

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Roseville, MN 55113  
Church Council meeting.  
December 19, 2023 – 7:00 pm – Fellowship Hall

Members present: Pastor Sarah Friesen-Carper, Chris Westermeyer, Brent Swisher, Teri MacNabb, Jason Koering, Nancy Nelson, Caren Cushing, Jon Christianson, and Dick Hendrickson. New members: Angela Smithson, Elsa Larsen, Rebecca Sauer and Dennis Stolp.  
Guest: Bob Smithson

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Westermeyer at 7:00 pm following a pot luck supper.

Caren Cushing led devotions centered on Christmas.

For 2024 Church Council meeting devotions, Chris will assign a month to all council members. He will lead devotions in January.

Church Council meetings start at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room and are usually finished by 8:30 pm.

In the past we have had a Church Council retreat sometime in January. It would include our January Church Council meeting. It is often on a Saturday morning in January.

**Pastor's Report** – see printed report below

Pastor and Kurt are working on the new Sick and Safe Time Leave.  
We have completed annual staff reviews. We have a wonderful staff!  
Staff includes Gary Butler, cantor; Kurt Posz, church administrator; Jane Cunningham and Maureen Connelly; custodians.

Thank you to those who are finishing their term on Church Council!

Bob Smithson attended the Church Council meeting requesting to rent Room 2 in the church to store Lake Wobegon Brass Band music files and to store some of Bob's percussion equipment. We would need to work with Bob to set a rental fee and rental policy.

**Motion/Second/Carried** to approve rental to the Lake Wobegon Brass Band represented by Bob Smithson with a time to draw up a contract working with the Executive Committee.

Treasurer's Report – Thank you to Teri and Kurt for "cleaning up" the church financial books.  
**Motion/Second/Carried** to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

**Committees**

Seven or eight youth are interested in attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this coming summer. Registration will be sent in January with families paying the registration fee.

Building and Grounds report is printed below.

**Old Business:**

2024 Budget – We are going to end the 2023 year better financially than originally anticipated. People have been very generous with Regular Budget donations and donations to Rooted and Renewing.

We briefly discussed establishing a Legacy Program at Resurrection.

Mortgage Principal Payment – we will make a payment on our mortgage in early 2024.

**New Business:**

The Congregational Meeting of The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection will be January 28, 2024 following morning worship.

Committee reports are due by the end of December.

The 2024 Church Council will be installed during worship on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

It was suggested that we have a Lutheran Night at the Roller Derby at the Coliseum on January 13<sup>th</sup>

Pastor Sarah closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dick Hendrickson, secretary

## Pastor Report for December 19, 2023

Action item: None

### I. Administration

- a. Staff reviews. See below.
- b. 15 meetings.
- c. Administrative needs: Group/individual to liaise with Kinderhaus Montessori

### II. Staff

- a. Personnel Committee, Kurt, and I are working to implement the new Sick and Safe Time Leave law which goes into effect January 1, 2024. In a nutshell it states that all employees who work more than 80 hours per year need to earn 1 hour of sick & safe leave for every 30 hours they work. This will affect Jane and Maureen and Gary and Kurt already have PTO. Here is a link to the MN Gov website for more information. [https://www.dli.mn.gov/sick-leave?cid=DR\\_EM-ELM6476-001-Text1-MNEarnedSickAndSafeTimePolicyUpdate-NA-NA-CN-TRANS-NA-US-QBOPR](https://www.dli.mn.gov/sick-leave?cid=DR_EM-ELM6476-001-Text1-MNEarnedSickAndSafeTimePolicyUpdate-NA-NA-CN-TRANS-NA-US-QBOPR)
- b. Staff annual reviews have been completed. Thank you to our fantastic staff and wonderful Personnel Committee!

### III. Education

- a. 8 people attended Word and Wine on November 30<sup>th</sup> to read through The Gospel of Mark.
- b. I led two Bible Studies on Isaiah and one conversation around ELCA resources on the crisis in the Holy Land for Adult Forums this month.
- c. A small group of folks and I are planning a 4-week Adult Forum series on Racial Justice during the season of Lent. We met this month to hammer out plans.
- d. Weekday Bible Study on Mondays completed our study of Matthew on December 11. Bible Study is on a break and will return on January 8<sup>th</sup>. We will study The Gospel of Mark.

### IV. Pastoral Care

- a. Visitation Ministry – met on November 28<sup>th</sup>. We need at least two more Visitation Ministers.
- b. In these Advent and Christmas seasons we have a surprisingly high number of members dealing with grief and loss, both having lost someone or being with someone who is dying. Please keep them all in your prayers.
- c. 14 pastoral care interactions.

### V. Worship, Music, Arts

- a. Advent! Christmas! Epiphany! Oh my! Between December 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> I will give 5 sermons in 6 days. Thanks to Dick and Paul who will lead worship on December 31<sup>st</sup> so I can have a break.
- b. Thanks to Carolyn Chapin and Linda Hildebrandt who created beautiful Advent paintings and reflected on their meaning in worship on Dec. 6 and 13.! They are also donating their work to LCR's permanent collection!
- c. Lectio Divina via zoom at noon during Advent on Wednesdays has had 3-4 participants each week. It is a small group, but those who gather appreciate it.
- d. 7 worship services; 5 sermons including at the Preserve.

### VI. Continuing Education

- a. Total is 2 weeks with 2 Sundays.

b. Past: Retreat January 17-20 (4 days); May 23 – Restorative Conversations with Lombard Mennonite Peace Center; September 10 – Healthy Congregations with Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

c. I meet with a monthly clergy support group

VII. Community Engagement

a. Thanks to Gary and the 8 singers who helped to lead caroling at The Preserve on December 12<sup>th</sup>! The residents had a great time and were so grateful to be able to sing such favorite songs! We were also able to personally invite more folks to join us for worship on Thursdays.

b. Worship at the Preserve continues. We have 4-5 regular attendees. Gary and I will lead Christmas Caroling there in December with the residents.

VIII. Synodical Engagement

a. None this month.

IX. Vacation

1. Total is 4 weeks with 4 Sundays

Date	Sundays	Work weekdays	Total
February 13-15		3	3
April 13-16	1	3	4
May 30-June 3		3	3
June 25-26	1	1	2
August 4-5, 7-12		4	4
August 27	1		1
November 10-13	1	1	2
December 31	1		1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>

## **Building and Grounds**

All of the boilers are working. However, one of the Fellowship Hall boilers needs further repairs. Air Mechanical is working on it. We have not been very satisfied with Air Mechanical and we are looking into other boiler companies.

The kitchen stove and oven are not working properly. Occasionally a pilot light goes out. The Odd Jobbers are working on it.

We discussed replacing the sidewalk by the offices. It would be a summer project.

Odd Jobbers are planning to repaint the Play Room.