

All are welcome in this church community. You are welcome here if you have ever felt excluded or judged because of your gender, ethnicity, race, religion, status, ability, sexual orientation, doubts, or questions. We are a community committed to racial equity, and we believe in Jesus' commandments to love God and love neighbor.

May 15, 2024

2024 Council Minutes

President: John White (P)

Vice President: Janice Burwash (P)

Treasurer: Millie Fosberg (P)

Secretary: Pam Dix (P)

At-Large Members:

David Svaren (On Council through 2024) (P) /Nancy Hill Hoffman (On Council through 2024) (P)

Mary Nolte (On Council through 2025) (Z)) / Eva Yeoman (On Council through 2025) (A)

Kathleen Hasselblad (On Council through 2026)(P) /Erin Rozema (On Council through 2026)(A)

Pastor Charis Weathers (On-going member) (P)

(P) Present, (Z) Present via Zoom, (A) Absent

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by Council President, John White, with a quorum present. There were no guests present.

The Opening Prayer was given by Pastor Charis.

Leadership Reports:

The **April 17, 2024, meeting minutes**, prepared by Pam Dix, after Motion, Second & Vote (MSV) were approved.

Highlights of the **Pastor's Report** given by Pastor Charis included:

Our **Earth Day/Resurrection service project** at the Van Loo farm went well, with 20-25 people participating.

Unfortunately, **Youth Camping** at Rasar State Park was canceled due to weather and some of the kids being sick.

We will have several boys at **confirmation** age this fall. Other local pastors are interested in collaborating and combining classes.

Pentecost is next Sunday! It is a joyful, potentially confusing and chaotic service.

A **Pastoral Care Team** is being headed up by Kathleen Hasselblad and looking into the best training for this group of volunteers.

The **Library refresh project** with Sarah and Janice is moving forward.

North Sound ACH is receiving new members into the **Collaborative Action Network**.

Our zoom orientation with Keiko McCracken is Monday, May 20th. The whole Council and Social Justice team are invited to attend the zoom. I'm thrilled to have this opportunity to network and potentially find collaborators for us to **Be God's Love in our Communities** in new ways.

Pastor's Report Continued:

Leadership Skagit is coming to a close. It has been an incredible experience and the BEST continuing education ever! My cohort's final project is installing signage at the Valley of the Spirits story pole sculpture in Riverwalk Park in MV. It's been an amazing endeavor.

Pastor's Report Continued:

Pastor was not able to attend **Bishop's Convocation**, April 21-24, at Sebeck this year. It was moved, seconded, and voted to allow her to use these funds and time in lieu of Pastoral Retreat at a later date with notification to the Council.

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The **April Treasurer Report** given by Millie Fosberg after MSV was approved. Millie stated that we are tracking behind on our giving (\$10,000) but also behind on our spending. On May 20, the Budget and Finance Committee will be meeting to discuss options, moving forward with an "Attitude of Abundance" while preparing the congregation for our next budget (January 1 - December 31). She also noted that passing the offering plate down each of the pews has been well received.

New Council Notebooks had been prepared by Janice Burwash (VP) and handed out.

Regular Action Items:

Jennifer Knapp concert: BLC has the opportunity to host an upcoming concert in September. Jennifer no longer does concerts in churches but will do a fundraiser for a community organization, such as PFLAG. After much discussion, it was MSV to not move forward due to our current budget constrictions.

Replacements: Eva Yeoman and Erin Rozema have resigned from Church Council. The Council MSV to accept their resignations. A phone call was placed to Heidi Yeoman to see if she would be willing to replace Eva until the next election. The Council MSV to accept Heidi to fill this vacancy. Mary Nolte will meet with Heidi and give her the new Council notebook. John White will put an article in the E-News for other individuals to fill vacant positions and accept nominations for new 2025 Council members.

Summer Meetings: After discussion, it was agreed that the Council will continue to meet through each of the summer months.

Discussion items:

1. Revise BLC Constitution to adjust VP position to a 3-year commitment (VP, Pres, Past President) Discussion to follow next month.
2. 2025 Council Member recruitment, nominations, volunteers: John will follow-up
3. Visioning Follow up: At the April Council meeting for Visioning we had volunteers for:
 - a. Being a member of BLC handout development & then lunch invitation: Pastor Charis, John, David, & Mary
 - b. Cards to visitors - Janice and Charis
 - c. Book group - Sarah
 - d. Elevator training: David Svaren will offer training before our next Council meeting with all the Ushers that are able to attend.
 - e. Synod Assembly pulpit report: set date

Discussion Items Continued: Visioning:

f. Kitchen upgrade - Health department inspection - Erin and Charis

4. Lay Care Team ministry Update: Kathleen reported they are moving forward.
5. Coffee with Council Members: John will schedule this after the Budget & Finance meeting.
6. Lutheran Counseling Network: This agreement is in place. Moving forward to install curtain.

Standing Reports:

1. Emergency shelter status & Burlington Fire Marshal Approval: John emailed his contact at Washington Alarm again. Nothing back so far. Should we consider other alternatives?.

2. Tech Task Force: David updated the council.

3. Building & Grounds: David reported that he and John had installed 57 Carbon Dioxide-Smoke Detectors. David will meet with Pastor Charis and Jacob about Smoke Detector training.

4. Personnel Committee: Janice reported that the Personnel Policy is moving forward. Job descriptions are moving forward.

Announcements:

Berry Dairy Days: The parade is on June 15th. Millie reported that vehicles have been secured, including a flatbed truck. She will use the large banner and signs with activities that BLC supports. Walkers can hand out candy. Candy can not be thrown.

Next Council meeting will be on Wednesday, June 19 at 6:30 pm.

Closing Prayer was given by Kathleen and the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Dix, Secretary