

Ascension Lutheran Church Council Meeting minutes – 7/9/24

In attendance:

Council Members: Linda Achzinger, Bob Hea, Terry Utecht, Dawn Munson, Shelia Beu, David Kaiser, Ian Kirschner, Margo Pasha

Unfortunately, we did not meet quorum for this meeting.

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm 7/9/24

Opening Devotion

Devotion delivered by Ian Kirschner (courtesy of Linda)

Approval of Previous Minutes

Approved

Officer Reports

President

Year-end Elections - Vice President, Secretary, Board of Elders Chairperson, Board of Youth Chairperson, and Board for Evangelism Chairperson will all be up for elections. Those whose terms will expire please consider if you would like to continue in that capacity.

Please consider if you would like to serve on a small nominations committee for the next slate of officers and Board chairs. We will start a search in September.

Coffee Under the Trees – We still have two open dates. If no one steps up, Dawn will order donuts from King Soopers.

Vice President

The request to use funding for rent should not be used by Meg's grant money. All funds need to be used by Sept 30th and receipts need to be retained for 3 years

Treasurer's Report

All things are going well, we renewed 100k CD at 4.75%.

A great discussion about the EDP was had. We would love to have Meg join a council meeting to discuss her thoughts, and show her support on how we can help get the EDP at a good place.

Secretary

None

Board Reports

Education

- Covered under Stephanie's report

Youth

- Covered under Stephanie's report

Elder

- Attached

Congregational Life

- Attached

Evangelism

- Attached

Ladies' Guild

- Attached

Trustees

- Attached

Announcements

- Next Council Meeting – 8/13/24
- Next Voter's meeting – 12/1/24
- Board of the Month (August 2024) – Board of Elders

Adjournment

Closed at 7:42 with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Ian Kirschner, fill in Secretary

Elders report for 7/9/2024 Church Council Meeting

1. We continue our search for a director for the Agape and Youth Praise Bands. Three people have expressed an interest in the position. Stephanie and Mike have interviewed one of the candidates and are working on scheduling interviews with the other two candidates.
2. Elders continue discussions on creating an Elder's Handbook, outlining and documenting our responsibilities and duties.
3. Ascension's subscription to Survey Monkey was renewed for another year. The Elders used this to conduct their survey last summer. If anyone would like to create a survey to gather interest in a particular topic, you are welcome to use this subscription. Please contact Dawn for more information.

I am on-call for the bank this week and have some tasks assigned to me for this evening, so I will be unable to attend the meeting.

Blessings,



Ascension Lutheran Ladies Guild
Report to Council – July 09, 2024

Planning Day was June 22nd

September 26, 2024	Ladies Guild General Meeting at 6:00 pm – Guest speaker Michelle Yowell with Convention update (Fellowship Hall)
November 2024	Christmas Gift Bags to be assembled by the Ascension Ladies Guild
November 21, 2024	Ladies Guild General Meeting at 6:00 pm – Guest speakers from Severe Weather Shelter Network (Fellowship Hall)
November 23, 2024	Set-up for Bake and Craft sale from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (Fellowship Hall)
November 24, 2024	Ladies Bake and Craft Sale between worship services (Fellowship Hall)
December 1, 2024	Voter's Meeting (Ladies Guild providing lunch)
December 11, 2024	Ladies Guild to serve 2 nd Advent Dinner
December 13, 2024	Staff Appreciation Breakfast at 8:00 am (Invitation Only)
January 16, 2025	Ladies Guild General Meeting – Brown Bag/Bible Study at 11:30 am with Pastor Larson (Fellowship Hall)
March 5, 2025	Ladies Guild to Serve Ash Wednesday Dinner
March 15, 2025	BINGO for MITES (Fellowship Hall)
April 27, 2025	Voter's Meeting (Ladies Guild providing lunch)
May 15, 2025	Ladies Guild General Meeting (Salad Supper) (Fellowship Hall)
June 1, 2025	Ladies Guild Hosting "Coffee Under the Trees"
June 21, 2025	Ladies Guild Planning Day

These are just a few dates that we have planned for Ladies Guild. We will support any receptions that we are asked to host.

Linda Marquez – Mailing cards to Church membership when necessary (shut-ins, illness, new babies, death of family members, etc.)

Prayer Chain – Doris Rohde and Charlotte Wilkinson

I have sent to Dawn the updated information for the Ladies Guild for the new website

Respectively Submitted
Linda Achziger
LWML Ascension Ladies Guild President

Bd of Congregational Life Report to the Council

July 9, 2024

Welcome Center has been getting some good traffic. We are excited to give it a monthly look. A special thank you to Deb Shiflet who has been creating the welcome center signage. The pens continue to be a popular item and the mints. We have had a few people sign the guest book and Pastor John continues to reach out to them. Our goal is to keep a fresh look monthly and to have the Center for visitors' information only.

Shut-in Visitation – We met with Pastor John on June 15 and received our names and a brief outline on visiting. We presently have 9 volunteers and will start our visiting in July. We plan to give them a scripture stone to remind them that we are thinking of them at Ascension. We hope by word of mouth that more will volunteer to visit and see that this is an easy and exciting way to get to know more of our members.

Fellowship Group

Men's Bible Study - We are still in the process of seeing how this will look. Pastor John thought he might have a few possible leaders. We are hoping for a September beginning date. No update currently.

Brunch Outing with Ladies – We had our first brunch outing at Toast Restaurant with 19 ladies. Great fellowship and lot of interest to continue. We will plan to do another outing the beginning of September.

Bible Retreat at Lutheran Valley Ranch - June 2025 We are in the planning stages of offering a 3-day weekend retreat. We would need a minimum of 50 people and planning to host some fundraisers to help keep cost down. We have 3 dates that are available. The first date available is the June 13-17 which is Father's Day Weekend. The second date available is July 11-15. The last date is August 1-3. We will discuss at our next meeting which date we feel would receive the best response. If you have an opinion, please let me know ASAP. Thanks.

New Member Update - We have a new booklet that we will be sharing with our board this coming Saturday, July 13 and hopefully reaching out to new members to see how we can get them involved. We are so blessed with so many new members right now and want to make them feel welcome at Ascension.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelia Beu

Trustees Report to Council
July 10, 2024

1.0 Roof report: We have another new contact with the DC Law Firm named Peter Salverry. He said that the DC Law Firm is considering the Church Mutual response and is attempting to agree to a claim that is fair and complete. He says that Church Mutual "seems to be willing to provide a reasonable settlement". He also indicated that both Church Mutual and The DC Law firm agree that the West Wing roof was not damaged enough to claim as a loss. So the claim that we are expecting will include the Sanctuary roof, AC units and some small structural damage.

We, (John Rolling, Roger Koester and Chuck Mielke) had a phone conference with Peter that raised several questions that included such items as the type of roof decking on the Sanctuary roof? We were able to confirm that the roof decking is 1 X 8 boards. We we checked with the City of Littleton and confirmed that the present decking will meet the current code requirements. We also determined in our discussion that the office AC unit was not considered in ether organization damage reports. We are hoping hear soon from both of these organizations soon. They funds that we may receive from Church Mutual could be greatly reduced from the numbers that we hoped to receive because of the decision that the west wing roof was not damaged.

2.0 Organ: There is an electronic failure in the organ controls. Mike Zehnder is handling the repair and has been able to contact a repair man. There are funds available in the Organ Refurbish Account. Thank you Mike.

3.0 East end of Sanctuary Project: Description - There is an area next to the concrete wall at the east end of the Sanctuary (Windermere side) that is barren and is approximately 50 feet long and extends into the grass about 6 feet.

Project: I have received a proposal from True Grit Custom Landscape and Design (Member owned by Ben Brehmer - they recently upgraded the parking lot landscape.) to install a terrace box consisting of 6 X 6's. The boxes would be level in a tiered structure with cross timbers. The boxes would be filled with Gorilla Mulch and planted with 7 drought resistant bushes called Apache Plume. The bushes will grow and cover some of the concrete wall and electrical pipe and the bushes should grow well with no irrigation required.

Motion: To approved the landscaping project on the east end of the Sanctuary for \$2700.00. Funds to be used are from the Facility Reserve Account 17-000-0321 that has a balance as of June 2024 of \$22,566.47.

Ascension Trustees

DCE's Report to Council

July 9, 2024

- 1) **KICKS ministry group** (3rd-5th grades) spent Sunday afternoon (June 30th) at Urban Air in Littleton. 7 children attended as well as 4 adults.
- 2) **Youth Mission Trip:** 8 high school youth and 3 adults traveled to Las Animas to help with home repairs. There were around 240 participants on this mission trip. Some of the highlights for the youth were the evening programs, worship times, music, meeting new friends, and interacting with the residents whom we were helping. Youth presentation to the congregation is tentatively planned for Sunday, July 28th during the Bible study hour.
- 3) **Looking forward to the National LCMS Youth Gathering**, next summer, 2025, in New Orleans! This is an important trip that will require a number of big fundraisers throughout the year. We will be starting our first one in September. Possibility of 15-17 high school youth attending! Parent and youth meeting will be held on August 25th.
- 4) **Abuse Training for anyone working with children at Ascension** will be held on August 21st at 6:30 PM. This is a requirement and not voluntary as well as a background check for all.
- 5) **Backpack Blessings:** Sunday, August 11th, kids, youth, and schoolteachers are invited to bring their backpacks to church. During the children's sermon, they will receive a backpack tag that has a prayer on it as well as a discussion on how God is with them as the school year starts up.
- 6) **Parent's Bible study on Raising Daughters in a Toxic Culture** will be held every Sunday in August.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Roettjer