams, with a request to complete a google form. Tying in with stewardship, this is a forum to showcase time and talent opportunities.
- C. Church Growth: 10/22/23 is Trunk or Treat; church growth and the nurse school had a group at the Emmaus End of Summer event handing out a large number of flyers and greeting members of the Emmaus community.
- D. Property: Mike Epperly: carpets in main floor rooms were cleaned; a compressor in a downstairs HVAC unit failed and was replaced; there is a roof leak over the drinking fountain area outside of room 117/119; LCHS donated our excess hymnals and pew bibles to other churches.
- E. Finance: Bob Mueller sent out forms to mission team conveners for 2024 budget requests, due by 10/10/23.
- F. Staff Support: the staff support team is not operating at this time and needs to be revitalized. Mike Berkheimer will work to revitalize the team.

VI. Finance: Mike Epperly: August 2023 ---

- A. Operating Income in August was \$ 65,893 being \$ 10.6 K higher than August \$ 55,259 Budget, with operating pledged income being \$ 6.4 K higher than its August Budget, with operating unpledged income being \$ 3.3 K higher than its August Budget, while combined loose plate and non – member contributions were \$ 0.1 K higher than combined August Budget.
- B. Operating Income YTD stands at \$ 607,360 which is \$ 30.9 K higher than YTD Budget \$ 576,456. Variance YTD of \$ 30.9 K reflects combined impact of operating pledged income YTD being \$ 6.4 K lower, operating unpledged income YTD being \$ 24.4 K higher, combined loose plate and non - member contributions YTD \$ 5.6 K higher, All Specials YTD \$ 3.1 K higher, Thrivent Income YTD being \$ 0.7 K higher, and Interest YTD being \$ 2.5 K higher.
- C. Operating Expenses in August were \$ 83,370 being \$ 0.6 K lower than August \$ 84,011 Budget.
- D. Operating Expenses YTD in August were \$ 556,499 being \$ 18.4 K lower than August \$ 574,876 YTD Budget.
- E. Most Mission areas in August were close or under August Budget. In August Resources for Ministry higher than August Budget \$ 1.0 K mainly due to Technology and Building Maintenance offset by lower Service Contracts expense. In August Resources for Ministry YTD \$ 13 .9 K lower than YTD Budget thru August mainly due to lower Professional Services, Building Maintenance and Service Contracts offset by higher Paper expense.

- F. No Accruals in August. Net Income in August was a deficit of \$ 17,477 which is \$ 11.3 K lower than expected August Budget Net Income deficit of \$ 28,752 bringing YTD Net Income to \$ 50,861 which is \$ 49.3 K higher than YTD Net Income Budget of \$ 1,580.
- G. Operating Cash Balance decreased from \$ 139,002 on 07 / 31 / 23 to \$ 121,525 on 08 / 31 / 23.
- H. SPIRIT LED / SPIRIT ALIVE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ---- Account cash balance is \$12,296. (August donations \$2,640) August expense was mortgage payment on Mission Investment Fund Building Project loan (\$ 2,188) NOTE: August was first of last five months of 2023 where monthly mortgage payment disbursed from Spirit Led / Spirit Alive account as per Congregational Council resolution.
- I. BUILDING PROJECT LOAN ---- Balance on Mission Investment Fund Building Project loan at end of August is \$ 402,961.
- J. BUILDING FUND ----- August month end balance was \$ 10,957. (Donations \$ 760) August expense was \$ 1,300 payment to Reinhardt Awning for installation of awning over Lower-Level entrance door which serves as Nursery School entrance / exit door to Lower-Level classrooms.

VII. New Business

- A. Music Ministry re: Replacement for Sharon MacCabe/Austin Gross: Search Team Formation: a note was sent out to the congregation asking for volunteers to serve on the search team
- B. Strategic Planning: Council attended a strategic planning session in August provided by Kyle David.
- C. Nominating Committee: for Council Elections in February, we will need to identify four church members to replace outgoing council members
- D. Technology Team is proposing hiring a third-party service provider; they will present this to Council at the October meeting.
- E. Conversation about finding a way to continue the breakfasts once per month throughout the non-summer months. Summer breakfasts donated \$1350 to be divided between Meals on Wheels and Laundry on Linden.

VIII. Next Meeting October 17, 2023 (Note: **November Meeting will move up one week to November 14th to avoid Thanksgiving week**)

Assignment of devotions to Dean Black.

IX. Adjourned at 8:48 with prayer by Pr. Wimmer.