

Ascension Lutheran Church – Council Meeting Minutes

Littleton, Colorado

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

In attendance:

Council Members: Tom Munson, *Barbara Rutter*, Linda Achziger, *Pastor John Larson*, Anita Baresel, Terry Utecht, Tim McClaren, Stephanie Roettjer, Scott Luethy, Joyce Lord,

Excused: Margo Pasha, Ian Kirschner, *Mike Zehnder*, Christa Kirschner, Connie Fringer, Norm Fringer

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m. in the choir room at Ascension Lutheran Church (ALC) by the President.

Opening Prayer:

The *Pastor John Larson* offered an opening prayer.

Opening Devotion

Anita Baresel read the devotion, "Friends of God".

Approval of Previous Minutes

October regular meeting minutes were approved.

President

- Getting a slate of nominees for council next year.
- Seeking an assistant for financial secretary, who will take over if Norm is ill.
- Music director position is being discussed

VP

- The constitution committee has made some decisions and hopefully something ready by December.

Treasurers Report

- Attached
- October treasurers report passed unanimously.
- Budget:
 - Motion: Approval of budget for presentation to voters at the December 4 meeting.
 - Passed unanimously

Staff Reports

- **Pastor John Larson**
 - Lutherans for Life asked for funding via email
 - Motion: Donate \$500 from Thrivent Choice dollars to Lutherans for Life.
 - Passed unanimously
 - Voter's needs to nominate person to cast vote at upcoming Synodical Elections.
 - Celebrate Mike Zehnder's ministry at the end of the year, as he is retiring December 31.

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- **Director of Music Ministry – Michael Zehnder**
 - None
- **Director of Education and Youth**
 - Education and Youth reports presented and attached

Board Report

- **Columbarium Memorial Garden**
 - Internment later in November.
- **Community Outreach and Communication**
 - Has a list of ideas to narrow down.
- **Board of Elders**
 - No report
- **Ladies Guild**
 - Attached
- **Parish Education**
 - Attached
- **Social ministry**
 - 708 cans of tuna brought in
- **Stewardship**
 - Pledge cards coming in
- **Trustees**
 - Attached
 - Motion: To approve the invoice from Pristine Plumbing for the replacement of the water heater with expansion tank in the Old Boiler Room for \$2458.00.
 - Passed unanimously
- **Youth**
 - Attached

New Business

- None

Announcements

- Next Voter's Meeting – December 4, 2022
- Next Council Meeting – December 13, 2022
- Board of the Month (December 2022) – Trustees

Board of the Month duties includes:

Devotions for Council Meeting, "Happenings" newsletter article each week, coffee cleanup

Adjournment

- At 7:43 p.m. the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

———— Respectfully Submitted by Barbara Rutter, Secretary

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HANDOUTS

Education Report

Nov. Sunday school continues with good turnout. Christmas program preparations have begun. We have 10 kids signed up for the handbell portion of the Christmas program which is a good turnout of youth! There will be a special rehearsal with a “Happy Birthday, Jesus” party afterwards on Saturday, December 17. Trunk or treat went well. We had over 10 trunks (which was our goal!) and had many families from the community and preschool attend as well as families at the church. Preschool aid, Lindy, has handed in her resignation and will be done at the end of November. We found out about this as of yesterday, so no discussions have been had about how to proceed. There is a possibility that we need to compensate her for tuition for her furthering education, but we need to go through contracts first. This Friday will be the November young adult get together at the Lawrenz house.

Ascension Lutheran **Ladies Guild**

Report to Council – November 8, 2022

Ladies Guild is Hosting Orphan Grain Train on Thursday November 17, 2022, at 10:00 am – we moved our meeting from the 10th of November so that someone from Orphan Grain Train could attend our meeting. In-gathering of unopened children’s underwear all sizes. Our Quilters will be giving 12 quilts to Orphan Grain Train.

We are preparing for the Craft and Bake sale on Sunday November 20, 2022. Blurbs are in the Happenings; posters are up throughout the church. We have received the \$1,000 from Thrivent Funds. Chuck Mielke will help the Ladies set-up the tables. We have had a couple of requests for individual tables, we should be able accommodate all the requests. We might need more tables than originally thought, but we can adjust, as necessary.

Edna Achziger, Doris Rohde, and Charlotte Wilkinson are working on putting 30 bags together for the shut-ins. Each bag will contain Peanut Butter and Cheese Crackers, Playing Cards, note pad, pen and pencil, hand lotion, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, individual wrapped candy, etc. Bags will be ready by November 14th. All items were ordered through Amazon. A note was put in everyone’s box letting them know what was being done and asking if they wanted to contribute to the cost of purchasing these items. In previous years we have asked for the congregation to help purchase things, but to save time this year everything was purchased directly from Amazon.

We are preparing to serve dinner on the 7th of December – we just need to know the time and how many folks to expect for dinner.

We are also preparing to host the Appreciation Breakfast on Friday December 16th, we have not done this since COVID so it will be nice to do it again.

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Board of Trustees

Report to Council

November 8, 2022

- 1.0 Toilet in Boys Restroom: The standard toilet has no leak but the automatic flush system is not working and the middle “kids” toilet is leaking. We have again notified Himmelman Construction and they have finally resolved the cause of the problem and will repair both units,
 - 2.0 Leaking water heater: The 1991 water heater in the Old Boiler Room began leaking badly last week. The Preschool is required to have hot water to operate so we ordered and installed a new water heater.
 - 3.0 Motion: To approve the invoice from Pristine Plumbing for the replacement of the water heater with expansion tank in the Old Boiler Room for \$2458.00.
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Youth Ministry Report – 11/8/22

October had the annual planning meeting with some of the youth and parents. This happened after Sunday night live. Participates got to voice their opinion with Stephanie about some of the activities and events to help out with.

The youth board would also like to thank Dennis and Joyce Lord for volunteering their time and helping out with Sunday Night Live in October. They were a great addition and the youth enjoyed interacting with them. So thank you!

Two fundraisers coming up this month as the youth will be selling calendars again this year, and next week is featuring a Parents Morning Out. This is a chance for parents to have their children watched for a few hours so they can get a few things done.

One final note. Next summer’s mission trip destination is Mescalero, New Mexico! More details to come.