

**Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 15, 2023**



**Call to Order & Roll Call** (12 members, quorum is 7 members)

- **Present:** Patty Dolan, Karen Gordon, Helen Holtti, Pastor Matt Johnson, Brenda Robbins, Matt Sanders, and Hillary Williams.
- **Absent:** Susan Albers, Erin Brothen, Roberta Holscher, Zack Robbins, and Paultina Rollay.
- Meeting was called to order at 6:32pm by Karen Gordon, President

**Devotions**

- Patty Dolan
- Volunteer for September: Pastor Matt

**Announcements/Reminders**

- Roberta's retirement celebration: 8/27/23
  - **Motion:** To give a \$50 gift card to Roberta from the congregation for her retirement.
    - Motioned: Helen Holtti. Second: Hillary Williams. Result: Unanimously approved.
- Pastor Matt shared that Michael is leaving, his last Sunday will be 8/27/23.
  - **Motion:** To give Michael a hard-cover MCLC book in appreciation of his time with us.
    - Motioned: Brenda Robbins. Second: Helen Holtti. Result: Unanimously approved.
- Next Council Meeting: 9/19/23
- Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting: 9/24/23
- Council and Committees Retreat: 10/8/23
- From the Executive Committee:
  - **Motion:** Approve the Interim Call Committee's recommendation to Call Pastor Matthew Johnson as our Interim/Bridge Pastor starting as soon as June 19, 2023. The call will be for ¾ time with a salary and housing allowance of \$61,000 plus benefits. The total compensation package, including all benefits, is not to exceed our 2023 budget amount for pastoral compensation of \$84,567, including benefits.
    - Approved via email on 6/15/23

**Meeting Minutes**

- 6/20/2023 Council Meeting Minutes
  - **Motion:** Approve the minutes as corrected.

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- Motioned: Patty Dolan. Second: Matt Sanders. Result: Unanimously approved.
- 7/18/2023 Council Meeting Minutes
  - **Motion:** Approve the minutes as corrected.
    - Motioned: Helen Holtti. Second: Hillary Williams. Result: Unanimously approved.

**Reports**

- Finance – Matt Sanders
  - Report should read July 2023 (not June 2023)
  - **Motion:** Accept report as corrected
    - Motioned: Patty; Second: Helen; Result: Unanimously approved
- Pastor – Pastor Matt Johnson
  - Michael will be leaving, last Sunday will be 8/27/2023. Requested that we continue with pulpit supply once-twice per month.
    - Motion: To have Pastor Matt make arrangements for pulpit supply at a cost of up to \$150 per Sunday for up to 2 Sundays per month.
      - Motioned: Matt Sanders; Second: Helen; Result: unanimously approved

**Committee, Team & Initiative Reports** (motions from committees do not require a second)

- Budget & Finance
  - **Motion:** To present the 2024 Proposed Budget with 5% Foundation distribution for the congregation's approval at the fall congregational meeting.
    - Result: Unanimously approved.
  - **Motion:** Start sending our Food Shelf money to Minnehaha United Methodist Food Shelf instead of MN Foodshare, starting with 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2023 contributions
    - Result: Unanimously approved.
  - **Motion:** Publicize the need for financial support for Songs of My Life (\$385/month) and put out a free-will offering plate at Songs of My Life services.
    - Result: Unanimously approved.
  - **Motion:** Discontinue the use of color copies in the bulletins and Illuminators except for special occasions (will save approximately \$700/year).
    - Result: Unanimously approved.
- BOLD (Bread of Life) Building Use Planning Team – see written report.
- Executive Committee
  - **Motion:** MCLC adopts the ELCA record retention policy.
    - Result: Approved unanimously.
- Family & Social Ministry

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- Matt Sanders reported that the bouncy house is ordered and we will be serving ice cream.
- RIC
  - Welcome statement language changes have been approved by RIC. The RIC logo will be put on our website.
- Transition Team
  - First meeting is tomorrow, August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Worship & Music
  - See written report

*Not reporting: Audit, Membership, Nominating, Property, Scholarship, Stewardship, Worship & Music, MCL Foundation, WELCA*

#### **Old Business**

- Office Manager Search
  - Pastor Matt reported that we have 5, maybe 6, applicants and some interviews are scheduled for tomorrow, August 16<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Matt and Brenda Robbins will perform the interviews and then determine next steps.

#### **New Business**

- Semi-annual meeting September 24, 2023
  - **Motion** from the Executive Committee: Approve the Agenda
    - Result: Unanimously approved.
- Sunday School teacher installation scheduled for Rally Sunday, September 10, 2023
- It's time to engage the Stewardship Committee

#### **Adjournment & Lord's Prayer**

- Adjournment
  - ✓ Motioned: Helen Holtti; Second: Patty Dolan; Result: Unanimously approved
- Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm
- Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Robbins  
Acting Secretary