

Grace Lutheran Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Members Present: Matt Dettmer, Rick Morris, Sarah DenOuden, Pastor Paige, Pastor Roger, Connie Larson, Julie Oslund, Mark Christiansen

Not Present: Cap Peterson, Ward Ask, Brad Connors, Charlie Priebe, Robin Dulas, Marty Aberle, Tricia Vasquez, Diane Beckman

The meeting was called to order by Matt Dettmer and opened with devotions and prayer. Pastor Roger discussed our need to being emotionally attached to the God we love. Matt called for motion to approve the minutes of September Council meeting; motion was made and approved the minutes.

SCRIP REPORT – Matt reports that the new SCRIP program is finished and will be used for tracking all purchases and sales in SCRIP.

3rd GEAR – Pastor Roger reports that Marty has been very busy with the youth and we continue to keep all our youth and families in our prayers.

GRACE GARDEN – report submitted by Tricia Vasquez, Director: Continuing our gradual increase in enrollment as babies are born and begin to arrive here. Three infants on our waiting list have been born within the last month, and more are coming. Staffing is stable. We have had several different fundraisers (Midland, Butter Braid, and pictures) and are doing our Scholastic Book Fair this week. Anyone is welcome to attend! Yankee Candle fundraiser will begin towards the end of October.

MANAGEMENT – submitted from Brad Connors: I've checked in with Robin this month and there isn't anything that is sticking out as issues at this point. The church is functioning well. I will work to meet with Pastor Roger and Paige over the next month to check in with them. I'm concerned for each of them and the entire staff as they have been burning the candle all week long. Please be sure to pray for our pastors and staff as we all work thorough this tragic event. I want to make sure that they get some down time in the coming weeks to recharge their batteries.

PROPERTY – no report

STEWARDSHIP – no report. Pastor Roger discussed percentage giving and Consecration Sunday, November 13th. We are encouraged to consider our giving as our own spiritual development.

WORSHIP – report by Julie Oslund: We are looking at getting a projector screen for the fellowship hall. Also, the 10:30 worship service will be video taped to play on Channel 8 on Monday evenings at 5:30pm. Volunteers are needed to make this happen.

EVANGELISM: submitted by Diane Beckman: Rally Sunday went very well. Great weather and great participation. New fellowship opportunity – Dinner and a Movie –Thursday, September 15 - Pizza at 6:30 pm, Movie at 7:00 pm. Babysitter will be available at the church Attendance was good, hope to have more join in. A good time was had by all, good movie. Next month, Thursday, October 13th. Movie night is scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month. We welcomed 18 new members on September 25. Fellowship hour between services has started up again. Groups have been contacted to each take a month to provide coffee and goodies. Altar Guild has the month of October. We are sponsoring Kids Against Hunger food pack at the Grace Garage on October 20 from 9-1. 3rd Gear and confirmation students are asked to attend. Everyone is invited to come to pack food for the hungry.

EDUCATION: reported by Sarah DenOuden: The **Christmas Program** is scheduled to take place December 11th at 10:30 am during the second service. Linda Berndt and Trudi Connors are coordinators. Jodie Thompson will be helping with music. The shepherds and teachers will be helping the kids to learn songs and parts. **Sunday School** is off to a good start. We are still looking for Teachers and Shepherds. Student attendance has been good. Jodie Thompson will start working with the kids for music class through out the year. Twyla, Sondra and Sarah are putting a list of duties together for the Sunday School Superintendant role, so that we continue to have a current and relevant description of the duties assigned to that role.

Reports are approved via consent agenda format. Motion made and carried for approval of all Ministry Team reports.

TREASURER REPORT submitted by Mark Christiansen: Working on the setup for the finance committee and budgets. Met with investment committee last night. We will be adding the 75th Anniversary line item; looking at the mileage reimbursement for the pastors, and looking at the interest only loan on the budget. The Budget for 2012 will be ready for next month's meeting.

Motion made and approved to accept Treasurer Report.

PASTOR ROGER'S REPORT – Good things are happening because of gifts to Tanzania – they are training nurses and teachers. Pastor reminds us to continue praying – there are many at Grace needing our support and prayers.

PASTOR PAIGE'S REPORT – Thursday night socials are going well and will continue. Please be sure to check us out – lots of fun for all ages. Many thanks to volunteers and staff in assisting with the youth, and being ready and willing to do whatever needed to be done for Abby Wendland's funeral. We all continue to keep each other in prayer.

BUSINESS and DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Ministry Fair: will be on hold until next year.

Finance Committee update and budgets: The endowment funds will be pulled together as Grace Endowment Funds. The Endowment Committee met with Brenda Moore from ELCA and received education on forming financial committees. Their goal is to 1) pull all the endowment funds under one – Grace Endowment; 2) improve guidelines; 3) prepare fact sheets so church members will know what was done with the monies; 4) encourage giving; 5) develop a Gift Acceptance Policy.

LISTENING POST: none

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Larson
Council secretary