

Messiah Lutheran Church ELCA Council Meeting

Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 12:25 pm - Conference Room 112

Council Members present: Pastor Mark Cerniglia, Becky Breeden, Angela Kronau, Michele Wilson, Davin Henrik, Jon Driskill, Cristall Mount, Jack Wilder

Council Members absent: Susan Hamilton, Carolyn Lawhorn, Steve Hess

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order: Angela Kronau / Lunch by Jack Wilder & Opening Devotion by Jack Wilder

We gathered for lunch at noon in the fellowship hall then proceeded to Conference room 112. Angela called the meeting to order at 12:25 pm. Jack Wilder led us in the opening devotion reading from Romans then sharing personal life experiences and commenting that "Life challenges do not deter God from accepting you as less of a person".

2. Approval of September Minutes

The September Council Minutes were presented for approval and discussion. Michele Wilson made a motion that the Minutes be approved, Jack Wilder seconded the motion and the September Council minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Finance Update

Steve Hess was not in attendance at today's meeting but emailed a September and YTD Financials with the following highlights that Angela reviewed.

- 2024 income and spending plan \$29,878 per month
- September **General Fund Income** was \$11,861 above plan
- General Fund income is **\$2,261** below plan YTD. 1% off (giving is 2% off)
- General Fund income is **\$2,807** below last year at the same time
- September **General Fund Expenses** were \$3,075 below plan
- General Fund expenses are \$9,478 below plan YTD
- General Fund expenses are \$21,788 below last year at this time
- September General Fund **Unrestricted Cash** reserves have decreased to **\$32,371**
- This is 4.7 weeks worth of cash
- At this comfortable level of unrestricted cash, I recommend General Fund spending at plan.
- In October we will gather team spending plans & member giving intentions
- In November we will present a 2025 spending plan to Council
- In December we will present a 2025 spending plan to the Congregation

4. Building Use Fees Updated

Michele Wilson, Jon Driskill and Susan Hamilton formed an ad hoc team to update the building use fees. This plan was presented to council using the TN Valley Unitarian as a benchmark/guideline for building use fees as they were in line with the size of Messiah. It was noted that wedding policy fees will supersede the newly revised building use fees.

A motion was made by Michele Wilson to approve the 2025 Building Use Fees and Jon Driskill seconded. Vote was unanimous to approve.

5. **Correspondence, updates, building use request, etc.**

EGA group that meets at Messiah on a regular basis is budgeting for their 2025 year. Their yearly building use fees to Messiah are given on a one time payment for their various meetings. In 2023 their annual payment was \$850; in 2024 their annual payment was \$1,200. It was suggested by Council that their 2025 one time building use fee be \$1,400. Davin Henrik made a motion to this request and Becky Breeden seconded. All approved the 2025 one time building use fee for EGA group to be \$1,400.

6. **Monthly Reports**

Monthly reports were presented in the council packet. No action needed by council.

7. **New Council Member Roster Approval**

The nominating committee composed of council members rotating off council in December of this year consists of Michele Wilson, Jon Driskill and Becky Breeden. They brought forth names for consideration on the election ballot to replace the outgoing council members. Judy Mennel has agreed to be on the ballot; Martha MacCabe and Rick Christian were asked to be candidates as well. *(NOTE: Martha MacCabe agreed during the council meeting and Rick Christian agreed shortly after the meeting was adjourned.)*

8. **Messiah Forward Update**

Due to the future decisions at Messiah that need to be made; the report will be presented after the pastor is called and accepted so they can be involved in the process.

9. **Other Business**

Two young teens that are new members of the church (Ornella and Destinee' Lwanga) are in need of laptops for their educations. Michele Wilson made a motion that Messiah request use of Badenhop funds for the purchase of 2 laptops at \$800 each from Best Buy. Best Buy will include a one year subscription to Microsoft products for the laptops. Jack Wilder seconded this motion. All of the council approved. *(NOTE: After the meeting, Pastor Mark shared this information with Mary Sophia Hawks, Parish Nurse and she presented to the Badenhop Steering Committee for a vote. Several members approved before Steve Hess suggested that since the Children and Youth Faith Formation Designated Fund currently has a balance of \$8,473 the purchase come from that fund instead of Badenhop. Doug Mason received approval from Mary Williamson, Chair of the Discipleship Committee.)*

Jon Driskill reported that the men's bathroom now is in need of repairs. A quote from Quality Plumbing in the amount of \$1,200 was received for repairs. It was suggested that the council postpone accepting this quote upon further review. No vote was made.

Jon Driskill also reported that Messiah has a new one year contract for service of the elevator with United Elevator Services.

Inquiry was made as to how the call process was progressing. Pastor Mark Cerniglia reported that Pastor Hemphill was waiting on the profile for Messiah before interviewing candidates.

10. Adjourn with Prayer

President Angela Kronau closed & adjourned the meeting with prayer at 1:30 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Cristall Mount in Carolyn Lawhorn's absence

Dated: October 22, 2024

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING, Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 12:00 noon

Meal: Cristall Mount Devotion: Michele Wilson

Reports Due: Thursday, November 7, 2024

Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, November 12, at 6:30 via Zoom