



**Church Council Meeting
November 20, 2023**

Location: Abiding Grace Conference Room

Call to Order – *Jonathan*

7:00pm

Members Present: Pastor Nick, Jonathan Kraatz, Pete Marquart, Jane Seris, Claudia McWhorter, Bob Hill, Craig Womeldorph, Tom Brekhus, Lisa Derasaugh, Lori Anderson, Jerry Court, Simon Scholtz, Jonathan Charlton

Absent:

Opening Prayer/Devotion:

Lori gave devotion

Claudia McWhorter volunteered for December devotion

Approval of Minutes – *Jonathan*

Approved

Treasurer's Report – *Craig*

Update on Accounting conversion

- Had meeting with accounting firm Dondi with Somervell and Associates for support as we go through conversion of accounting software
- Issues centering around entering payments to where they belong in Quickbooks to give us the detailed reports we needed
- We are in process of training Jo and our finance committee volunteers on current Quickbooks version to more efficiently enter transactions
- Craig reported monthly donations have been decreasing past couple months to put Operation Budget below our council recommended balances of 1 ½ month operations threshold
- Pastor Nick recommended while we are working on conversion, at a minimum, provide report showing the giving and expenses for each month and year to date (Pastor Nick typically sends this out in monthly email)
- Received canceled mortgage



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Committee Reports – See attached collection of reports.

- Due to many events being scheduled for December 2nd, Worship and Music will move Christmas decorating to Sunday, November 26 after service and then again on Friday December 1

Visioning Committee

- Current Vision Committee Members: Pastor Nick, Jonathan Kraatz, Kristen Etheredge, David Derasaugh, Tony Seris, Becky Mishoe
- Still needing to recruit 1-3 more people: need more diversity (under 40 and newer members – less than 5 years)
- Revised timeline – hoping to have first meeting by end of year 2023

Building Use Approval / Fundraising Approval

No approvals received

Old Business

- Property Survey
Waiting for final draft from Craig Williamson and Tim Schuetz
Pastor Nick will briefly explain each proposed project at time of survey
- Proposed staff positions
Lori shared Business Manager job description she received from former business manager at former church
Pastor Nick recommended we share this job description with Buffy to prepare job description to present at congregational meeting in January
Table other two job descriptions for now (Music Secretary, Marketing)

New Business

- Advent Dinner December 3rd
Prepare for about 150 people
Jerry Court is open to suggestions
- Wednesday Advent Dinners
Lori asked if any plans for Wednesday Advent Dinners
Lisa will ask Carol and Dee (Fellowship Chairs)



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Lori will volunteer to host first one on Wednesday November 29 (Frito pie dinner)

- **Christmas Eve Schedules**

Service Time:

10am

5pm

7pm

Pastor Nick proposed we have a hot chocolate truck from 4:00- 7:00pm and shared a quote from Hot Chocolate catering (\$1,810.00 for Hot Float Party: four flavors hand scooped, double scoops, 8 toppings)

Pastor Nick stated he has stated people have expressed intentions of making donations to cover the cost

Great way to invite friends

- Promote through local newspaper like Community Impact

Concerns:

- Need to prepare for potential increased attendance at 5:00pm service
- Weather – truck will be out front if weather is nice; at pavilion if weather bad

Motion approved

General Discussion

Nursery Needs:

Not getting volunteers for regular services

We need to hire extra help for Christmas Eve service

Suggestions: Youth Group to help as nursery volunteer runners

We need to make sure we conduct background checks on adult volunteers

Next Meeting December 18 7:00pm

Closing Prayer – Pastor Nick

Meeting Adjourned 8:45pm