

Grace Lutheran Church – Durham, NC
Parish Ministry Council – PMC
Meeting Date: August 15, 2021



1. Welcome/Call to Order
2. Opening Devotion & Prayer – Michelle Boyle
3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting – July
4. Review and Approval of Agenda

INFORMATION ITEMS

This is where the reports go. Reports are considered information. To allow time for other discussions to take place, all reports must be written and submitted ahead of meeting time. During this time, we will address questions, if any, based on written reports. If something needs to be voted upon by the Council, that would be added as an Action Item.

- Introduce Chase Benefiel, Organist as Guest
- Questions about Reports submitted:
 - Administrative Committees:
 - Finance
 - Administration
 - Ministry Areas:
 - Education
 - Fellowship (vacant)
 - Mutual Care/Deacons/Stephen Ministry
 - Outreach
 - Properties & Facilities
 - Stewardship
 - Worship
 - Miss Mollie's School of Grace
 - President's Report
 - Staff

STUDY ITEMS

Study items show that we are taking time to research and discuss issues and make learning and leadership development a part of our culture.

- Review
 - “Why the Agenda Change” – 1st column
 - “Commitment: It's Not What You Think”
- Mission Statement/Goals
 - Review of Plan - Bev
 - Template
 - Status of First Impressions Goal

Mission Statement: We are called to welcome everyone to walk the way of Grace;
GROW with Jesus; REJOICE in God; ANSWER with HOPE; CARE for the neighbor;
EMBRACE community.

**PMC Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2021, Meeting**

Attending: Chris Wethman, Pastor Brooks, Bev Hudgins, Geoff Heintzelman, Gary Stuhlmiller, Donna Gesell, Barb Tippin, Becky Thomas, Erin Romes, Michelle Boyle, Mike Hunike, Tom McGill.

Guests Attending: Barbara Stiles, Scott Gesell, Joe Wethman, Richard Kuehn.

Meeting started at 12:35pm.

Discussion on the consent items: - none. Pastor made a motion to approve the consent items, Bev seconded, All were in favour, motion was passed.

Reports from committees and ministry areas were provided with the meeting packet. The following items were discussed/noted:

- Finance: Miss Mollie's has a deficit of \$9,000. There is \$60,000 needed for next year. They currently have 9 children signed up with the possibility of one more. Michelle's bonus was discussed. Michelle and Donna will have an agreement that in lieu of paying her the bonus the amount will be used for a tuition scholarship.
- Education: Encourage PMC members who haven't already to attend gifting class. This will be in August.
- Properties and facilities.
 - The railing is done.
 - The air conditioning is fixed at Grace House
 - The parking lot sign is fixed
 - They are working on the safety and security list
 - Grace House has been pressure washed
 - They are getting quotes on the stucco
- Outreach: Halfway through the bible study, it is going well.
- Worship: Tom requested to let the Deacon's know if there is anyone that is interested in being part of the phone tree. Drew Young volunteered to be an usher for the 11am service.
- Staff: They are working on different methods to get information out. Pastor is taking September 19 off for continuing education.

Motion to accept committee reports as written was made by Gary, Donna seconded. All were in favour.

Under Old Business the following items were discussed:

- Pathways update - Geoff went over different Teams
 - Connections - Geoff and Sharon are running events. Some activities are being led by members. If you have an activity, please organize it.
 - Engagement - Staff are handling this
 - Hospitality - per bylaws the Goal is this will be taken over by Deacons
 - Infrastructure - recommendation to put this on hold for 6 months
- Church domain name is now GraceDurham.org. Chris is working on email change.

Under New Business the following items were discussed:

- Water Fountains - Will be cleaned and then turned on.

Grace Lutheran Church
Executive Team Meeting
August 5, 2021

Present:

Rev. Brooks	Barb Tippin	Barbara Stiles
Chris Wethman	Becky Thomas	Donna Gesell

- Chris opened the meeting with prayer.
- Discussion held about the Water Fountains
- Discussion held about a camera for downstairs. No action in the near future.
- Review of minutes from July meeting:
 - No changes noted
- We reviewed the Agenda for the August 15th Council meeting:
Under Study Items:
 - Change Information under Review to:
 - "Why the Agenda Change" – 1st column
 - "Commitment: It's Not What You Think"
 - Change Information under Mission Statement/Goals to:
 - Review of Plan – Bev
 - Template
 - Status of First Impressions Goal
 - Remove Safety & Security line item

A decision is needed about Touched by Grace. To be discussed with Lay Minister of Outreach.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Stiles

Ministry of Stewardship:

The Stewardship Team met on Tuesday, August 10 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall.

Attendance: Tom McGill, leader; Elmo & Donna Walston, Joe Wethman, Dwight Knoll.

- Review of last meeting, the Phone Tree especially.
- Pastor Brooks led a review of Core Values and T's of Stewardship (Time, Talents, Treasure) and how he preferred that the Stewardship Team focus on communication of stories concerning generosity of these three values.
- The Team closed with a thought for next meeting being appealing to under 50's without leaving the Gospel behind.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021.

~ Tom McGill

Ministry of Worship:

Worship Ministry Team met on August 11, 2021.

Those in attendance: Barb Tippin, Jenna Young, Elmo Walston, Barbara Stiles, Pastor Brooks, Chris Wethman, Geoff Heintzelman, Dede Crosmer, Greg Taylor, Richard Kuehn, John Kolba, Whitney Kolba, and Carey Kolba.

- Opening Prayer – Geoff
- Pandemic Guidelines – masking required in the building, no markers for social distancing unless we see issues. We are following the guidance of the mask mandate that is not in place by the City of Durham.
- Altar Guild – cleaned up and organized the banners; new shelf built for extra storage. We are using a temporary ciborium, as the foot broke on the old one – Pastor talking to a silversmith about repairing it. The old ciborium is dedicated to the confirmation class of 1895 – trying to figure out how we got it.
- Status of purchased hymnals – we purchased 30 with funds from an anonymous donor; 20 will be placed on a table in the narthex for congregants to use; 10 will go into the choir loft.
- Livestream Status – livestream on Sunday was fine; what do to with the conference call-in? calling in works fine by itself but not with the livestream. Could be a problem with the mixer. Pastor to plan with Chase to look at additional microphones – music may need to be muted for the conference call-in. Pastor not ready to give up on this yet – will try some tweaks to make it easier.
- Music update – Chase will be starting tomorrow and playing on Sunday. Jenna will be working with Chase to get choir going.
- Office updates from the Office – still waiting on the big news...
- Pew cushions – Cleaned and back in Sanctuary!
- Outdoor worship – still necessary with the new guidelines? Because of how hot it is, we will talk about it in September for a possible outdoor service in October – we should all pray about this. We have several logistical issues that will need to be addressed.
- Should choir be delayed because of the current pandemic situation? Won't start before mid-September anyway; hopefully the pandemic situation can improve. We will need to be flexible.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
For August PMC

- I. **Meetings attended:**
 - a. Office Staff (weekly)
 - b. Engagement Team (weekly)
 - c. Stewardship (1st meeting)
 - d. Executive Team (monthly)
- II. **Facilitated:**
 - a. Cushions cleaned.
 - b. Formation of Amazon Wish List
 - c. Domain change
 - d. PMC Education: Ministry Vision Statements & Goals
- III. **Tasks:**
 - a. Proofread Bulletin, Newsletters (monthly and weekly)
 - b. Formulated a New Agenda type for PMC
 - c. Monthly scheduling Ushers, Readers, etc.
 - d. Minutes from July Preschool Advisory Board
 - e. Narthex Bulletin Boards



Pastor's Monthly Report

August 15, 2021

LOOKING BEHIND

- 1) Vision Sermon Series
- 2) Friday Movie Night
- 3) VBS Saturday
- 4) New Member Welcome
- 5) Meetings
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Education
 - c. Worship
 - d. Pathways Task Force
 - e. Staff
 - f. Racial Harmony/Reconciliation
 - g. Planning w/Pr. Amanda of Duke Lutherans
- 6) Pastoral Actions
 - a. Hospital Visits – 0
 - b. Home/Phone Visits – 4
 - c. Office Visits – 7
 - d. Wedding/Funeral—0

LOOKING AROUND

- 1) The Grace Reset—post-Covid shifts
- 2) Cultural competency/racial harmony
- 3) Connections and the Summer of Sending
- 4) Circuit Bible Study w/ Mark Schroeder

LOOKING AHEAD

- 1) Puerto Rico Mission Trip opportunities in 2022
- 2) Households and Neighborhoods
- 3) Continuing Education, September 19-28—Pr. Greg Williams, supply