

HALFWAY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH
VISION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2024

Present: Patti Happel, Amy Noel, Bette Pedretti, Andrea Baxter, Kari Washburn and Nancy Holley

Absent: Carrie Payne and Nicole Stumlin,

Guests: Jodi Anderson, Shari Ireland and Lynn Wenger

Call to order at 6:01PM. Devotion led by Amy Noel

Approval of Agenda: Motion made and 2nd to approve revised agenda. Motion passed.

Actions since last meeting:

- **11/22/24** - Approval of November 21, 2024 Vision Board meeting minutes via email.

Office Update (to replace Pastor's Report)

- All church events are listed on a Google Calendar found on the HCLC website. If you want to add something, please let Shari know.
- September - God's Work, Our Hands: We are waiting on a date. We are responsible for worship, so have reached out to the new LuMin pastor.
- Office closed the week following Christmas
- We are all grateful in how we are seeing how faith is moving in this congregation.

Financial Report received

- With the generosity of recent donations, our mortgage is \$189,652.88. THANK YOU!
- No transfer of funds from Thrivent or Designated Funds into General Checking during November.
- Motion made and 2nd to approve a revised 2025 budget.

Noisy Offering:

- December - ELCA Good Gifts program. This is an opportunity to give toward buying an animal, a hygiene kit, or stock a backpack with food in nations all over the world.
- January - Unsheltered in our community with a focus supporting the ministry of Karuna House in La Crosse. <https://www.karunahousing.org/>
- February - HCLC Quilters
- March - Coulee Region Immigration Task Force

OLD BUSINESS:

- Annual meeting is the first Sunday of February. Please get any articles/information you want in the report to Shari by January 10, 2025.
- We have added a new role to the weekly worship volunteers, Pastor's host. The role will include welcoming the pastor, getting them set up for services and ensuring that all the volunteer spots are filled. Lynn shared "Host Checklist".

- VB will develop a plan to update our membership of voting members. A small group will meet in January to begin the process. The last time this was done was approximately 7 years ago.
- Reflecting on our Congregation's legacy: We identified several possible congregational members who we would ask to participate in this process.
- Planning a training session for all PowerPoint operators in the near future. Shari will set up.
- Recruiting to vacant VB seats. We have up to two spots to fill. Kari will be stepping down. Next year an additional three people will step down, so filling these vacancies is very important. Nominations are due January 5th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Background checks have been completed on the 9 volunteers who work with our youth and children.
- **OUTREACH**
 - Christmas Tree at Jingle Fest was a great way to let everyone know that HCLC is still here.
 - Future Event Planning
 - Remember/Recognize the National Guard Unit out of Arcadia that is currently serving overseas in February.
 - In May, recognize local EMS.
 - Other ideas: Versiti Blood Drive, End of life (funeral) planning, ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) education, Open house so the community can see our church
- Property Concern: The past two falls after rain/wind storms, we have found water damage to the AV corner and have had to replace some equipment. At this time, the property team is unable to find a source. They plan to have someone come out in the spring to evaluate.
- IT Update from Wayne Atchley
 - Sunday streaming has been somewhat of an issue for a number of reasons.
 - Wireless network issue in Sanctuary.
 - Corrected - Now directly connected the computer.
 - The Streaming stick is a flakey - Works sometimes, not all the time.
 - Aaron has installed an actual card for the computer. It should be faster, more efficient and reliable.
 - An entire new network will be installed soon. Most pieces are here, waiting for the rest to arrive and some time on my schedule to install.
 - Faster, More features, set for future options such as Security cameras, etc.
 - The sound boards up front in the Sanctuary are 25+ years old, they are starting to fail. We are waiting for a quote for a new one from Sims.
- Considering planning a new member recognition Sunday in the New Year.
- Mark your calendar for a Council Retreat in Sparta on March 22, 2025 from 9 to 12.

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Adjournment at 7:55. Next meeting(s): Thursday, January 9, 2025 @ 6pm.