GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9:00 am To 2:00 pm Wednesday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Thursday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

THE DEILY NEWS September 2022

DATE TO REMEMBER 09/04/2022 8:00 AM - In Person - Virtual Worship on Facebook **LABOR DAY - CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** 09/05/2022 09/07/2022 6:30 AM - Bible Study Group 09/07/2022 5:30 PM - Confirmation Class 09/07/2022 7:00 PM - Wednesday Evening Service 8:00 AM -In Person - Virtual Worship on Facebook - Food Drive 09/11/2022 09/13/2022 6:30 PM - Council Meeting 09/14/2022 6:30 AM - Bible Study Group 09/14/2022 5:30 PM - Confirmation Class 09/14/2022 7:00 PM - Wednesday Evening Service 09/18/2022 8:00 AM - In Person - Virtual Worship on Facebook 09/21/2022 6:30 AM - Bible Study Group 09/21/2022 5:30 PM - Confirmation Class 09/21/2022 7:00 PM - Wednesday Evening Service 09/25/2022 8:00 AM - In Person - Virtual Worship on Facebook 09/28/2022 6:30 AM - Bible Study Group 09/28/2022 5:30 PM - Confirmation Class 7:00 PM - Wednesday Evening Service 09/28/2022

A note from Council President Michael Hetzner:

Thanks to Jim Herschleb for leading worship on Sunday August 7, and to the Wednesday morning Bible study group for leading Wednesday August 10, while Pastor Jim was on vacation (which unfortunately was curtailed due to his and Betty's Covid illness). It's fun to have a change of pace. Jim is recovered and returned for service Sunday August 14.

A small group of actors met August 17 to experiment with some short issue-oriented plays, which could be performed at worship services, stimulating thought and discussion. The group will meet again September 21 at 7:30 pm.

Joe Janicek is rallying people to bring back the spring dinner theater, with rehearsals beginning in February and performances in late April. Inform Joe if you would like to be involved in any way.

GET YOUR CAN(S) TO CHURCH rally Sunday morning September 11! See the flyer.

Current Covid Precautions Policy: Masking is voluntary. Side pews are marked off for optional social distancing. We take communion in the pews individually and share the peace at a distance.

Council May 10 approved continuing Wednesday evening services to the end of August.

WORSHIP HELPERS FOR SEPTEMBER						
	Filmer	Reader	Greeter/Usher			
09/04/22	Louie Lecker	Annette Pleshek	Annette Pleshek			
09/11/22	Barb Spiegel	Anne Sellen	Phyllis Kitzman			
09/18/22	Louie Lecker	Karen Ebert	Karen Ebert			
09/25/22	Barb Spiegel	Barb Spiegel	Barb Spiegel			

Hi all. I am the "at-large" member of GDLC's church council. Writing that makes me chuckle as my late husband Mike would have certainly made a comment that the "at-large" doesn't quite fit me, at least physically. Opinionated and long-winded, might be just a bit truthful though, and so bear with me, as I decided it was time for me to share some thoughts and questions. As I walk, to get some exercise and healthy living to become habit-forming, I think. (Hint - a new Wellness Walking Group has been started at GDLC.) I contemplate through thoughts of my many years of being a GDLC member and the community it has brought to my life. I think of how and what I have gained from other members and being a member of GDLC and what I may or may not have given back as well. It seems we have been on a slope downward for the past dozen years or so. "We" make strides in positive ways only to slip down again. In my opinion, the past couple years have proven just how vulnerable our community/congregation is to no longer being an option for serving our spiritual wants and needs and for others, as well. The pandemic helped to show us we were capable of finding options to serve our congregation/community. Outdoor services in the parking lot were attended by several cars most weeks. When we finally could open the doors again, policies were followed by wearing masks and sitting strategically in the sanctuary to try and keep our members as healthy as possible. Having a live streamed Facebook Sunday service became an option as well. Consideration of how to best follow science guidelines for the safety of all was paramount to the councils at that time and continues. Now that the "doors are open" we have not seen, from my viewpoint, much change in attendance. Just as my walking and exercising has gone in streaks to be good habit forming I wonder if that is just one cause why attendance hasn't grown at services on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. We have had some visitors and a couple who may be interested in joining GDLC! For myself, out of habit, that once was the norm, definitely takes awhile to re-establish back to the "old" (better) habit. I also realize that not everyone is a "morning person" like me and our 8:00 a.m. Sunday service is a "put-off" for some and maybe 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening is getting too close to bedtime for some children. So where and what do "We" do??? "We" have had struggles, for certain, over the years. In my opinion, we cannot continue to sustain our congregation with lack of support to our "Making Christ Known" without physically being active, as our bodies allow. Like many other congregations, monetary giving is also a constant. Questions to ponder which I don't have answers to fully myself. *Are you/we/I committed to continuing as a congregation? *Are you/we/I committed to attending a service on a regular basis now that the "doors are open"? (Regular is a very abstract word as it may be defined individually as once a week, month, quarter of year, etc.) *Are you/we/I committed to "Making Christ Known" to each of us and others outside our congregation? *Are you/we/I committed to helping to revive our congregation and the greater Christian Church as a whole? *Are you/we/I viewing the live streaming of Sunday Service and should it continue? *What have you/we/I been doing negatively/positively to keep our community/congregation sustainable? *What avenues should Council continue to pursue to keep the GDLC mission on-going? My opinion - Thoughts and prayers alone are not going to keep us going. Sincerely, Annette Pleshek

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Council – August 9, 2022 Minutes

Present: Mike Hetzner, Jennifer Lecker, David Hoban, Sue Salzsieder, Bryce Larson, Brenda Kobs, Anne Sellen, Jerry Jensen

Absent: Annette Pleshek

Call to Order & Devotion—President Mike Hetzner called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and lead a short devotion.

Approval of Meeting Agenda—Larson, Jensen

Approval of Secretary's Report—Larson, Hoban

Approval of Treasurer's Report—Lecker, Larson

Motion was made by Hoban to use capital funds to pay \$2,000 to Mission Investment Fund (mortgage) and \$250 to ELCA mission support for benevolence. —Larson, Jensen

Treasurer's Monthly Report

Submitted by David Hoban	<u>July</u>	YTD	YTD	
	2022	2022	2022	2022
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Planned</u>
TOTAL INCOME				
Operating Income \$	10056	62,952	63,805	109,380
Capital Campaign \$	150	1,650	583	1,000
Building Projects \$	0	0	2,042	3,500
Benevolence Funds \$	0	0	583	1,000
TOTAL INCOME \$	10206	64,602	67,013	114,880
TOTAL EXPENSES				
Operating Expenses \$	7914	54,305	52,625	90,215
Capital Campaign \$	150	1,650	583	1,000
Builing Projects \$	0	0	2,042	3,500
Benevolence Funds \$	0	0	583	1,000
TOTAL EXPENSES \$	8,064	55,955	55,834	95,715
INCOME MINUS EXPENSES \$	2,142	8,646	11,180	19,165

For July, the general income was \$2,142 greater than general expenses. Year to date, income exceeds expenses by \$8,646. July expenses included the quarterly payroll tax of \$771 and also \$195 for mowing. The 10 month gas billing cycling resumed. The last couple years the cost was down. This year it is \$502 per month.

President's Report—Pastor Jim will not be able to lead the August 14 service as his wife has COVID. Coverage has been arranged. We were informed that a couple has been visiting area churches and passing bad checks as payment for SCRIP. We recommend to sell SCRIP to members only. Hetzner will meet with interested persons and members of the Not Ready for Prime Time Players next Wednesday to perform during upcoming services. Discussion was held on how we should support members who seek lay ministry training. Members with this training will be contacted to find out how GLDC supported their ministries.

Health Precautions Update—Risk is low at this time. Surrounding counties have increased cases. No changes needed.

Call Committee Update—Church profile was updated to seeking part-time pastor. Hetzner was in contact with Faith Lutheran Church of Valders. They interviewed a candidate that was looking for part-time who might be interested in GDLC. Our interest will be made known to the synod.

Brainstorming List Review & Update—The cost of mailing postcards to nonmembers in New Holstein, Kiel, Chilton, Elkhart Lake exceeds our budget at this time. Sellen designed a flyer for God's Work, Our Hands - 'Bring Your Cans to Church!' for September 11. Please purchase extra food to donate to local food pantries and/or collect pledges for walking after the service.

Committees & Reports

- 1) <u>Fellowship/Outreach</u>—Camping was Saturday, July 23. The small, but faithful group battled the weather yet had great fellowship. Discussion was held on arranging another brunch for members and guests.
- 2) <u>Property</u>—In Kind forms need to be filled out when purchasing supplies to track for budgeting purposes. A list of needed supplies & how often they are purchased will be compiled.
- 3) Stewardship/ILong Range Planning—Stewardship Committee will meet August 23 at 6:30PM.
- 4) <u>Worship/Music</u>—We thank Nealey Janicek for recording Sunday services for Facebook outreach. Jennifer Lecker has volunteered to do two Sundays per month. We are still looking for more volunteers.
- 5) <u>Youth/Christian Education</u>— Three students will take confirmation classes on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 PM. Sunday School will resume in September.

Calendar Update—Council meeting, September 13, 6:30PM.

Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer (Kobs, Sellen) 7:30 PM

Submitted by Sue Salzsieder, Secretary

Minutes are subject to council approval at the September meeting



Piggly Wiggly Receipts

Your receipts from Piggly Wiggly from Kiel can be placed in the basket in the narthex. The Kiel Store allows us to turn in receipts to get the same non-profit donation as purchasing SCRIP gift cards. Receipts from purchases using gift cards are not

eligible.

In-Kind Donations

Please fill out the in-kind donation form, (You can request a form from the Church Administrative Assistant Ann Martin) or turn in any receipts for items purchased and donated to the church. This would include boxes of tissues, toilet paper, office supplies and any other items that would normally need to be purchased as part of the budget.

"Gloria Dei will be having a food drive and walk to support our local food pantries on Sunday, September 11. This is God's Work, Our Hands Sunday across the ELCA - let's participate and share fellowship with our hands and feet on that day! Details are in the attached flyer and you can contact Anne Sellen with questions at 920-917-9197 or any of the other council members."

God's Work, Our Hands



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOOD DRIVE and WALKING FUNDRAISER September 11, 2022

Bring yourself, family, friends and canned goods to Gloria Dei for 8am Services.

If interested, walk with us as a group after service, collect a pledge to raise money for the Food Pantry too!

God's Work, Our Feet