

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
on Tuesday, July 19th, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

Vision Statement: *Peace Lutheran Church is a welcoming, worshipping and witnessing community in Jesus Christ through whom healing, wellness, love and peace are offered unconditionally to all.*

Mission Statement: *Celebrating and Sharing God's Love for All.*

ATTENDANCE:

In-person: Janet Van der Wees (Co-chair), Ina Toso (Co-chair), Fiona Haapalehto (Secretary), Mike Balzer, Tapio Haapalehto and Pastor Ronnie Smith

Via Zoom: Gloria Zorn, Sunny Wishart (Treasurer)

Regrets: Jeremy West

1. **Call to Order:** Jan called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
2. **Opening:** Fiona did the opening devotion. Mike will do it in September.
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** moved by: Fiona, seconded by: Ina.
THAT the agenda for Tuesday, July 19th, 2022, be approved, as amended. Discussion: None. CARRIED

4. **Approval of the Previous Minutes:** Moved by Tapio, seconded by Ina:
THAT the Minutes of the Church Council Meeting held on June 14th, 2022, be approved. Discussion: None. CARRIED.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Sunny summarized her written report.

- You'll note that we have converted back to the old format of financials, we were struggling to get the new format to line up with our values and the finance team feels that the Quickbooks reports, although they are robust, were not clearly providing the financial information required for transparency of our monthly inflows and outflows, along with annual budget tracking. Thanks for trying this out!
- HST filed online for the period of Jan.-June 2022, expecting \$1,293.72
- W&A is over 80% YTD (\$2,436 on an annual budget of \$3,000), All Creations Sings was purchased in June for \$822. Last year W&A came in at \$2,753 for the whole year. Are there projections of how much more will go out from this account?
- Quarterly cheques have been issued for the dedicated funds:
 - CLWR: \$150
 - Olive Branch: \$2,465
 - Food Bank: \$560
- Stained glass window funds have come in and there's a new line item on the Special Purpose Fund (*this was changed from the original report which said, in error, that they would be in a restricted fund*).

- Computer fundraising: Donations have been coming in to purchase a desperately needed church computer, we have set up a new line for this in the restricted funds (*Tapio updated the Council that the computer was repaired and does not need to be replaced at this time*)
- Note: On the June 26th count, they indicated the General Fund offering was \$615, but it should only be \$365 as there were two donations for the computer through envelope. One for \$200 and one for \$50, so the deposit for General Fund was \$365, plus the \$20 for Plate, and \$250 for computer which totals \$635. The only e-transfer for the computer was \$500.

Moved by Tapio seconded by Gloria:

THAT the Treasurer’s Report & Financial Statements, as amended, be approved.

Discussion: Tapio mentioned that Phil Walke fixed the office computer with a new hard drive, added a new Office package and an external hard drive to back up the church’s data. These expenses will go through office supplies. Tapio would like to inform the congregation about the measures taken to address our office computer issue. He will write an article for the August newsletter. Sunny will adjust the quarterly report.

Ronnie mentioned there is a MacBook Air laptop that has been donated and could be used in the office. Donors who submitted funds recently for a new office computer could be asked for permission to redirect their donations to another urgent need. We could transition to the MacBook Air laptop or a new desktop computer after our current computer fails. A decision about how to treat the incoming funds for the new computer was not reached. **CARRIED**

Sunny left the meeting at 7:43 pm.

New Business:

a. Insurance Renewal 2022-2023

Cherry Insurance is looking for a new signed Statement of Values and Bill Gregor has suggested we use the new values per the increased policy limits, Building \$1,995,000, Contents \$153,000, Pastor's Belonging \$3,000.

The renewal premium is \$8,413.20. Jan will sign the required Statement of Values form using these figures and submit to Cherry Insurance ASAP along with the payment.

b. Distribution of new computer donations

See the Discussion of this issue which took place as part of the Treasurer’s Report before Sunny left the meeting. A decision was not reached.

c. The Website – Ina

Ina has suggested she look into changing the platform for our website. The provider she is looking into is FaithLife. We may be able to reduce our operating costs and the complexity of website maintenance with this provider. Council gave her the go-ahead.

d. Proposal for the CTK stained-glass window installation

Tapio sent out images of 3 proposals how to set up the stained-glass windows. One was from Bill Vanderboor and involves having an electrician install power to light the LED panels. The other two were by Tapio, in consultation with Jeremy, and will use the power from the wall sconce in front of the tech booth. The sconce will be removed and the power for the LED panels will come from there.

After discussion, Council agreed it should be installed on the east wall to line up with the window opposite, about 9” above the radiator, and cover the cable channel that runs down the wall.

Bill Vanderboor provided an estimate of \$5,000 to \$6,000 to install windows.

Old Business:

e. Follow up on Visioning – Pastor Ronnie:

Shannon Jackson has proposed Sept 11 and 25th after worship services. Council prefers Sept 25 and Oct 16. Pastor Ronnie will reschedule with Shannon.

Pastor Ronnie suggested that as part of our future ministry activities Peace members could be asked to support Camp Lutherlyn, where our confirmation class attended earlier this month. They had staff that looked after food and camp counselors who looked after the kids. He mentioned that studies have shown that camp experiences are the best way to keep youth engaged with church. Pastor Ronnie asked for agreement to promote financial donations in support of kids who can’t afford to go to camp. Surplus funds can go directly in support of the Camp.

Motion by Tapio, seconded by Mike;

To create a line item on the budget for donations in support of Camp Lutherlyn.

Discussion: none. CARRIED

f. Updating Active Members and Friends list- Pastor Ronnie

Pastor Ronnie distributed a new list. He eliminated quite a few names. There are still a few question marks for people Pastor Ronnie is following up with.

g. Update on Bible Study Group:

As of July 7th we have an agreement with Christ Embassy Dunamis Youth for 3 hrs, 4-7pm every Sunday, \$120 per week. They have a key and a code. Tapio checked up the next day and things were good.

6. Prayers for the People

Pastor Ronnie shared the names of people for whom prayers are requested. Names have also been shared with the intercessors.

7. Correspondence

None this month.

8. Reports: Verbal reports were requested for the following committees/activities.

• Property

- Tapio reported he received the invoice for \$849.73 from our contractor, Bill Vanderboor, for removing and transporting the stained-glass windows. There is no HST as he is a small, occasional contractor.
- Tapio recommended Bill do the installation. Council agreed.
- There was a tripped alarm on July 10-11. It was caused by a Rogers wireless outage. Tapio attended the church and reset the system clock with ADT remote support.

- Tapio created a Property Committee online repository. The goal is to have all the documentation for the Insurance inventory in an accessible central place. Fiona will add the credentials to the church secretary records.
- Cameron is still concerned about the speed of our internet service. If Council wants Tapio to look into it he will contact Rogers & Bell for an estimate. We will have to fund the infrastructure. Kateryna has done some of this research so it may not need to repeat it. Bell did improve service the last time Kateryna was in touch with them. Tapio will speak to Kateryna.
- **Health Cabinet:**
 - Tapio reported that supply issues are still delaying the new battery for the AED.
 - There is no further update from the Health Cabinet.
- **Worship & Arts:**
 - Fiona reported that W&A had a meeting June 28th.
 - Arrangements were made for covering worship services during Pastor Ronnie's vacation. The liturgy will be printed out from Sundays and Seasons for the leaders.
 - *(Pastor will update the outdoor sign.)*
 - We have enough wine to last until year end.
 - Ron vanderWees has made two holders for our lighters and will install them at the front and back of the Sanctuary.
 - We worked on a schedule for picking up Heddi until Elizabeth returns
- **Mutual Ministry:**
 - Fiona reported that an MMC meeting was held July 18th.
 - Work has commenced to conduct performance reviews for the Office Administrator and the Pastor.
 - Pastor will resume office hours in September on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10am - 1pm, he will also resume a scheduled day off which will be every Monday.
 - Kateryna will require time off following surgery in September. Fiona and Sunny are liaising with ELCIC Group Services about her pay entitlement for this period.
- **Congregational Life:**
 - Veggie Garden – Jan said we have a food bank we have donated to in the past. Pastor and others are watering. Peace Food Garden will be added as a regular item to the agenda.
 - Gloria has asked Rosie to identify the role of the people doing coffee.
 - People on the telephone committee are not all following up. Gloria asked to dissolve the committee and she would call the 14-15 people who do not have email. Gloria was asked to ask for help if needed.
- **Pastor's Report**
 - Covering Pastor Jordan Smith from Emmanuelle for two weeks. 1 funeral
 - Confirmation Camp July 3-8. Took four Confirmation students to Camp Lutherlyn for their inaugural Confirmation Camp. Everyone had a really great time and the facilities and programming were excellent.
 - Scribbler to Scribe – 11 of 12 episodes of season 2 recorded.
 - Sunday services – in person/live stream

- Moved to optional mask policy for services.
- Weekly sermon preparation, reading, writing, collegial discussions
- Produce/coordinate services, order of service, full and concise versions. Excel sheet for use by the Tech Team, help coordinate volunteers/worship assistants, live stream uploads and distribution, tech support, etc.
- Arnold continues to preach once per month. Pastor meets with Arnold before and after to coach/debrief
- Music Team rehearsal each Sunday, hymn selections in coordination with Kirsten and Eleanore, etc.
- Introducing a lot of material from All Creation Sings.
- Ongoing participation/engagement with intercessor prayer group. Often requires follow up visits/phone calls/texts/emails
- Confirmation class is on summer break.
- Communications: email, phone calls, zoom calls, texts, social media posts, newsletter/gratitude corner submission, review of Synodical and National church communications, etc.
- Monthly council meeting
- Mutual Ministry has reconvened after a long break due to COVID.
- Worship & Arts has reconvened so that we can prepare for my vacation time. We will not be having a live stream during those four weeks and we will have lay-lead services of the Word.
- Monthly Newsletter/Gratitude Corner submission
- Peace Veggie Garden meeting/communications – Tuesday is my day in the rotation to water the garden.
- Rentals: Pastor is available to cover rentals if volunteers are not available.
- Ongoing updates to members and friends list. *(a new list is now available)*

- YouTube Statistics: (2 Months)
 - 1101 Views
 - 207.3 Watch Time (hours)
 - 112 Subscribers (+ 4)
- Facebook Statistics:
 - Reach 584 (29 Posts)
 - Page Likes 258

9. **Closing Prayer:** Fiona did the closing prayer.

10. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Next Council Meeting – **Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm via hybrid Zoom & in person model**