

FLC Church Council Meeting
10/15/2024, 6:30pm, Room 301

Members Present: Jer Carpenter, Anne Thomas, Steve Shulta, Tim Drinkwater, Arwen Twitchett, Pr. Michael

Meeting called to order by Vice President Jer Carpenter; opening prayer by Pr. Michael

Agenda adoption

- Motion by AT/SS. All approve.

Approval of September 2024 CC minutes

- Motion by SS/AT. All approve.

Approval of consent agenda/board reports

- Motion by AT/SS. All approve.

Financial Report (Tim Drinkwater)

- Giving continues to be lower than budget again this month. Giving was below budget for September by -\$9,079.03 and total income for September was below budget by -\$8,077.56.
- For the YTD figures (July through September): giving was below budget by - \$20,202.49 and is below last fiscal year (including the matching campaign amounts) by -\$3,871.87. Total income for July through September is below budget by -\$13,504, but is close to what was brought in for the 23-24 fiscal year, up by \$1,365 (from the added interest income).
- The memorial P&L expenses for July - September 2024 are as follows:
 - Administration – Communications and advertising.
 - Buildings and grounds – Apex masonry work and Pioneer Roofing repairs to Chapel roof and carpet scrubber.
 - Witness – Second Harvest and Open Table expenses
 - Youth and family – Church van repairs, half of the cost for the new fridge/freezer, High School trips, and mission trip expenses.
 - Masterpiece expenses and continuing education for employees.
 - Life Together – cards project.
 - Misc – FLCW expenses
- Discussion about giving messaging and overall budget status
- Discussion regarding quarterly statements and new messaging sent with
- Motion to approve financial report by SS/NA. All approve.

Ministry Report

- Three new members were received on Sunday, Oct 13
- Three new baptisms on Sept 22, 2024
- One wedding on Sept 21, 2024
- Breaking Bread groups have been getting organized to meet monthly Oct through Dec.

- EPLP Gatherings: Our first of the Fall drew about 35 participants. The next, on Nov 6, will be a Thanksgiving themed potluck.
- The new Sunday School curriculum is working well and has been well received by parents.
- The 2024 confirmands have been preparing a video to introduce themselves and their confirmation verses. The Confirmation celebration will be on All Saints Day at the 9:30 service.
- Youth Group on Wednesday evenings is focusing on middle school youth, who are bringing the energy this year. Eric has been coordinating with high school students to develop a plan.
- Craig High School release time on the first and third Wednesdays is back in swing. 20+ students were here two weeks ago.
- The Young Adult Group has resumed on Thursday evenings
- The new Women's Bible Study continues to meet monthly.
- The Tuesday Men of Iron group is discussing the Chosen video series this fall.
- Fall Creation Season, four weeks through Oct 6. The first Sunday Adult Education session, about Alliant Energy's Community Solar Project, drew about 20 participants.
- A two-week series on Generosity, Oct 13 and 20, is currently giving me the opportunity to introduce our Generosity Statement and investigate the source of our generosity in the gospel.
- The Worship Board has decided to experiment this year with an extended 7-week Advent season, beginning on Nov 10. We received some helpful feedback from the worship bulletin survey, which I intend to incorporate in a seasonal bulletin for Advent.
- We hosted the Big Brothers, Big Sisters Carnival on Oct 5. Several hundred people were present, and our hospitality volunteers welcomed them well. Members of the congregation contributed in a variety of ways to the event.
- A second Open Table team will begin training in November and will be ready to start working with a new friend from Project 16:49 after Jan 1.
- Vacation Oct 23-29.

Synod & Churchwide Updates

- Continuing Education: Pr. Michael participated in the South-Central Synod's Theological Conference, Oct 9-11. The guest presenter, Karoline Lewis from the Luther Seminary faculty, led us through a helpful set of questions to explore how we engage the scriptures as we prepare to preach.
- Partners and Partnership: The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin will explore a theme of partnership throughout this year, including at the LEAD event in February and at the Synod Assembly in May.
- Office Administrator: The Synod office is again without an office administrator

New Business

- Ignatek Security Package

- Ignatek proposing new security package for each computer. Costs would be over budget. Alternative is to continue as-is and sign security waiver.
- Motion to sign security waiver and not purchase security package as recommended by Ignatek by SS/AT. All approve.
- Arwen to sign & return waiver
- Sabbatical policy update
 - Executive team meeting occurred, will have follow-up meeting and proposal for Council in November.

Unfinished Business

- Masonry Matching Campaign update
 - Letter went out early October
 - Significant contributions raised from congregation to date; will meet match given by FLC Foundation
 - Discussion on where funds will be used. Focusing on highest need areas first. Building & Grounds board will discuss and propose project in early 2025 for work to occur spring/summer 2025.
- October Talk with Leadership recap
 - 20 people in attendance
 - Discussion and questions regarding budget
 - Feedback on First Fest
 - Discussion regarding what is needed to start a task force to explore the possibility of a school
- Kitchen Sharing Agreement update
 - Staff meet with daycare during the daycare's last board meeting. Proposal was reviewed regarding space sharing and rental rates.
 - Daycare had some concerns and both sides are reviewing this again.
 - Overall status is on "standby"
- Program Board Organizational Structure update
 - Held second meeting; focused on the needs of the vision. Will start focus on structure of boards early next year.
 - Next meeting Nov. 4, 6:30pm
- Campus Vision update
 - Kickoff meeting tentatively scheduled for Nov. 7
- Emergency Preparedness update
 - Steve Shulta and Mat Hager are still reviewing report from DHS with tenants and other key stakeholders.
 - Grant opportunities exist; period to write grants is in early 2025

For the Good of the Church

- Pr. Michael, Pr. Jim & Eric Engen for all they do
- Arwen Twitchett & Jeanie Pomplun for meeting with daycare
- Renee Engen for her work with the Sunday School curriculum

Action Items

- Arwen to draft quarterly giving statement; Stewardship/Generosity team and Council to review.
- Arwen to sign & return security waiver to Ignatek
- Arwen to draft announcement regarding Masonry Matching Campaign
- Steve/Mat to meet with tenants/stakeholders regarding emergency preparedness report and grand opportunities

Closing Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

Motion to adjourn by NA/SS. All approve.