



Congregation Council Minutes

September 12, 2016

Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

Meeting Minutes

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Council Members in Attendance: Joni Barrott, Davis Carmichael, Nona Gram, Karen Grams, Art Gurtel, Ben Johnson, Scott Lester, Pastor McEachran, Kendra Mills, Debbie Szabo, Ann Thorpe, Mark Thorpe

Members Excused: Steve Serex, Misty Weber

Staff Members in Attendance: Emily Harrow, Susan Hegedus, Will Simpson

Guest: Gavin Johnson

The Council met for worship. Pastor McEachran gave a devotional based on 1 Corinthians 13. We usually hear this passage at a wedding. He spoke of how a family wanted to have it read at a memorial service, because that was how their family member lived his life. On Sunday, there was a baptism with 5 generations represented, and about 40 people in the family to support Luke Davis and his parents. 92 year old great grandmother was determined to be there, and her son from South Dakota came at her insistence. Love has no bounds. 5 generations represent providence. Luke will know he is never alone as he walks his faith. Where charity and love prevail there is God. Because of Jesus, there are we.

discipleFit Presentation:

Todd Carmichael, Stewardship Committee Chairperson gave a presentation on the stewardship campaign. Discipleship will be defined for the congregation. Commitment Sunday will be November 20th.

Goals:

- Spiritual, Mental, Physical
- Tactics – Stewardship brainstormed suggestions on how committees can meet one or more goals
- Activities/Events – Send to Susan with the goal it fits so publications reflect the campaign
- Have opportunities for congregation members to sign up or gain information about different committees
- Encourage committees to participate in campaign through May/June

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church was called to order at 7:47 pm by President Scott Lester.



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Welcome to Karen Grams:

Karen Grams was welcomed as the newest member of Council. She was Lutheran before she was born, and comes from a long line of pastors and church goers. She has a BA in Nursing, and came to Saint Andrew's knowing that we have parish nurses. She immediately connected with Stella Nieman and is one of our parish nurses. She also loves the music at Saint Andrew's.

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Art Gurtel and seconded by Mark Thorpe. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Election of Vice President:

- Nominations – Art Gurtel and Mark Thorpe who declined
- Scott shared what the role entails
- Remaining two years of Dave Holzboog's term to be elected at the Annual Meeting
- Pastor moved to close nominations. Debbie seconded.
- Art was unanimously elected as Vice President until January.
- Pastor moved to appoint Karen Grams as a member of Council. Art seconded. Motion was voted on and unanimously approved.

Updates:

- Staff Transition Task Force – The task force recommends the hire of Sherry Grindeland to the 0.25 FTE Fellowship Coordinator position. Motion to hire Sherry was made by Karen Grams and seconded by Art Gurtel. There was a question about the other position. It is still open, and there may or may not be growth of the Fellowship Coordinator position. STTF believes it is best to hire the FC position as it is the most critical. STTF is now dissolved. Vote to hire Sherry Grindeland was unanimously approved.
- Signage Working Group – FYI: The group is now dissolved. Signage will move forward.
- Design Advisory Group – FYI: Will have a meeting with Executive Committee in attendance on October 25. Schematics are at or under cost.
- Parking Lot and Sound Transit Commuters – South Bellevue P&R will close in January. Saint Andrew's is the first church to complete work to accommodate ST commuters. Signage in place was a requirement of ST, however, Kurt added signage indicating no Bellevue College parking.
- Fall Planning – Pastor McEachran challenged the Council to read the bulletin as a 50 year old and as a young family looking for a church. It serves as a litmus test of a congregation in action.



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Finance Report:

Joni Barrott reported that in general we are close to budget. Jerry Mack has resigned as chair. John Andresen will convene through 2016 while a new chair is recruited. Russ is needing to have an additional signer of checks. Jerry Mack will continue to be a signer as needed.

The Finance Committee reviewed the Audit Report. There are no huge concerns, and will be presented to Council in October or November. A couple items were moved from 2014 to 2015. Everything else was completed.

Committee Reports, Actions, and Other Matters:

- Building and Property – no report
- Communications – Susan shared current items of focus.
 - Pictures of the photo directory will be taken.
 - Work continues on the website.
 - The committee would like to have a new DSLR purchased.
 - Also want to upgrade camera in sanctuary to allow streaming of services.
 - Scott suggested Council member volunteer to be available during photo directory times. Susan needs greeters on 9/20 and 9/24. Also needs people to make phone calls to encourage members to be photographed. Pastor thanked Susan, Dick Swaisgood and the photographing team (Chad Oftedal, Sam Gunasekaran, Judi Miller, and Lauren Sanner).
- Discipleship Ministries – Did not meet. New chair is Joyce Kaspar.
- Health and Wholeness Ministry – Art shared highlights.
 - The committee went through the surveys led by Karen.
 - October 9 will offer flu shots.
 - October 25 will wrap LWR personal care packages.
- Human Resources – Chair Dianne Chong requested a Council representative as they do not have one. Karen Grams agreed to serve.
- Outreach and Servant Ministries – Did not meet. Debbie shared key areas of focus.
 - Corner of Blessing: canned chili for EFP
 - Will participate in Mayor's Day of Concern on Saturday.
 - CFH needs volunteers to make and deliver meals.
- Stewardship – Covered in presentation. Will meet again in October. Graphic will be emailed to committee chairs.
- Worship and Liturgical Arts – no report
- EOP Task Force – Mark suggested misconduct likelihood be rated higher and have someone assigned to that item. Scott asked Karen to take that to HR to address. Karen shared that the process has just begun. They plan to put together a document for congregation use.



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Staff Reports/Inputs:

Will shared the Orchestra will be coming soon. Groups are up and running.

Susan shared much of her work right now is on the photo directory.

Emily shared that SCS officially starts next Sunday. New members of staff are Katrina Rindy, Sue Trudell, Karin Eklof, and Jessica Allen who still needs a co-teacher. She encouraged Council to mention Discipleship to others so that it makes it easier to recruit. She has begun a new program for Crosswalk with a team of six teaching in rotation. Mark shared that Emily facilitated a training meeting for SCS and ABC teachers.

Senior Pastor's Report:

Pastor McEachran shared more about the baptism represented by five generations. Emily presented the ABC program to 10 sixth graders. In 1987, Saint Andrew's committed funds to Saint Andrew's Housing Group, which is now Imagine Housing and has grown considerably. Pastor Telyea will have his installation on September 25. Erin and her family will be moving to Snoqualmie September 17. Nancy will serve as her department chair at BC. She is to be hooded in her doctorate in May. The bulletin covers took our building to the ends of the Earth. Next week will show the altar.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment:

Pastor McEachran closed with the Benediction.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm by President Scott Lester.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be October 10, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nona Gram
Council Secretary