

**Creator Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
December 11, 2014**

Present: Katrina Minton-Davis, Tom Barr, Sara Mahnke, Pastor Heidi Calhoun, Ron Noborokowa, Marcie Reid, Kevin Davis, Nikole Spenny, Jan Shabro

Absent: None

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Devotions/Prayer: Ron offered the Advent devotion.

November 13th Minutes: Ron motion to approve, Nikole seconded. Motion carried.

November 23rd special meeting Minutes: Tom motion to approve, Jan seconded, Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Heidi is working on 3 funeral sermons and many pastoral care items. Joyce passed away last Thursday. Her funeral is 12/12/14. Nancy Marquee went to hospital suddenly and was released and Heidi took her home. Tiana's mother passed away and her funeral is Sunday. Margaret Michaud was in the hospital in November and is now home. Virginia works on membership tasks. Working on project to contact less active members and children who are over 22. Virginia compiled list of recommended individuals (126) for removal from membership of Creator. Council members reviewed this list and will confirm. Inactive members can always return to Creator and be reinstated.

Ron motioned to confirm the list of inactive members. Tom seconded. Motion carried.

Music Ministry update

We've had four really strong applications and interviewed three. Committee has given Heidi permission to call two and ask additional questions. Potential call for 2nd interview. Connie is committed to be music leader until mid-January.

Committee had initial meeting with Consultant on December 10th.

Ministry Team Reports

Fellowship Meeting November 19, 2014

Attending: Petra, Carolyn, Lori, Kim, Lisa

November Event Recap:

- Poorly attended: The 5 of us, plus Lindsey, Emily, and Meghan
- Those attending enjoyed themselves
- Next time, not on a Saturday afternoon. Sundays seem better.
- Tree/leaf activity- we loved it.
- Thinner paint worked better, using paper towels or newspaper to press also worked better.

January Event: 12th Night: Curse of the Mummy Mystery Dinner

Date: Saturday January 10th at 6pm

Who: Adults over 21

What: Potluck Dinner of Main dish, salad/side dish, or dessert

Fellowship team to provide punch/drinks

Cost: \$5/person

- Discussion re: assigning roles for the mystery and asking people to dress the part vs. having Act 1 or others to play the roles and the guest to be guests. As we are wanting to encourage more people to attend, we decided not to ask people to be a part of the mystery.
- Hire Act 1 to perform dinner mystery
- Petra to check with Pastor Heidi regarding ETOH at the event
- Lori to put up sign up for week of Dec 1
- Blurb to Julie
- Using real plates
- Advertizing to start Dec 7

December Meeting at Carolyn's for Christmas Party at 6pm: Carolyn to do main dish.
BYOB

From Sunday's quarterly ministry teams:

Next meeting is Feb 8.

Send minutes to Julie.

Sending meeting schedule to Virginia: 4th Wed at 6pm at the church except Dec.

February event will be pairing with the Mission Fundraiser to help promote and assist with getting entertainment. Tentative date that Petra got from Terri is January 31.

Name change: Discussed changing the name of the committee to reflect what we do, as there are many activities happening in the church that are fellowship in nature.

Ideas: other words that mean fellowship: affability, comradery, association, companionship, friendliness

Team will continue to work on this.

**CREATOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITATION AND WELCOME TEAM MEETING
November 18, 2014**

Meeting Minutes

- The Invitation and Welcome Team Mission and Vision Statement Was Approved:
Mission/Vision Statement: Creator Lutheran welcomes all God's people in worship and fellowship. Creator invites our local neighbors into relationship by actively sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Visitors are warmly greeted, affirmed, and invited to return.
- 2015 Goals:
 - o Recruit more Team members
 - o Complete two missing member outreach efforts
 - o Schedule the Welcome Center staffing 90% of time
 - o Complete a "major make over " of the Welcome Center to become more appealing
 - o Conduct a congregational survey to glean input for marketing focus
 - o Participate in 3 community events with Creator Booth/presence
 - o Complete Creator Website update and revision
 - o Positively influence "Creator culture" so that all members are welcoming to visitors
- The I&W team will send "Missing You" cards, with holiday worship information to 30+ members and frequent visitors to encourage worship and introduce Pastor Heidi by 12/1/14
- The probable 2015 budget was discussed. The I&W Team will survey the congregation in early 2015 on phonebook /newspaper advertising and may revise marketing efforts
- Welcome Center: The I&W Team will purchase a brochure rack in early 2015 to make brochures more accessible and begin cleaning up behind the Welcome Center

- The December Welcome Center staffing schedule was partially completed by attending Team members
- Meeting Times: The Team will continue to meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM. ****NO MEETING IN DECEMBER***
- The current website review/revision process was shared and feedback continues to be good.

**Minutes of the Church and Society Team
November 4, 2014**

The meeting was called to order with a prayer. We discussed various ways to divide up the tasks of our holiday celebration. Cathy Coleman will set up the Apple Cup Food Drive, Stephanie Nehser will set up the Layette drive for Auburn Pregnancy Aid, and Paula Eismann will set up Adopt a Christmas family, and Gift of Hope program.

Distribution of funds were as follows:

Tacoma Rescue Mission-\$200

Sumner food bank- \$200 regular giving, \$100 Back pack program

Bonney Lake food bank-\$300 regular giving; \$150 back pack program.

We will use the remained of our money, \$100, to provide for some gas vouchers in December.

The meeting was closed with a prayer.

**Minutes of The Church and Society Team
December 2, 2014**

The meeting was opened with scripture from Isaiah 11.

We discussed the need to fill in the blanks regarding Adopt a Family. Paula will contact people to help, and Judy will assist. We had a request from the Sumner Bonney Lake Ministerial Association for financial help. We decided to help them on a one time basis. We are focusing on emergency housing this month.

The distribution of funds were as follows:

Sumner Food Bank- back pack program \$150
Bonney Lake Food bank -back pack program \$200
Open Hearth \$300
Tacoma Rescue Mission \$300

We closed the meeting in prayer.

Worship Team Meeting October 30, 2014

Dean opened in Prayer and shared devotion on walking the talk from Sermon Central.com Paraphrased: What is noticed in our witness today is the lack of our authenticity. The younger generation is questioning our own commitment to the Lord by not only what we say but what we do.

This was a great segue way to the conversation on an article Pastor Heidi sent on What Worship Style Attracts the Millennials? Style of Worship is not their primary focus. Instead they seek worship services and music with three major elements: Music to be rich in content with songs that reflect biblical and theological truths. They also desire authenticity and quality worship services that reflect adequate preparation in time and prayer. They walk away from congregations focused inwardly and any fighting about style of music, hymnals, screen projections, choirs or praise teams... Food for Thought!

Pastor Music Director/Pianist update- Pastor Heidi reported that the job listing posted today, October 30th . The hiring team is Dan Lysne, Bill Nesher, Cheri Dunn and Cynthia Winchell. We are hopeful for a good candidate pool to draw from but it was emphasized that if the right person/s doesn't become evident we will continue to have Connie provide her excellent music leadership. With help from Daniel as needed.

Discussion around Mystery Worshiper and how worship looks/feels to our visitors; Good Reviews....

Some discussion with new team members on what worship team does; and the different roles within this team. Focus for Novembers along with developing job description.

Nov.2-All Saints Sunday was well received, thank you Pastor Heidi for providing a beautiful bell sound. Creator needs to obtain one for this rich yearly tradition. Feedback obtained: that there was not an easy way to get names in. (Forgot after services) Suggested adding insert into bulletin or drop box like Poinsettia box for next year. Julie reminded us that we advertised for 3+ weeks. Remember to revisit for next year...

Worship Team Present: Pr. Heidi, Rich Hurley, Rexanne Graham, Katrina Minton-Davis, Bryan Davis, Nancy Marquiss, Dean and Leah Ramberg

Next Meeting: November 20th-7PM; 6:45 Dinner Starts thanks Nancy Marquiss for Hosting.

Youth & Family Team Meeting Notes 11/6/14

Attended: Terri, Pastor Heidi, Lisa, Lindsey, Karen, Donna, Leah, and Jennifer
Christmas Party Date (until 7:20) - Team discussed and agreed on moving the Christmas Party to December 28th @ 5:00.

2015 Goals (until 7:35) - Team reviewed and agreed on Children's Education goals that were added to the overall goal list for 2015. List can be seen in separate document sent with these notes.

Christmas and Advent Discussion - Team discussed some logistics and ideas around this year's season.

- High School youth will discuss whether or not they are interested in decorating tree in overflow room (younger youth won't be able to this year). If they are, Terri will follow up with Leah and let her know we need the tree.
- Leah asked about Advent booklets being ordered. Jen will follow up with Tiana (update...Tiana let us know that we already have enough on site for this year).
- Team discussed emphasizing the reason for advent during the Sunday the kids make Advent Rings. Terri will tie to this with Circle Time. Tiana and Pastor Heidi can discuss whether to address this during Children's Circle.

Mission Trip Discussion - Discussed the emotion tied around this topic and talked about stepping back from this right now and allowing it to be part of a bigger discussion over the next year on where the church is going. Taking time will allow open forum discussion around this and will allow people an opportunity to share their opinion.

- Terri will move ahead with plans for Jr. High mission trip this coming summer. She'll share two different ideas with the confirmation group and their parents for their feedback. If input is split, Terri will make the call.
- Pastor Heidi and Jen will look into a summer option for 6th/7th graders as a step up activity to mission trips (for example, a camp experience).

Parking Lot - These are topics to explore further at future team meetings.

- Should we consider doing something different for Halloween next year?
- Should we consider expanding our summer outreach to children?
- o Example - Another week of VBS that is music and drama oriented

- How can we partner with other Lutheran churches and how can we share our resources with other churches?
- Should we consider acquiring another bounce house?
- o Is this an opportunity for a Thrivent fundraiser?
- Should we consider a name change of this team to Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Team?

Treasurer's Report

November revenue was above expenses - it was a five Sunday month. Actual giving for November was \$39,213 and November expenses were \$33,442 (\$5,771 surplus). YTD Revenue = \$369,625 and Expenses = \$352,916 (\$16,709 surplus). Discussion regarding 2015 Budget

Tom moved to approve Treasurer's report, Ron seconded, motion carried.

Old Business

Personnel update - Music Ministry: See Pastor's Report

Initial Meeting with Consultant - Ron reminded us that the day-long meeting (9am-3pm) on January 24th is being planned.

New Business

- Council photo for website
- New devotional for Council Members - discussion of specific chapter(s) will replace Council Meeting devotionals. First chapter for discussion on 1/8/2015 is "A Lutheran Confession".
- Nominating Committee confirmation - for Finance Committee. Heidi reviewed church minutes and noted that we haven't voted on a Finance Committee member since 2010/2011. We haven't voted on a Nominating Committee member since 2010/2011. Mike Rutkosky, Judy Richardson, Scott Perkins and Katrina Minton have volunteered to be voted on at the Congregational meeting as Nominating Committee members (term January-June 2015).

Sara made a motion to place four individuals (Mike, Judy, Scott, and Katrina) in front of the Congregation for a vote to act as members of the Nominating Committee. Ron seconded. Motion carried.

- January Congregational meeting - January 25th. Tom suggested that we let Ministry Team leaders know on Sunday (12/14) that their annual reports will be presented at the meeting. Julie will need reports by January 7th.
- Discussion about Operations position
- Discussion about Pastor Elaine's return - Heidi called to invite Elaine back to Creator's congregation and ask her to preach on December 21st.

Prayer concerns of the group were shared and meeting closed with prayer.

Tom made a motion to adjourn. Marcie seconded. Meeting adjourned.

The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:00 p.m.

In His Service,

Sara Mahnke

Council Secretary

Next Scheduled Meeting: January 8, 2015

Snacks/Devotions: Ron