Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes
August 19, 2021

The Grace Lutheran Church Council met on August 19, 2021 via zoom. Members present were Amy Simkus, Steve Simkus, Karen Hammel, Rachel Beeler, Gary Anderson, Mary Schlievert, Deb Boos, Pastor Jaci, and guest, Bobbie Bean.

President Gary Anderson opened the meeting and offered prayer.

Good News!
***We're excited to have worship inside!**
***Mary's co-worker is doing well.**
***Pastor Jaci and her family will officially welcome Cora Faith into their family with the adoption date set for October 18.**

The July 14, 2021 council minutes were approved.
The July financial report was approved.

Pastor's Report – Reported by Pastor Jaci
***We will have "Blessing of the Backpacks" on Sunday, August 29 during the service.**
***The National Youth Convention will be held in Minneapolis form July 24-28, 2022. There is money in the Youth Travel fund to help support this event.**

Board of Worship – Reported by Rachel Beeler
***The board is considering Advent Soup Suppers and a mid-week Prayer Service.**
***Choir resumes on September 7 and there will be weekly anthem.**
***The next meeting will be held on October 14.**

Board of Congregational Life – Reported by Mary Schlievert

- **We decided that surprises for Mother's Day and Father's Day would continue, with perhaps a change in the actual surprise.**
- **The installation celebration ice cream social was a success; we will likely keep it as a Rally Day event in the future.**
- **Discussion was held regarding funeral meals. We decided to utilize caterers due to the lack of available people to prepare food, and also health reasons. Rachel will gather info from local caterers as to lead time needed, cost, menu, etc. We will still need people to set up tables, clean up after, and potentially serve food (if caterers do not). We will also have an info sheet to give people regarding cost breakdown for members vs. non-members, what we provide, who contacts the caterer, etc. We also need to know the Fellowship Hall capacity (should that be posted somewhere?).**
- **A photo directory is supposed to be done every 5 years. We discussed how we could do this without using an outside company such as LifeTouch, since there are many drawbacks to using them. Mary will contact local photographers, and possibly make the books using Snapfish.**
- **We will not do an interest survey.**
- **Since there will not be Affirmation of Baptism on Reformation this year, we will try a brunch potluck on Oct 31, health protocols permitting.**
- **For Wednesdays in Advent, we will tentatively have Soup with the Savior (soup and lively discussion!) at 6:00, followed by worship at 7:00. This will be coordinated with Board of Worship and Pastor Jaci, and will be health protocols permitting.**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 21, at 8:00 pm at church.

Board of Education – Reported by Nancy Pries
*The Piecemakers have made 97 backpacks. They have all been distributed and are being filled with requested items.
*On Rally Day, Personal Care Kits for LWR will be prepared. The supplies for this project have been purchased.

Board of Property – Reported by Steve Simkus
*Food Pantry boxes Merlin said he would take care of the cardboard removal
*Emergency lights. (how many were changed?) 19 lights are in the building, 4 were working, 15 were not operational. One fixture needed replaced altogether, 2 are left to repair and they are in the fellowship hall up high. We will get those at a later date.
*Garbage take out will be done by Tracy so she can throw hers in with the churches.Vinyl over the double doors of the church entrance. Chuck Stewart has scaffold to use to do the work. The property board will find the time to do it.
*Cross at the front of the church Steve Blausey is building a new one to install (Steel)
*Lights in the basement, Lights are working. We will look into the dimmer switched that may have been the issue.
*Pastor's personal mic. The property board was looking at this on 8-5-2021
*Water testing, piping and filter, well was chlorinated and the tests came back good. Changed the filter and the testing has come back good the last 2 times.
*Dehumidifier new one in the basement (Randy Purchased it) It is working well.
*Sump pump check out will be done monthly at property board meeting. Steve S will check the operation in August.
*Fellowship hall capacity (Need to check with Mike Schlievert) Call 419-855-4733 Genoa Headquarters fire station.
*Tasks that need to be signed up for from the congregation: Snow Removal
*Fall clean up. What dates work for everyone? End of Oct, Probably a Sat AM
*Mow and trim back the edge next to the parsonage. Steve will try to get to it before the end of August.
*Jazzercise wants to add a day but not able to pay for it right now… Maybe give them six months to get the class built back up before charging them more? Thoughts? The board decided to give them the 6 months free of charge for good faith. The fridge in the basement needs cleaned and defrosted.
*Cleaning what is everyone seeing? Any comments good or bad. No new comments have been brought up. We know the issues with hard water rings. Everything seems to be fine as of now. Everyone Run the water when you are at the church. Sinks, Flush Toilets, outside spigots. With more activity in the church this will become a non-issue.
*Any projects that we want to consider? Removal of the door on the Witty road side of the building make sure that it can be removed, is it an exit that has to stay?
*The sacristy carpet and cabinet remodel. Jeff Boos said he would pain the room when the remodel happens. We plan to put a new floor, cabinetry, counter top, and fixtures.
*Central Extermination was there on 7/28/2021 Sprayed inside the building. Didn't find any issues.

Board of Witness and Mission – Reported by Amy Simkus

*Chicken BBQ fundraiser will be on Sunday, October 3, 2021. Two hundred dinner tickets will be available. We will need volunteers and 400 cookies.
*School bags have been made by our Piecemakers. Ninety-seven have been distributes, and twenty-four have been returned thus far. They can be returned until Rally Day, September 12th. Please be sure to read the instructions and remove excess packaging. We will need banana boxes for packing them.

New Business
We need three representatives to attend the virtual Synod Assembly on Friday, September 24. One representative must be under the age of 30. Please see Gary Anderson if you are willing to attend.

The meeting was adjourned and council members prayed The Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be on September 23, 2021 in person at the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hammel
Church Council Secretary