

**IMMANUEL LUTHERN CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

PRESENT MEMBERS: Amy Greenwaldt, Robby Grendahl, Stacey Callahan, Tracy Church, Jane Bagstad, Stephanie Drange, Kent Schmidt, Sara Stone, Tom Kolden, Betty White

ABSENT MEMBERS: Cody Yglesias, Margie Anderson, Mandy Gallant

PRESENT EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Pastor Nate Loer, Pastor Megan Clapp, Diane Teigland

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: President Amy Greenwaldt

8:00 pm Lighting of the Christ Candle

Meeting's Devotion: Diane Teigland: The Holy Spirit is our advocate

Next Month's Devotions: Tom Kolden on October 13th, 2021 at 8:00 pm

What's on your heart and mind?

Minutes from the August meeting accepted. A motion was made by Kent Schmidt and seconded by Stephanie Drange. Motion carried.

KYRIES AND GLORIAS:

Committee Reports

Congregational Life: *Stephanie Drange*

- Met on 8/17/21
 - Planned the picnic at Tapley, good turn out at about 55 people
 - Plan to meet again Sept. 21st at 6 pm
 - Looking at an October get together, possible pumpkin patch night (Ruth Richter or Otter Berry)

Outreach Evangelism: *Sara Stone*

- Did Not Meet
 - 97 bags per week this year for the Backpack club
 1. Will expand into middle school with this project
 2. Working on putting an order in with the food bank to start packing in October

Parish Education: *Margie Anderson*

- Met 9/7/21
 - Solidified plans for September Wednesday evenings with refreshments
 - Talked about scholarship program and expanding that in new ways
 1. Offering as a renewable scholarship
 - Proposal for a pilot project about Genesis to Revelations Literature – this was approved
 - In need of volunteers for Wednesday evenings with serving, preparing or cleaning up refreshments, please talk to Megan

Property Management: *Cody Yglesias*

- Did Not Meet
 - Still some little projects needed right now, overall doing well with the property

Worship and Music: *Tom Kolden*

- Met at the end of August
 - Worship time should be 8:30 and 10:00 am
 - Communion at every service
 - In September we will reintroduce some liturgical components

Youth Leadership: *Mandy Gallant*

- Met Last Month
 - Talked through National Youth Gathering
 - Youth Projects
 - Interested in having family fun days in a recurring way
 - Planning something October 10th – games, lunch, art project
 - Elected officers, brainstormed to grow this group
 - Jill will be stepping away and Pastor Nate will be the liaison to the group

Other Reports

Immanuel Church Women: *Diane Teigland*

- First circle meeting was 9/7/21
 - They will continue First Tuesday of each month
- Quilting will resume 3rd Monday and Tuesday of each month
- Diane and Jane will attend The Convention of the NW MN Synod Women's Organization on Sept 16-17th
 - Jane will be the delegate from ICW

Lead Pastor: *Pastor Nate Loer*

- August/Early September Highlights
 1. Busy getting ready for fall. Have confirmation mapped out for the year, along with 6 adult mentors. We should have around 30 students in grades 7-9.
 2. I have been grateful for the faithful few who have been serving in worship as ushers, lectors, coffee servers, and helping set up communion. I have hope that fall will bring greater participation.
- Looking Ahead:
 1. Looking forward to Wednesday worship. I have a small band organized to lead each week. And I think the stuff Pastor Megan is organizing to go with that will be really great. Encourage council to get involved.
 2. 10th grade confirmation will be a challenge for us. Date is Reformation Sunday (October 31). We have around 20 kids affirming their faith. The faith statement stuff will go well. But that's a lot of people for a service. And probably 50% or more will be unvaccinated. Will be working with 10th grade families September 22 to figure this out.
 3. Launching a podcast – Pastor Megan and Pastor Nate “You gotta try this” Faith practices, discipleship practices – try them in your home and life. First one will be on meal time faith practices – interview with the Ross family. October will be on feeding ministries and November on the giving tree.
 4. I am hoping to offer an online Bible/Discipleship study in some form this year. Maybe an October start for that? Would appreciate feedback from the council on topics, as well as days and times.
 5. There is most certainly a COVID wave coming. What is our plan?

Associate Pastor: *Pastor Megan Clapp*

- Getting ready for the education year – excited to gear back up again
 - New this year will be intergenerational service projects and bible study once per month
 - Ideally would like to add in age groups but right now we don't have volunteers to make that possible
 - Focus for worship messages is on faith practices at home around times: mealtime, bedtime, drive time, morning time

- Back to school milestone and blessings are happening this Sunday 9/12 and Wednesday 9/15
- Wed Sept 22nd bible milestones for 3-year-olds and 3rd graders
- We will be introducing an updated version of the Parent Cue App that will be used more this year with households with children
- Sermon series starting Sept. 15th called Back to Whole – there will also be an app that goes with this as well
- Women’s Discipleship will start Oct 3rd

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD:

Financial Secretary Report: *Betty White & Jane Bagstad*

Total of Sunday general offerings counted and deposited in August 2021: \$ 8,565.58. This does not include direct deposit offerings. Total of Sunday general offerings for August 2020 was \$13,302.58.

Treasurers Report: *Tracy Church*

GENERAL FUND

Total General Contributions: August 2021	\$28,612.00
Total Expenses	\$31,499.00
General Fund Register: Balance as of 8/31/21	\$92,883.00

RESTRICTED FUND

Register balance as of 08/31/21	\$47,198.00
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BUILDING FUND

Register balance as of 08/31/21	\$28,886.00
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Finance Committee: *Kent Schmidt*

- Met 9/7/21
 - Stewardship: Set up days for doing temple talks
 - November 3rd, 7th, 10th, 17th, 21st
 - Next meeting Sept 22nd
 - Oct 1-10th a need fundraiser (giving tree, regional kitchen hilltop, community dinner, Lutheran relief fund)
 - Scheduled meeting with Pastor Nate to discuss further

OUR VISION AND MISSION - NEW BUSINESS

- COVID Safety Plan
 - Livestream available, radio – these resources are available
 - How will we know when to start using masks again?
 - Pictorial directory is tabled
 - Consider Afghan refugees – Lutheran disaster response is working with this crisis

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm. A motion was made by Stephanie Drange and seconded by Tracy Church. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacey Callahan
Secretary