

Approved by Council

**MINUTES  
CHURCH COUNCIL  
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Marlton, New Jersey  
April 29, 2019**

Council Members Present:

Robert Price-President

Pam Hann-Vice President/Building Community

Sharon Elliott- Secretary/Worship and Music

Kim Syvertsen- Family and Education

Liz Dietz- Assistant Financial Secretary/Finance

Scott Rush-Social Missions

Pauline Ahern- Stewardship

Aimee Morin- Youth

Joe Chiarulli- Property

Guests: Laura Glatz, Wayne and Mindy Grant

- **Opening-** Meeting was opened at 7:02pm.
- Scott made a motion to approve the minutes from the March council meeting (March 25, 2019). Pam seconded. Motion passed.
- **Refreshments:** The food was provided by Kim. Thank You!
- **Ministry Updates:**  
**Addiction and Mental Health/Health Support-** Didn't meet.

**Building Community-** Met 4/28

**Picnic planning is underway.** They would like to prepare flyers for the picnic. We discussed different options to distribute: hand out, post in stores and business, in lobbies of apartments and Urgent Cares. A coordinator is needed for either a carwash or children's activities for the picnic. See ministry minutes.

\*\*\* Council went into executive session for 7 minutes.\*\*\*

**Family and Education-** Kim met with Pastor Brett. A May meeting is being planned to discuss lesson plans for Discipleship Practice.

**Youth-** Did not meet. An email was sent out about Youth Sunday. Six youth have responded to participate.

**Property-** High: Dishwasher will be installed in the next week or so. Low: More help is needed to get projects completed. Joe discussed need to paint and spruce up each of the classrooms. Laura suggested using Action Teams to get that accomplished. See Property Minutes.

**Social Missions-** Feeding Ministry: See ministry minutes for more information. Bridge of Peace youth meeting dinner is being provided by Social Missions.

Children's Easter Giving Campaign raised \$1,843 to purchase Wal-Mart gift cards. 25 went to Bridge of Peace, 22 to P.O.P., 56 to local school children.

**Stewardship-** Brian Listini from St. Matthews will be invited to give a presentation on Environmental Stewardship at the May Council meeting. Council had a discussion on a Capital Campaign proposal for 2019 for Property projects. Pastor Brett proposed that we secure half of the funds before starting a new project.

The following motions were made.

- 1) Scott made a motion to consolidate the food pantry and move it to Augsburg and Wittenberg classrooms. Shelving is being donated. Pauline seconded. The motion passed.
- 2) Pauline made a motion that the congregation undertakes a capital campaign for Property for specific projects to be completed in order of the proposal sheet given at council; with an ad-hoc committee charged with folding in deficit elimination percentages into each project. The council requests that information be sent out at least two weeks prior to the congregation meeting. June 2 will be a brief orientation meeting after the 9:30 service. June 9 will be a special congregation meeting after the service to vote on this campaign proposal. Bob seconded. The motion passed.
- 3) Pastor Brett moved that council form on ad-hoc committee to oversee the Property campaign. Scott seconded. The motion passed.

**Worship and Music-** Did not meet in April due to changes in schedule. The ministry was active preparing and setting up for Lent and Holy week.

- **Thrivent Action Teams: Wayne and Mindy Grant**

Wayne proposed using Action Teams to fund many of the activities and property work days discussed tonight. He suggested providing periodic meetings for the POP Thrivent members throughout the year to implement Action teams, determine volunteer interest, and to plan activities. Thrivent Choice Dollars are available for projects as well.

Laura Glatz suggested an August meeting.

Pastor Brett suggested having a “Festival” led by Thrivent. Scott suggested having a Volunteer Action Sunday.

Wayne reminded us of the Thrivent event on May 15, “Don’t Worry, Retire Happy!”

- **Report on the Financial Health of the Congregation-** At present, the deficit is reduced to \$26,502 from \$47,954 at the beginning of the year. See pp.15-16 of report.

- **Witnesses from the Congregation-**

Liz shared that she brought a Muslim guest to the Maundy Thursday service. Her friend found it humbling and powerful.

Pastor Brett commented on the great support of the congregation to one another: the support provided to him at the death of his mother and throughout Holy Week, to the Korhumel family at the death of Jessica, to Kim Syvertsen at the death of her mother, and also to Melinda Ota and her family during her mother’s illness.

Kim expressed gratitude to the congregation for everything, including the memorial service.

Laura shared that a woman from Trevoise commented positively on the Jewish community (Nafshanu) meeting at POP and how welcoming we are.

Liz is also impressed by the interfaith gatherings here at POP.

Laura also commented how our staff works very well together and is balanced, crediting Pastor Brett with being open and nonjudgmental.

There were positive reactions to Holy Week and Easter: many people stepped up to help; it was peaceful; and we enjoyed wonderful music.

- **Pastor's Report-** Included earlier in our discussion of 1) Building use for food ministries and 2) Property Capital Campaign.

- **Old Business:**

- Plans as a result of the “Fishing” brainstorming session led by Scott. See minutes provided by Scott. Three things to focus on: Social Media (Kim); Reach-out (Scott); Mid-week Adult forums (P.B. and Sharon). Bob is working on posters.
- Audit Committee- Council affirmed the email that Walter Stridick was approved for the Audit Committee.
- *Continuing Resolutions*: Tabled
- *Safety Team*: Pastor Brett will meet with Brian Ressler.
- *Insurance policy review*: Tabled
- *Endowment Committee*: Tabled

- **New Business:**

- **LGBTQ Presentation:** Scott gave a power point presentation: How to make POP even more welcoming. We discussed why this is important. LGBTQ youth are at higher risk of suicide, self-harming and abuse. Scott proposed turning our “Welcome statement” into actions. He also has provided a sign to hang outside the single restroom that lets all people know that there is a safe place. Pastor Brett emphasized that naming the individuals welcomed is important. Pauline says we recognize the need to be welcoming and now must determine how we can be more supportive and how can we get people to know we are a safe, welcoming place.
- **Personnel Committee:** Pastor Brett is talking to people.
- **Correspondence:**
  - Thank you note from LSMNJ for donation.
  - Letter from the Synod about Scott Schantzenbach’s retirement and request for donation to EMU fund in his honor. Council made a collection to send to the Synod.
  - Thank you note from the Ronald McDonald House.
- **Requests for Building Use:** Building requests were approved for the following:
  - AA Anniversary party on 5/17

- AA Big Book small group 4/18
- Wayne Grant; Thrivent Workshop 5/15
  
- **Transfers:** None
  
- **Reminders:**
  - **Next council meeting:** The third Monday in May, May 20.  
(The 4<sup>th</sup> Monday is Memorial Day.)
  
  - **Refreshments:** Joe
  - **Devotional leader:** Joe
  - **Upcoming Events/Calendar Review:** 9:30 Worship services begin June 2.  
June 2 is the POP Community Picnic.
  - New members' dinner 5/19 @ 5pm Liz will coordinate.
  - **Greeters (monthly ministry assignments):** May-Youth
  
- **Closing Prayer/Devotions:** Kim
- **Passing of the Peace**
- **Meeting adjourned:** 9:55PM