

Grace Vestry Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2025

In Attendance

In attendance: Pastor Steve, Bill Siewert, Ernie Simon, Sharon Potter, Martha Houser, Lucy Smith.

Absent: Mike Zubas, Don Siefkes, Dash Heath. Guest – Calysta Saxton. Linda Siewert took meeting notes.

Opening prayer offered by Pastor Steve, 6:30 pm.

I. Approvals

- A. June meeting minutes. Minutes corrected as follows - Pastor Steve noted letter **H** states he 2nd the motion, which was incorrect. Linda Siewert made the correction and emailed corrected copy to Pastor Steve. Mike motioned to approve June minutes, Sharon 2nd the motion.
- B. June Financials. Lucy motioned and Bill 2nd to approve the June financials.

II. Ongoing and New Business

- A. Realm. Realm The Realm members contact information, i.e., name, phone number, email address, DOB. Vestry members' discussed having a new church directory booklet (with pictures). A printed directory can become outdated yearly as membership changes. The Realm directory can be updated easier than a directory booklet. Mike will speak with Calysta about options and costs of a printed directory.
- B. Google (street) view and photos. Mike Zubas, has the Go Pro camera.
- C. Stewardship - letters from Vestry. Pastor Steve requested each vestry member write a brief paragraph about why they are drawn to Grace church. What outreach ministries they participate in, and what they enjoy about our church parish.
- D. Sign messages. Pam Schafer currently manages the electronic sign messages.
- E. Panera Bread fundraiser. A total of over \$600 in total food sales, and Grace received a percentage of the food sales, (\$195.46.) Note: quarters for a cause fundraiser is scheduled for September 20, 6pm. No suggestions at this time for additional fundraisers.
- F. Grace's Facebook page. Calysta presented her personal review of Grace's Facebook (FB) page. Calysta noted the importance of ensuring a media platform, such as FB, contains relevant content and posts that align with the mission and goals of any business or non-profit. Grace's FB page can impact positive media reach or limit media attention. Calysta provided data that showed a decline of visitor usage and likes to our FB page.
Calysta has prior work experience managing the social media promotions and FB page for a grocery store that she worked at. Calysta also has her own photography business and manages her own media platform.

Currently Grace has 9 members that have access to post of the FB page. Calysta made a proposal to the vestry to actively manage the FB page, along with only Pastor Steve and Chris Eckert; administrative access.

- Mike motioned to accept Calysta's proposal, Ernie Simon 2nd the motion. Moving forward only Calysta, Pastor Steve and Chris Eckert with actively work together to manage Grace's FB page.
- Mike motioned to take \$500 from McCrest fund and put in a fund for our Facebook social media.

G. Rectory update. Tom Stotz is reviewing the rectory lease agreement. The real estate agent changed to monthly rental price to \$1,800 per month, and has an interested party that would like to lease the rectory.

III. UPDATES

H. Building & Grounds committee met on Saturday, June 21. Bill Siewert suggested to vestry member that Grace church consider having a Sexton on staff. A sexton would manage light duty tasks to take care of general church maintenance of interior and exterior. A sexton could also handle getting quotes when needed for outside vendors. Side note, Katia handles only the church's light cleaning duties. The vestry suggested we look into availability and cost to hire an outside handyman, when needed.

- Lare sent a quote to Pastor Steve from Kamps landscaping that does the church cuts the grass and handles snow removal. Kamps quote accepted to provide materials and labor for the grading and sod work.
- True Green.
- Fred Seewald recognition. The plan is to present Fred with a plaque for his hard efforts.
- Rockers, gliders for sanctuary.
- Dave Farrell and Lori Simon removed weeds around parking lot and in the garden. Rosemary and Don
- Lare paid for and had a tree removed.
- Bill and Dave removed the extra dirt (from veg's garden) over to where south side of building were garden has been renovated.
- Paper dispenser replaced, as well as smoke detectors.
- Grease trap was cleaned out.
- Railing will be repaired outside the kitchen door.
- The awning over exterior staircase is ripped. Belle Isle awing will be contacted.

I. Rockers and gliders for the sanctuary. Mike passed out a picture / information of an inexpensive glider from Walmart. Mike Oakley offered to pay for the gilders. Bill Siewert volunteered to assemble to chairs.

J. NOTE: There will be no vestry meeting in August.

A. Prayer and Adjournment

Lord's prayer was led by Pastor Steve. Meeting Adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Siewert ☺