



**Luther Place Congregation Council Minutes
July 12, 2018
Luther Place, All Saints Room**

Present: Pastor Karen Brau, Patrick Callahan, Christina Davis, Jay Forth, Tara Hogan, Candace Lilyquist (via phone), Christiana Lundholm, Betsy Mountenay, Einar Olsen, Tanay Tatum-Edwards, Doug Walter, Kate Wulff

Apologies: Elizabeth Ellis, Michael Wendt, Tom Randall, Ann Hill

Guests: Kristen Kane

The meeting was called to order at 6:39pm.

Devotion/Spiritual Practice

Tara read a devotion from Let your Life Speak by Parker Palmer.

Agenda

A motion was made by Betsy to approve the agenda for the meeting. The motion was seconded by Christiana and passed unanimously.

Minutes

The June minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Christiana to accept the June 2018 Council Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Einar and passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report & Sabbatical Update

Staff Changes – There is a new cleaning company that has received positive feedback from the staff. It's an interim arrangement and bids to more permanent companies are out. Xavier and Tim Reed are working on bigger building issues and solutions. Pastor Karen proposed that the Property Committee perform a walk through of the basement to determine a plan to make that area more accessible.

Sabbatical – The sabbatical team continues to work with Pastor Karen. A Go Fund Me page has been set up with the goal of half of the funds earned going to Luther Place. Pastor Tony will co-preside the week before and after the sabbatical.

The Sabbatical will be about listening to God and will tie into the New Connections work the congregation she's doing.

Art Smart Summer Camp – Pastor Karen and Kristen have been visiting the homes of the camp goers with many positive interactions.

Psalm 73 – This is Pastor Karen's Psalm for the summer. Others are invited to join her in reading and reflecting on it.

Updates on Coffee House & Craft Collective

Coffee House – Pastor Karen reminded council that there has been a change in the coffee house because of conversations last year. This was to address some specific issues that were arising and a desire to make the space more

inviting for people to engage. The decisions were to have snacks out when doors open at 7am and teams would come with food at 10am. At 10:15 the All Saints Room is closed and everyone is invited into worship. The staff lead oversees closing the space and extending the invitation into worship. Food is put back out as service is ending and space remains open until 1pm.

Announcements were made in bulletin and eblasts and there is messaging out there for those that have questions or concerns.

Craft Collective – The collective has undergone several evolutions in its membership and intentions of the members and goals of the collective. In the spirit of sabbatical the collective is going on break.

New Connections Discussion – Kristen

Kristen offered updates on the New Connections team and their goals for the rest of the year. Fall will be a Season of Listening for both Pastor Karen while on her sabbatical and the congregation. There will be a focus on Value Alignment (what is the value of your ministry) and a Culture of Invitation. The team is working on a strategy for one on one relational meetings.

There will be quarterly events called Festival Sundays that will be geared towards the visitor and create opportunities for connection and initiation.

Team Organization/Purpose Statements

The team leads broke up and met to discuss their teams and their goals and purpose statements.

Teams & Liaisons Updates

Personnel - Betsy

Written report submitted.

Israel Avila and Roni Lopez are no longer employed by Luther Place. Property and Personnel are looking at what the job description was and what it could be for a building manager type of position and continued cleaning services.

Israel submitted a formal letter of resignation. A motion was made by Betsy to accept his resignation. The motion was seconded by Kate and passed unanimously.

The updated background check policy was submitted electronically.

A motion was made by Betsy to accept the policy. The motion was seconded by Tara and passed unanimously.

Finance – Kate and Patrick

The June financials are not finalized yet. Once ready it will be distributed financially. The conditional vote for the May financials was moved to final.

Property – Patrick

Written report submitted.

Membership – Ann & Elizabeth

The new leads have been connected to Chelsey and Kate.

Stewardship – Candace & Patrick

Written report submitted.

Candace recapped that much work has been done to get to the point to make the asks and now the asks need to happen.

Engagement – Christina & Doug

Written report submitted.

Christina and Doug have connected with Faith and Kristen and are working to set up a longer in person meeting.

Racial Equity – Ann & Tanay

Written report submitted.

The new leads met with Tara and have discussed how the team can be used to view the internal racial equity at Luther Place.

Community Care – Christiana & Christina

Written report submitted.

The team is in the process of putting together their recommendations in a more finalized form.

New Connections/Listening – Michael & Tom

Written report submitted.

Protest & Movement – Jay & Einar

Written report submitted. The team has a draft purpose statement and a list of next steps.

Pastor Karen has reached out to the group about engagement on August 12. A group has secured a permit to have a White Supremacist Rally in front of the White House on the anniversary of the Charlottesville rally. Counter movements are being formed and the United Methodist church has plans that Pastor Karen would like Luther Place and the Synod to connect to.

Steinbruck Center Liaison – Tanay

Tanay has connected with Sarah.

Youth & Families Liaison – Betsy

Betsy has connected with Krista.

Long Range Planning/Deficit Reduction Task Force – Patrick

The Long Range Planning team had its second meeting. It will put forth considerations and recommendations to the Council in August.

Closing Reflection/Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2018 at 6:30pm in the All Saints Room of Luther Place.

Submitted by: Christina Davis, Secretary, 2018-2019