

## **FLC Vision Council Minutes January 11th 2024**

**Members Present:** Pastor Dianne Loufman, Pastor; Amy Merchant, Secretary; Tyler Klingfus, Councilor-at-Large; Susanna Ojakangas, Vice President; Mark Boyce, President; Bob Ardren, Councilor-at-Large; Julie Samuelson, Ministry Board Chair; Beth Storaasli, Past President; Kirsten Bich, Councilor-at-Large

**Members Absent;** Linda Mettner, Treasurer

**Devotion:** One Coin Found Chapter Six

We have to wrestle until there is the blessing. Context is important.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Bob Ardren motion to approve, Beth Storaasli seconds.

**Approval of last month's minutes:** Kirsten Bich motion to approve, Julie Samuelson seconds.

### **Pastor's Report**

- Did not know a lot of people at the Christmas Eve Services. Visitors from other places, and local guests.
- First Lutheran is hosting an interfaith fundraiser for Palestine. Partnering with the Islamic Center, and Temple Israel. Palestinian food will be served. This will be on February 18th.
- Middle School Girl's Movie Night to Watch Are you there God it's me Margaret
- First Lutheran has one of the few Blue Christmas services in the area. Spread the word next December to invite people that need this service.
- Establish a group of people that will specifically cater to our distance worshipping community.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Received 157 pledges so far this year. Last year we received 191.
- Total pledge amount is higher than last year despite the 31 anticipated pledges.
- We are in need of a treasurer for the Vision Council.
- Offering is down in terms of trends, but expenses have also been less
- Chum has rented offices and the income will be on the new statement.
- 60k came in once we started the scorpions
- Time for Renewal (tfr) fund to become Retire the Debt (rtd)
- Goal to get rid of debt scorpions by Easter. We will announce this at the annual meeting

### **Old Business**

#### **Parents Night Out Date Night**

- Sunday February 4th.
- 4:30 to 7:30.
- RSVP by February 1st.
- Responsible church adults, Confirmation Students

**Folk Dance**

- This event will happen in April

**Lefse Run Update**

- Organizational meeting on January 19th to plan for next year's run
- 78 runners.

**Support Youth at Extracurriculars**

- Put general events on TV Screen in Gathering Area
- We will not use individual names

**Update on Speaker Series**

- Robert P Jones change of date May 16 to 15 due to a scheduled graduation speaking commitment.

**Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry**

- Request Foundation grant of 5k for VLM
- Kirsten Bich motion to approve, Tyler Klingfus seconds

**Pastor Dianne Continuing Education**

- Move continuing education monies from 2023 to 2024
- Susanna Ojakangas motion to approve, Julie Samuelson seconds

**Midweek Lenten Services**

- Tradition for Vision Council to coordinate meal for first week of Lenten services
- We will serve on February 21st

**Mike Fuchs Foundation Request**

- Mike requested \$3,000 for the St. John's Passion.
- Pastor Dianne approved

**Call Committee Members**

- Need to approve two new Call Committee members.
- Walter Karlson, and Chris Nemeth have agreed to serve.
- Kirsten Bich motion to approve, Susanna Ojakangas seconds

**Synod Assembly**

- Will be in a virtual format this year
- Mark Boyce, and Susanna Ojakangas will attend

**Annual Meeting Planning**

- Reimagine structure
- Discuss why structure needs to be updated
- Discuss why stewardship team does work
- Amy will work on mixing people regarding seating
- Question about global ministry
- Lenten offering for world hunger

**Next Meeting**

- Thursday February 1st

**Prayer**

- Mark Boyce

Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy K. Merchant, VC Secretary