**Grace Lutheran Church Council met on October 14, 2021** in the church fellowship hall. Members present were Gary Anderson, Rachel Behler, Deb Boos, Nancy Pries, Karen Hammel, Amy Simkus, Steve Simkus, Nancy Pries, and Pastor Jaci. The meeting was called to order by President Gary Anderson. Pastor Jaci offered opening prayer.

Good News!

Michael Stewart is getting married on October 30th.

Pastor’s daughter, Cora, will be officially adopted on Monday, October 18.

Prayer concerns were updated. The council minutes for the September 23, 2021 meeting were approved. The September financial report was approved.

**Pastor’s Report – Reported by Pastor Jaci**

Landon Merle Haar – Baptism on November 14, 2021

Christmas Eve service will be at 8 pm at Grace.

Lifeline Foundation – This Thursday evening October 21st join Pastor Jake Nekoranec as he discusses his involvement in assisting refugees of Afghanistan. The event will be held at St Mark Lutheran Church 611 Woodville Rd Toledo, Ohio 43605. This session will be Congregational Discernment which is an LIRS initiative that invites congregations to consider the role they are called to play in resettling refugee and migrant families and walking with them as they rebuild their lives. There will be follow up sessions in November as well for those who are interested.

**Board of Worship – Reported by Rachel Beeler**

Old Business:

● Buy wine for Communion!

● Resume the use of Bulletins ○ We have gone back to utilizing the bulletin for the order of service; PPT still sent out for those who wish to use their device or printed slides for worship. Let’s try to keep the bulletin minimalistic and put announcements in Weekly Message - save trees!

● Liturgy ○ The Kyrie and Canticle of Praise have been added back into the order of service. We will add the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) and a Communion hymn back into the service

● Deacon/Lector Schedule ○ Continue to check the Weekly Updates sent out by Gary for the deacon/lector schedule

○ With moving back into the sanctuary on September 26th, a deacon will need to follow Pastor Jaci around for Communion to collect garbage (from kits)

○ Make sure lighting the candles is added as a deacon duty (since we haven’t had and continue to have few youth available to acolyte)

New Business:

● Choir ○ Anthems resumed on Sunday, September 11th and will continue throughout Christmas; we will resume after the 1st of the year with our usual break after Christmas. If congregation members have suggestions for favorite hymns, please send those onto the Bobbie!

● Service Time - We will remain at 10:30am for the foreseeable future

. ● Liturgical Plans - Time After Pentecost (.... 17th, 24th...) - Reformation (October 31st) with Potluck (Congregational Life) , All Saints Day (November 7th)

■ Announcement & write up for bulletin: congregation members can bring in photos of family members to celebrate All Saints Day - the photos will be displayed on a table during the service

■ Ring 1 toll on the Organ (bell) for each person

■ Congregational Meeting (election of new officers) ○ (Resume) Time After Pentecost (...November 14th)

■ Landon Merle Haar will be baptized this day - Christ the King (November 21st)

○ Thanksgiving Eve (November 24th) ■ We have decided to discontinue this service for this year.

○ Advent (November 28, December 5th, 12th, 19th) ■ Lighting of Advent Wreath each week - hymn: “Light One Candle for Messiah” ○ Advent midweek services (1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd)

■ Bethlehem does not have any service during Advent on Wednesdays

■ No study between meal and service

■ Plan for soup/bread supper at 6pm & service at 7pm - “Soup (and Bread) with the Savior”

■ Rachel will do a write up for Weekly Message and bulletin

■ Format/Liturgy for midweek service: Holden Evening Prayer

○ Christmas Eve (Friday, December 24th) ■ Bethlehem Lutheran’s service time of 6pm; we will have our service at 8pm

■ In the Weekly Message and the bulletin, if congregation members are interested in sharing special music, we will place that throughout the service

■ “Impromptu Nativity”: scripted sermon - Joan is likely unavailable the Sunday after Christmas (which she has led in past years); we will need other leadership for that service

● Please prayerfully consider chairing the Board of Worship for 2022. With the upcoming Congregational Meeting on November 7th and the election of new leadership, please prayerfully consider chairing this board.

Next Board of Worship Meeting:

○ Anticipate a (brief) meeting on Wednesday, December 1st (after midweek service) - approximately 7:30pm

**Board of Congregational Life – No report**

**Board of Property – Reported by Steve Simkus**

\*We are still having problems with the water. A professional water company will be hired to determine the cause of the negative water tests.

\*Fall cleanup will be on November 4. 2021 at 4 pm.

\*An awning is being considered for the entrance to the fellowship hall entrance.

\*Board of Property meets the first Thursday of the month at 5:30. Please come to the meeting to share your ideas. All are welcome! We are looking for eager volunteers.

**Board of Mission- Reported by Amy Simkus**

We are current with our benevolence offerings.

The Chicken BBQ was a huge success! A $920 donation was made to Northwest Ohio Hospice from the profits from the Chicken BBQ.

For advent, we will sponsor alpacas through ELCA Good Gifts. An alpaca is $150. Families can use the wool from an alpaca can be used in a variety of different ways.

The Synod Assembly attended via Zoom by Gary, Mary, and Pastor Jaci.

The 2022 Proposed Budget was presented by Gary Anderson and reviewed by council. Deb made a motion to accept the budget the 2022 budget. Steve second the motion.

The slate of officers for Grace Lutheran Church Council 2022 was discussed.

New Business:

Grace will be giving an end of year gift to Synod- Amy made a motion, second Rache,l to gift $500 to the Synod.

The next council meeting will be held on November 11, 2021 at 7 pm via zoom.

The December council meeting will be held on December 9, 2021 at DeStazio’s Bistro. The time is yet to be determined.

A motion was made was by Nancy, second Steve, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hammel

Church Council Secretary