

First Lutheran Church of Aitkin, Minnesota Congregation Council Meeting Minutes

DATE/TIME: Tuesday November 16th, 2021 (7:00 p.m.) **LOCATION:** Fellowship Hall **MEETING:** Regular Special

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Reggie Denton; David Meyer; Jessi Goble; Todd Werner; Lynne Kellerman, Kim Jones; Philip Martin;
Jayne Anderson, Tom Plagman, Sarah Grovogel, Lucas Moen, Joey Haasken

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Jayne Anderson, Sarah Grovogel,

OTHERS PRESENT: **Staff:**

Guests/Visitors: Colleen Krohn

NOTICE: Posted Electronically; Mailed; Emailed; Objection: Yes No

Agenda Item	Presentation/Discussion	Recommendation/Action
Call to Order	By: Jessi Goble At: 7:01 PM	Quorum: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES; <input type="checkbox"/> NO;
Opening Prayer	P Reggie	
God Sightings, God at work	P Reggie; How many volunteers have stepped up recently. David; “Trunk or treat” went very well. Close to 500 kids that attended. College brat sale made over \$650.00. Colleen Krohn; 39 kids have signed up for advent program Jessi: Friends grandchild has been born.	
Business Meeting		
Approve the Agenda	Motion: To approve the agenda with provision to move P Reggie’s report ahead of the vote for consent agenda,	Motion: By David Second: By Tom Motion Carried

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consent Agenda• 10.12.2021 Council Minutes• 11.4.2021 Exec Mtg Minutes• Altar Guild Report• OM Report• Senior High Youth Group Plan• Pre-K - 6th Mtg Minutes	<p>Motion: To approve the consent agenda</p>	<p>Motion: By David Second: By Tom Motion Carried</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Pastor Reggie's November 2021 Report 	<p>P Reggie read from report advocating for one Sunday service. Sunday school is a major factor. Had a conversation with Sunday school leaders regarding the potential change. Discussed options. Teachers being able to be at worship is concern. If we were to make a change, December 5th would be a good choice. Colleen presented; said that she had lots of feedback from teachers. Pros and cons.</p> <p>P Reggie; This could be a temporary thing until attendance recovers. Empty seats make it look like a dying church.</p> <p>Dale Beihoffer's family stopped in and donated. Went through the mission endowment account. \$116,000. Amazing gift. Congregation should have an opportunity with input as to what to do with the donation. We can figure out some suitable options ahead of time. Family would like to have something tangible with something that will have his name on it. We need to be very intentional with this money.</p> <p>Anonymous donor gave money for national youth gathering. This should cover all of the fundraising.</p> <p>Gift from congregation to P Jordan. Would be a nice gesture.</p> <p>Working on computer needs. Everything that needs to function is functioning.</p> <p>Suspended soup kitchen involvement.</p> <p>Theft case has concluded. Walker stolen.</p> <p>Has not filled 4th position for Wednesday night cook. What if we attached money to be the cook per each Wednesday.</p> <p>Volunteers are stepping up and filling roles left empty by the leaving of P Jordan</p> <p>5th grade Sader meal, lacking a new person to cook.</p> <p>Sunday after Christmas, recommending that we have one service.</p> <p>Is there a person on the council willing to lead the "lessons and carols" service?</p> <p>Christmas Day dinner to be addressed later in meeting.</p> <p>Vacation; Last weekend in November</p> <p>Motion : To accept P Reggie's monthly November and expense reports, provided that all the things mentioned in the above report that require council action were not acted upon .</p>	<p>Motion: By David Second: By Tom Motion Carried</p>
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<p>Wednesday night cook</p>	<p>Tom; Is the money there? Phil: “No, there is not. But, P Jordans salary money is available. So, yes, and no.” Jessi; There is currently 3 volunteers doing the cooking. 4 would be ideal. We need to have a conversation with people interested and they would need to have the commercial license. We are set up through December. P Reggie. We need to find a 4th person by January. Can we pay volunteers like we pay the worship staff to entice somebody? Jessi: We need to ask the 3 cooks if they are interested in rotating. Jessi will contact Sue Landsverk and if we need to have a council vote to cover January.</p>	
<p>Visioning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Sunday Service • One vs two pastors • CYF • Shut-ins 	<p>Jessi: Strategic planning committee currently does not have enough members to facilitate a visioning task force. Strategic planning is coordinating the “visioning” Jessi, looking for names that would be a good fit for the visioning task force. Jessi went around the room and asked each member for names to consider for the task force. CYF/ Faith formation will be included in visioning. Jessi; Do we have enough staff for ministering to shut ins. How big a priority is this? What does the congregation want?</p>	
<p>CYF Coordinator Job Discription</p>	<p>Todd: After discussing with the Personnel committee, we have more questions than answers. How many hours, coordinate vs hands-on, volunteers, 1 vs 2 pastors. P Reggie: Visioning will take time, what do we do in the mean time. Kim: We need a “face” for people to look to for leadership.</p>	
<p>Continuing Resolution Updates</p>	<p>David: No report this month.</p>	

<p>Dale Beihoffer's Estate Donation</p>	<p>Discussed during P Reggie's monthly report. Kim: Will that donation skew our yearly donation averages? Phil; This should show up in mission endowment, but when monies are directed to the general budget, it will have an impact on our donation totals. It will have to be noted. P Reggie; According to Barb, it should be included in the books this year so that it wouldn't have to be included in each year going forward each year money was brought into the general fund. Jessi; We need to talk to Barb about how we handle this money regarding accounting.</p>	
<p>"Coming Home for the Holidays"</p>	<p>Todd: We should be inviting people to re-engage with the congregation and that we miss them at worship. Advent could be a time of bringing people together.</p>	
<p>Christmas • One service on December 26th • Christmas Day Dinner "Drive thru" vs "In person"</p>	<p>Motion: To have one service on December 26th at 9:00 am. Christmas Day Dinner: Kim: What do coordinators feel about drive thru vs in person? It was agreed that the drive thru method will be used again this year. No council vote required.</p>	<p>Motion: By Todd Second: By Lynne Motion Carried</p>
<p>\$500.00 Spending limit w/o council approval</p>	<p>Jessi: If we made a change this would have to possibly be a By-law change. Could an option be a two tier system? \$500.00 for ministries and \$750.00 for staff? Lynne; Is this money already in our budget? "Yes" P Reggie Motion: To increase the spending threshold for council approval from \$500.00 to \$750.00. This may have to be addressed in the Continuing resolutions and By-laws. Jessi will confer with David to see what needs to be done.</p>	<p>Motion: By P Reggie Second: By Tom Motion Carried</p>
<p>Financials</p>	<p>Phil: We are \$35k behind our projected budget. November and December are huge giving months and hopefully the gap will be closed. P Reggie; How much do we save each month with P Jordan gone? \$7000.00 a month with total compensation. Motion: To approve the November Financial report</p>	<p>Motion: By Kim Second: By Lucas Motion Carried</p>

Budget Workshop	Jessi: Budget sheets did go out, 4th quarter workshop will be a budget meeting if it occurs. Still waiting for finance committee.	
Notices:	<p>Annual Meeting 1.30.2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget items: Two weeks in advance • CR Updates/Changes: 30 days prior. • By law Updates/changes: 30 days prior. <p>• Council is suppose to serve coffee this upcoming Sunday.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Items: • Gift for P Jordan 	Phil: P Jordan was a fan of Legos We can send in a picture of FLC and they can make a custom Lego set. Phil will research. Phil will send out an email with findings.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing Prayer 	P Reggie	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Adjourned 	Motion To Adjourn at 9:54	Motion: By Tom Second: By Lucas
Executive Session		

Recorded by: Todd Werner Date: 11.16.2021