



## **Congregation Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 15, 2018**

*Present:* Pr. Nathan Allen, Nicole Lipka, Rick Ballreich, Diana Lozon, Tammy Hingtgen, Julie Hargrove, Becky Martin, Bill Reeves, Mike Ziraldo  
*Not Present:* Patti Kooy, Lindsey Cochran  
*Next meeting:* Monday, November 19, 2018, 6:30 P.M., at Church

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### **Announcements**

Mike Lipka will lead the next devotion, Chapter 3 of *Giving to God*.

### **Discussion**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm.

September Meeting Minutes were presented by Tammy Hingtgen with a correction. A motion was made by Becky Martin, and seconded by Rick Ballreich, to approve the September meeting minutes.

Mike Ziraldo, Director of Finance, presented financial reports through September noting funds look good. Budget reporting to follow after Rick Ballreich and Pr. Allen meet.

Becky Martin, Director of Social Missions, reported our last collection for bars of soap was the largest amount received to date. Care packages to our military were delivered. Becky is now collecting for Crossover Outreach Ministries and encourages all to help; there is a current need for sleeping bags. Collection of winter coats for kids will resume as done last winter. In addition, 53 quilts and 106 school kits were donated for shipment to LWF sites around the world. With the congregation supporting Family Promise in the coming weeks, Council agreed to host a dinner; Tammy Hingtgen to coordinate sign-up and notify the group.

Bill Reeves, Worship Director, talked about the T-Coil project, where work is on hold pending input from Mark Ziraldo regarding grout work needed to hide lines for the system. Bill announced the stewardship campaign will start October 21 and the Community Thanksgiving service will be held November 20 at First Baptist Church.

Nicole Lipka, Director of Youth Ministries, said youth will be attending an Escape Room in Davison; October 26 youth will watch Hocus Pocus (location TBA). Nicole met with Pr. Cassie regarding Trunk-or-Treat and Chili Cook-Off; Sunday School will not be held this day (October 28). Instead it will be turned into a learning moment with all kids rotating to different rooms for



Congregation Council  
Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2018

Next meeting: Friday, November 16, 2018, 8:30 PM, 311 Center  
Pastor: Bill Weaver  
Worship: Bill Weaver  
Prayer: Bill Weaver  
Pr. Matthew Allen, Nicole Lujan, Rick Ballerich, Karen-Lynn Lemay,  
Tracy Hightower, Kelly Martin, Bill Weaver, Mike Zaitchik

Announcements

Mike Zaitchik will lead the next devotion, October 21 at 8:00am

Discussion

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am

September Meeting Minutes were presented by Tracy Hightower with a correction. A motion was made by Becky Martin and seconded by Rick Ballerich to approve the September meeting minutes.

Mike Zaitchik, Director of Finance, presented financial reports through September along with a look good. Budget reports to follow after Rick Ballerich and Pr. William Allen.

Becky Martin, Director of Social Services, reported on her collection for June at 8:00am was the largest amount received to date. Care packages to our military were delivered. Becky is now looking for November Outreach Minutes and reports of all to help. There is a current need for raising gear. Donation of winter coats for kids will arrive at some point in winter. In addition 25 gifts and 100 school kits were donated for shipment to LWF over the month. With the congregation and other early promise in the coming weeks, Council agreed to host a program. Tammy Hightower to coordinate sign-up and notify the group.

Bill Weaver, Worship Director, talked about the TCOE project where work is on hold pending input from Mike Zaitchik regarding grant work needed to take care of the system. Bill announced the stewardship campaign will start October 21 and the Community Thriving service will be held November 30 at 7:00am in the Church.

Mike Zaitchik, Director of Youth Ministries, said youth will be starting in August Room in August. October 20 youth will wear Harvest Crusade T-shirts. Youth meeting Pr. David regarding Harvest-Threat and Call Cook-Off. Sunday School will not be held this day. October 20th, October 21 will be turned into a Harvest morning with activities taking in different rooms for

activities and games. In November youth is planning a rake-and-run (date TBA); where older congregation members find a lawn to rake leaves and then runaway. On November 23 (7pm – 10pm) youth will have an electronic night where all middle school and high schoolers can come with video games, movies, board games, or even just to hang out; chaperons are needed. The Michigan youth gathering early registration deadline is also mid-November; this will be the last year the event is hosted in Lansing.

Pr. Nathan noted, in Patti Kooy's absence, tree removal and planting of smaller, new trees meant for hiding heating/cooling units is being considered; landscaping bids are being solicited with a meeting scheduled Friday. Emerald Lawn, our existing lawn maintenance provider, has been asked not to mow this week.

Diana Lozon, Director of Outreach, reported fliers for Trunk-or-Treat are posted in Kroger (Grand Blanc) and VG's (Fenton). Diana also talked about a chance for members to get clothing embroidered with the Church logo. The cost will be \$7.50 per logo. Diana is looking at shirts and other items to be purchased at discount; she should have bids to present at our next meeting. Members will also be allowed to bring in their personal clothing items for embroidering. Diana is also looking into new 5" x 7" folders for our visitor bags. Nicole added her Sunday School Class did a balloon launch where they wrote notes on Church business cards, sharing God's love.

Rick Ballreich, Vice-President, mentioned a member came to him during service Sunday, noting they believed we should have literature identifying Council Members. Pr. Nathan advised it is part of the new member packet and likely not necessary for new or first-time visitors. This member also noted it would be nice to have "reserved" seating for families during baptisms. Pr. Nathan advised this signage was up for the last baptism; however, knowing how many additional families members to expect is difficult. Rick also reported work with his Committee (Karen Michelson, Mary Tucker, Nancy Glady and Michelle Treanor) on the Employee Handbook is about complete. The Manual outlines expectations for employee behavior, credit card use, annual reviews, grievance procedures and a general rules guideline. The Committee is suggesting a 3% raise for staff in 2019.

Julie Hargrove, Director of Youth Ministries, reports the October *Smoke Signals* newsletter is out. In addition to working on Trunk-or-Treat, on October 28 third graders (Trent Holt and Noah Strader) will receive Bibles. There will also be another First Communion Class on November 3, in preparation for the November 11 welcoming of First Communicants. Julie noted two kids (Madeline Allen and Kennedy Todd) received perfect attendance Sunday School awards.

Pr. Nathan Allen's report is attached. Over the next four Sunday's Pastor will be sharing the history of the American Church during war times and how it shapes our thinking of church in America. Each week he will pick a different figure to focus on.

### **Old Business**

Holy Land Carvings can only do one day here – December 16. Council agreed to have them on this date.

Budget Planning: We have most everything needed or a pretty good start. Still working on income side which will come in November. Right now we're in good shape. Pr. Nathan, Mike Ziraldo and Debbie Zematis can coordinate after submissions are complete with an updated version being shared at our next meeting.

whereas our guests in November youth is planning a retreat and the (the FBA) where older  
the program members and a variety of activities will then follow. On November 23 (7pm -  
8pm) youth will have an about-face night with all youth and high schoolers can come  
with video games, movies, board games, or even just to hang out and relax in the room. This  
Michigan youth gathering early registration deadline is still and involvement that will be the first  
year that event is hosted in Lansing.

Dr. Nathan noted in Faith Keep's message, the removal and planting of seedlings, now have plans  
for many seedling units to be considered for planting and being solicited with a  
meeting scheduled Friday, February 1st, our budget team maintenance program has been  
closed not to grow this week.

Dr. Nathan, Director of Outreach, reported that for Link-or-Test are posted in Kroger Grand  
Blain and VCS (Penton). Plans also talked about a chance for members to get clothing  
embroidered with the Church logo. The cost will be \$7.50 per logo. Plans are looking at shirts and  
other items to be purchased at discount, also should have kits to present at our next meeting.  
Members will also be allowed to bring in their personal clothing items for embroidery. Plans is  
also looking into new 5" x 7" folders for answer tags. Nicole added her Sunday School Class  
and a bulletin launch where they wrote notes on Church business cards, sharing God's love.

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they believed we should have literature identifying Council Members. Dr. Nathan advised it is part  
of the new member packet and likely not necessary for new or first-time visitors. This member  
also noted it would be nice to have "reserved" seating for families during programs. Dr. Nathan  
advised this signage was up for the last program, however, knowing how many additional families  
members to expect is difficult. Rick also reported work with the Committee (Karen Mielke) on  
Mary Tucker, Nancy Gladly and Michelle Treadon on the Employee Handbook is about complete.  
The Manual outlines expectations for employee behavior, credit card use, annual reviews,  
grievance processes and a general rules guideline. The Committee is suggesting a 3% raise for  
2019.

Julie Hargrave, Director of Youth Ministries, reports the October Smoke Signs newsletter is out.  
In addition to working on Link-or-Test, on October 28 third grade (Trent Hill and Noah  
Gardner) will receive Bibles. There will also be another First Communion Class on November 3, in  
preparation for the November 17 wedding of First Communicants. Julie noted two kids  
(Michael Allen and Kennedy Tread) received packet attendance Sunday School awards.

Dr. Nathan Allen report is attached. Over the next few weeks the Pastor will be sharing the  
history of the American Church through war times and how it shapes our thinking of Church in  
America. Each week he will pick a different figure to focus on.

## Old Business

July 1st and August can only do one day from - December 1st. Council agreed to have them on  
the date.

Budget Planning: We have most everything needed or a pretty good start. Still working on  
income side which will come in November. Right now we're in good shape. Dr. Nathan Miller  
Krebs and Debbie Zemanek are coordinating after submission are complete with the updated  
worksheet being started at our next meeting.

### **New Business**

Pr. Allen indicated the Rise Up Campaign will start February 3; we will host a leader training offered by Pr. Jack Egelston on November 12 here at Holy Spirit. We still need to identify a Congregation Leader to attend the training and help lead the campaign here; Pastor asks we think and pray about a person and let him know.

Our current policy with Brotherhood was not updated after adding Grace Hall. Church Mutual submitted a proposal with the additional square footage, offering the same coverage for less. After reviewing the proposal, both Pr. Nathan and Mike Lipka believe we should switch and move the church to a \$2,500 deductible (we would break even in 35 months with no claims). Pr. Nathan moved to propose we vote to terminate insurance policy with Brotherhood effective November 1 and add a policy with Church Mutual on same date. Nicole Lipka seconded the motion and all were in favor.

### **Roundtable**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Pr. Nathan, and seconded by Diana Lozon at 8:47pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by Tammy Hingtgen



**Agenda: Holy Spirit Lutheran Church Council Meeting Monday, October 15th, 2018**

<b>Attendees:</b> Pr. Nathan Allen, Rick Ballreich, Lindsey Cochran, Julie Hargrove, Tammy Hingtgen, Patti Kooy, Mike Lipka, Nicole Lipka, Diana Lozon, Becky Martin, Bill Reeves, Mike Ziraldo;	<b>Absent:</b>
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<b>Mission Statement:</b> Worship God, Follow Jesus, Share the Word	<b>Core Values:</b> Youth and Family Ministry, Community Service, Fellowship, Worship & Praise (adopted 9/17)
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#	Description of Agenda Item	Reporting	Notes
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1	Call to Order	Mike Lipka	
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2	Opening Devotion & Discussion	Chapter 2 of Giving to God - discussion led by Mike Lipka	<b>Next month Chapter 3 - led by:</b>
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3	Approval of Previous Minutes	Tammy Hingtgen	See September 18 minutes
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4	Pastor's Report	Pr. Nathan Allen	See attached report
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5	Finance Director Report	Mike Ziraldo	See September snapshot
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	<b>Committee Reports</b>	<b>Cmte Liaisons</b>	<b>Notes</b>
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6	Social Missions	Becky Martin	We are collecting winter coats for kids as in years past as well as items for Crossover Outreach Ministries. In addition, 53 quilts, 106 school kits and 455 bars of soap were dropped off at St. Mark's Lutheran for shipment to LWF sites around the world on Oct. 8 by Pr. Nathan and John & Sally Neil.
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7	Worship	Bill Reaves	We are still on hold regarding a T-coil system - once Mark Ziraldo has a chance to give some input on whether or not we can router out the grout to hide the lines for the system. Stewardship starts October 21. The Community Thanksgiving service will be Nov. 20.
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8	Youth Ministries	Nicole Lipka	On October 26th youth will watch Hocus Pocus at 7pm (location TBD). On the 28th youth will help with Trunk or Treat. In November, Bree is planning Rake and Run, (date TBD). On November 23rd Youth will have an electronic night where all middle school and high schoolers can come with their video games, movies, board games, or even just to hang out. This will be from 7pm-10pm, pizza will be provided but please bring a snack to share. We will need chaperone's for this event. The early registration deadline for the MI Youth Gathering is also in mid Nov. - this will be the last year it is held in Lansing from Dec. 27-30.
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9	Church Properties	Patti Kooy	We will solicit parking lot repair estimates in early 2019. The sprinkler system will be winterized Friday, Oct 17, and the bugs and bathroom fans have been cleaned by Alan Cochran. A service call has been made on the coffee maker in the narthex to look into the cause of a small leak. Patti is working on creating a team to help maintain the property, and is soliciting bids to see about additional insulation as well as moving some of the pines in front of Grace Hall that were not planted in a good spot.
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10	Outreach	Diana Lozon	The Trunk or Treat is being advertized this year (unlike in years past). Pr. Nathan has spoken with a few individuals who would like new shirts with the HSLC logo on it. Each logo is \$7.50, so since we all come in different shapes and sizes, he is proposing having individuals who would like a logo added to a shirt to bring their own. Diana is also looking into new folders for our visitor bag.
11	Christian Education	Julie Hargrove	October Smoke Signals is out; Working on Trunk Or Treat on October 28. Also, on Oct. 28, 3rd graders will receive Bibles, and we will also have another First Communion Class on Nov. 3 in preparation for a November 11 welcoming of First Communicants.
12	Personnel	Rick Ballreich	Personnel will be meeting Monday, Nov. 5 at 6:30 to hopefully finalize the personnel handbook for council. We are recommending a 3% raise for staff for 2019.
13	Youth Representative	Lindsay Cochran	The youth Bible Study continues on Wednesday nights, but it has moved back to the youth room.
<b>Old Business</b>			
14	Holy Land Carvings	Pastor Nathan	December 16 is the only date that will work in the calendar, so that is when they will come.
15	Budget Planning for 2019	All	Thank you to those who have already submitted information! Please get it to us ASAP! An updated version of what we have will be shared at the meeting.
16			
<b>New Business</b>			
17	Date(s) in 2019 for Rise Up Campaign	All	Likely start Feb 3 - we will also host a leader training offered by Pr. Jack Eggeston on November 12 HERE at HSLC. We still need to identify a Congregation Leader to attend the training and help lead the campaign at HSLC.
18	Switching liability insurance to Church Mutual	All	After reviewing a proposal by Church Mutual, both Pr. Nathan and Mike Lipka believe that we should switch and move the church to a \$2500 deductible (we would break even in 35 months with no claims).
19	Date for semi-annual meeting	All	If we keep our regular pattern, it would be December 9.
20			
	Next Council Meeting		Monday, November 19, 6:30 pm
	Adjourn with The Lord's Prayer	All	



Pastor's Report for September 2018

Membership (as of 9/30):
Baptized: 530
Confirmed: 443
Sept. avg. attendance: 42/101

**Congregational Statistics:**

**Births:** None

**Baptisms:** Molly Elizabeth Pieper, on Oct. 7 - daughter of Mark Pieper and Gwyneth VanBrandeghen (grand-niece of the Ranta's)

Madyson Hocken scheduled for October 21 – daughter of Josh and Cassie Hocken.

**Marriages:** None

**Possible New Members & First Time Visitors Goal:** According to my notes, we have had at least 19 (three from Fall Festival) first time visitor households this year.

**New Members:** New members received on Sept. 23: Greg Dietrich (also his fiancé Nicole Thompson), Lynn Swain (daughter of Barb Noble), Ingrid Pearson, Linda Moskal, and Donna Garton all have joined HSLC.

**Transfers in:** None

**Transfers out:** None

**Deaths/Funerals:** Gertrude Halboth on 9/2. Funeral on 9/8, committal on 9/25 for both Gert & Harry

**Business Mileage:** 344 miles

**Sick Days:** None

**Remaining Vacation Days for 2018:** 14 days including 1 Sunday remain. I was gone Sept. 16-17 for my brother's installation as pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Brownsburg, IN. I will be in Germany from Nov. 21-27 with Laura she is there for Kettering University.

**Continuing Education:** 10 days including 2 Sundays remain. I will be attending the Autumn Leadership Conference from Oct 15-17 in Livonia.

**Updates:**

- **T-Coil** – Still on hold, but I hope to move ahead with it in the coming months.
- **Men's Bible Study** – is going well. We will be studying 1 & 2 Samuel.
- **Stewardship Plans** – The brochures, commitment cards, and invitations to the luncheon are all printed. Letters should be complete by Tuesday, and envelopes will be prepared for distribution on Sunday. We could use a few folks to help pass them out to make sure that we get as many out as possible. Debbie also hopes to have 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter statements ready to share as well.
- **Holy Land Families** – They were not available on any date except Dec. 16. Therefore, I have scheduled them to come that day.
- **Nursery attendant** – Shianne Simpson is doing well, and the nursery continues to be used regularly by families during Sunday School and worship.
- **Samaritas** – We did provide some furniture and furnishings for their Foster Care+ program home that opened in September. I have heard nothing further regarding possible investment from Samaritas for senior living apartments.
- **Church Mutual Insurance** – Andrew Sherrington, regional representative for Church Mutual Insurance has presented us with an updated proposal. After meeting with him and conversing with Mike Lipka, Mike and I both believe that we should accept the proposal, and all the options that also reduce the deductible. Ultimately, it will save us about \$1000/year, and increase the reimbursement value of the property replacement.
- **Community Thanksgiving Service** – On Tuesday, November 20, there will be a Community Thanksgiving Service (HSLC members—primarily the choir—have historically participated in this) at First Baptist Church at 7:00pm. I will be the preacher, and Frank is coordinating the music, so I invite you to attend! It will be good!
- **Grand Blanc Faith Community Outreach** – the Articles of Incorporation have been signed. I am the Vice-President of the board. Our 501c3 status is still a work in progress as we wait for the final approval of the Articles of Incorporation by the State of Michigan.
- **FISH** – FISH of Grand Blanc is now participating in the Food Rescue Program of Genesee County. They are gathering unused school lunches and handing them out at St. Christopher's Episcopal along with additional produce, dairy, and bakery items purchased from the FBEM. They will distribute foods on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 3-5 pm and are looking for additional volunteers (read churches) to help with this project.

- **Bibles and First Communion Class** – We will again be presenting Bibles to third graders on Oct. 28, and I will also be offering a first communion class on Nov. 3. The first communicants will be received on Nov. 11—the same day as the Celebration luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,  
-Pr. Nathan