



Grace  
Lutheran

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CONGREGATION COUNCIL OF GRACE EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rm 108, 21 Carroll St., Westminster, MD 21157

[www.gracelc.org](http://www.gracelc.org)

<http://gracelc.org/about-us/council/meeting-minutes/>

Meeting held on Monday, July 17, 2017 at 7 p.m.

Members Present

Rev. Martha Clementson, Co-Senior Pastor, Rev. Kevin Clementson, Co-Senior Pastor, Bill Comegna, Bob Lichtfuss, Ron Fairchild, Linwood Van Horn, Kevin Dayhoff, Arthur Pease, Johanna Monka, Jan Mickey, Robin Hoff Skrtic, Kari Ebeling, Rich Chaney, and Ginger Myers.

Members Absent: Brian Sherfey, Don Meyers, Patt Patterson Jones,

Call to order - Opening of Meeting: President Bob Lichtfuss called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Bob Lichtfuss led devotions. He began with James 5:11: "Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord-that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful."

Bob said that he and his family attended a conference over the weekend. At the conference he heard a great analogy that he wanted to share, about the Stubborn Mule. An old mule fell into an abandoned well which was no longer in use.

Bob said we all have, somehow or other, fallen into a hole a time or two. Some of us give up after a few attempts to escape, resigning to a state of imprisonment in our predicament - but this is not God's intent for our lives. His will is for us to persevere - become stubborn like a mule -- fight, kick, and continually toss the dirt off our backs - until we get out of the hole!

Approve Minutes & Adopt Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes and adopt the agenda. The motion passed.

President's Report: President Bob Lichtfuss called to the council's attention the many activities on the calendar in the near future.

He also observed that Pastors Martha and Kevin recently celebrated 35-years of ordination and that Grace Church has greatly benefited from their experience and leadership.

Pastors' Report: Pastor Martha shared a nice thank you letter from Carroll Lutheran Village for a recent contribution from GLC.

Pastor Kevin reported upon a recent series of conversations about investigating more uses of Grace Hall.

He added that, in part, using Grace Hall for community outreach was in line with the mission statement of Grace Church to build relationships with God and our community. Part of the reason we decided to stay in town a number of years ago was to make a difference in our community. Some discussion followed.

Pastor Martha gave an update on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. She recently met with a caterer to discuss ideas for an anniversary dinner tentatively scheduled for Sept. 23, 2017. Tentatively, worship services the weekend of the anniversary celebration are scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 24, at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., with the Delaware- Maryland Lutheran Synod Bishop Gohl preaching. An education hour is scheduled for 10:15 to include an adult forum with the bishop.

Some additional ideas were discussed. Pastor Martha invited everyone to a meeting on Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 7 p.m. to further ideas for a program and schedule.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bill Comegna reported that the current year-to-date deficit is \$13, 977.00, which is an improvement over last year. He led the council in a short discussion about an idea to include the mortgage balance, and a compare and contrast of the YTD profit or loss with the preceding year, on the treasurer's report.

Prayers of the Church were led by Kari, Arthur, and Pastor Martha. Kari said, in part, "Help us also too to see those in need, those without shelter or clean water. Let us be your gardeners, planters and harvesters to make the world a better place for us all".

Arthur shared a passage from a book, "[Dog Psalms: Prayers My Dogs Have Taught Me.](#)" by Herbert Brokering

#### Committee Reports

Pastor Martha presented a report from the personnel committee of a recent full review of the Grace Church employee handbook.

Kari Ebeling, representing the church personnel committee, made a motion to accept changes to the Employee Handbook. The motion passed.

Robin Hoff Skrtic gave a report from the Sunday school committee.

## New Business

Linwood shared a parking lot concern that has been called to his attention by a parishioner. After some discussion, Kari volunteered to write the parishioner a letter with some recommendations.

Pastor Kevin gave a report on having the recent damage done to the portico overhang repaired.

There were no announcements.

The council adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kevin E. Dayhoff, Grace Luther Church council secretary.

Looking Ahead: The next meeting will be held on August 21st with Kevin D. having devotions and Ginger, Bob, and the Pastor(s) leading the Prayers of the Church.

Rev. Martha Clementson, Co-Senior Pastor  
Rev. Kevin Clementson, Co-Senior Pastor  
Bill Comegna (1st term expires Dec 2017)  
Bob Lichtfuss (2nd term expires Dec 2017)  
Ron Fairchild (2nd term expires Dec 2017)  
Johanna Monka (2nd term expires Dec 2017)  
Linwood Van Horn (2nd term expires Dec 2017)  
Kevin Dayhoff (2nd term expires Dec 2018)  
Brian Sherfey (2nd term expires Dec 2018)

Kari Ebeling (1st term expires Dec 2018)  
Arthur Pease (1st term expires Dec 2018)  
Robin Hoff Skrtic (1st term expires Dec 2019)  
Ginger Myers (1st term expires Dec 2019)  
Rich Chaney (2nd term expires Dec 2019)  
Don Meyers (2nd term expires Dec 2019)  
Patt Patterson Jones (2nd term expires Dec 2019)  
Jan Mickey 2nd term expires Dec 2019)

Our Mission: Gifted with God's grace, redeemed by God's Son, and filled with the Holy Spirit, we grow in our relationship with God, one another, and community. Through word and sacrament, we gather to worship, learn, and go into the world empowered to serve.