



**Church Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2023**

Location: Abiding Grace Conference Room

Call to Order – *Jonathan*

7:03pm

Members Present: Jonathan Kraatz, Vicar Christine, Claudia McWhorter, Lisa Derasaugh, Tom Brekhus, Bob Hill, Lori Anderson, Jane Seris, Craig Womeldorph, Jerry Court, Simon Scholtz

Absent: Pastor Nick, Jonathan Charlton

Opening Prayer/Devotion –

Claudia gave devotion

Lisa Derasaugh volunteered to do one for January meeting

Approval of Minutes – *Jonathan*

Approved

Treasurer's Report – *Craig*

- Update on Accounting conversion
- Total Monthly General Fund Income for past three months (September, October, November) is showing decrease in amounts including electronic offerings.
- Make sure monthly reports are being sent out to congregation (Pastor Nick's email)
- Still need to reconcile credit card amounts and include those in the reports (issue with time to enter amounts)
- Request made that need to be more transparent with the congregation about financial status

Treasurer Report approved

Committee Reports – See attached collection of reports.

● Property – Energy/Electricity

- Tim Schuetz attended to present electricity bids from United Power Group (broker)
- Energy rates are increasing so there is a need to evaluate current rates to decide when/if we want to lock in rates and with which company proposed (NRG, Engie, Green Mountain)
- Choices of fixed rates: 36 month, 48 month, 60 month
- Our contract ends August 2024 – new rate will take effect
- We will receive money back from being taxed past two years



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- Recommended for Property Committee to set timeline to watch prices and decide by around March and bring back to Council

- Member Care:

Question about attendance at Wednesday services – during Advent, about 50 people

Visioning Committee

- Revised timeline
Meet in January and look to have recommendations presented at March council meeting

Building Use Approval / Fundraising Approval

Old Business

- Property Survey
Ongoing, 88 responses as of today (12/18/23)
- Proposed Staff Positions (Business Manager)
Jonathan and Buffy talked about business manager position and will come up with a draft to present at January council meeting

New Business

Property – Replace Church Signs

Asking for \$2300 to spend to update signs

- Add Fellowship Room sign
- Add Handicap Signs
- Change Office Hours sign to Monday – Thursday 10:00am – 3:00pm
- Lighting on signs (needs to be fixed)
- Will come out of Capital Account
- When we receive revised quote, council will vote to approve

Nursery Volunteers

- We still need another adult volunteer but 3-4 youth have volunteered
- January congregational meeting – ask for volunteers



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Volunteers Needed In General

- We need volunteers in general for all ministry areas
- Need training for volunteer duties
- January congregational meeting – ask for volunteers and provide job duty descriptions
- Beginning in January, expand the Breeze sign up distribution list and link job duty descriptions

Wednesday Services

- Beginning in January, Wednesday night services will suspend and only be held during Lent and Advent

Sunday Service Times

Will be discussed at January meeting

Cleaning Service

Questions about cleaning service (frequency, responsibilities)

Property Committee – review cleaning service contract

Preparation for Congregational Meeting

Jonathan will send out sample slide/requirements to council and committee chairs

- 1) Updates on Programming
- 2) Goals for rest of the year
- 3) Volunteer Needs for committees

General Discussion

Closing Prayer – *Vicar Christine*

Meeting Adjourned

9:21pm