

# St. Mark Council Meeting

## Minutes

Nov. 16, 2021 at 6:00 PM

### Attending:

Pastor: Mollie Dvorak  
President: Karen Gregory  
Vice President: Kent Barnard  
Secretary: Nancy Richter  
Member At Large: Brenda Weaver

Member at Large: David Kelling  
Treasurer: Susan Koosmann  
Guests: Jenny Aleckson

### Our Mission

- Growing Disciples
- Serving Others

### The 7 Habits of Discipleship

- Worship
- Prayer
- Study
- Encourage
- Give
- Serve
- Invite



**Purpose:** To grow St. Mark by helping teams, congregation, and staff focus on our Mission and Vision.

**Worship:** A time to shift from the day's hectic schedule and become Christ-centered with peace and renewal.  
Devotions by Pastor Mollie.

### Who is living out our Mission and Vision at St. Mark:

- Bazaar team – Susan, Nora, Cindy and all helpers
- Social ministry team – Tanzania quilt and treat sale at bazaar
- All the bakers for the bazaar

### Prayer and Praise:

- Donna Peterson – cracked vertebrae; is off work for 4 weeks
- Becky and Dick Malik – Covid (Dick in hospital)
- Amber, Joe, Maizey – Covid
- Leslie Pracht – needs a kidney transplant
- Robin Sonnenberg – chemo
- Wally and Yvonne Gupill – health issues
- Dick Barnard (Kent's dad) – undergoing tests for cancer

### Guest Visitors:

### Pastor's Report:

We need to be gentle with each other during this uneasy time. "We are all hurting."  
Pastor is taking this weekend off; Pastor Jenny will be our sub. Pastoral care has been heavy lately.

### Team Reports:

**Youth:** See below

**Faith Development:** Speaker set for Dec. 5th

**Staff Support:** see below

**Social Ministry:**

**Food and Festival:**

**Endowment:** Money for the electronic sign has been sent to Jenny to pay the bill. David will write up an official letter to the Pouchniks about their donation for tax purposes.

**Worship:**

**Property:** 5 smoke detectors were installed throughout the building. One CO detector was put in the basement.

**Finance:** Town Hall idea was abandoned. Finance will write an appeal letter instead. We are \$11,000 in the red this month. Council unanimously approved the spending of \$1,000 Thrivent Choice dollars to go toward our Tanzania obligations.

**COVID:** No further changes this month. All food servers (vaccinated or not) need to wear masks and gloves when serving or preparing food. We will begin spraying again after services in the sanctuary, SS rooms, and fellowship hall.

### **Items for Discussion:**

Donna is out at least 4 weeks. Choir is cancelled until further notice. Cantata is cancelled. Pastor Mollie has music lined up for the next few weeks. We are looking for someone to play on Christmas Eve. Nancy will contact Carol Blomberg to see if she is available.

Pastor Mollie met a friend of Kent's named Dawn who has experience playing piano for church services. She is interested in the position and will be interviewed at the next Staff Support meeting.

Advent starts on Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. Devotionals will be given out to families to use at home. Wednesday dinners will be held Dec. 1, 8, and 15. Food and Fellowship to take Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, serving soup. Activities will include a craft night, game night, and hymn sing.

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> service will be Lessons and Carols

Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> after church, members will be asked to stay and help decorate the church, under the direction of Sandy Geslin. At this time, Karen has asked that some of the men move the tables located in the furnace room.

Live Nativity on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> – We still need a donkey. Contact Waldoch Farms? Llamas, sheep, and goats are scheduled. There will be a food truck, PJ's Grill, to serve burgers, etc. We have a financial commitment of \$1,000 to them. Food and Festival will provide a hot beverage station only; no food. Kent agreed to write an article for the Quad Press about this event. We will also be providing a nativity keepsake ornament to everyone who comes: a plastic ornament will be handed out and then trinkets added at each station. (Wood shavings for Joseph, blue cloth for Mary, cotton for the shepherds, something for the wisemen, a star for Bethlehem and a tiny plastic baby for Jesus.)

Worship time will be left at 9:30 until there is a need to change back to 2 services due to crowding.

Organization of basement – Still a mess. We could use a work crew of men to help with heavy lifting. An all-church cleaning day is something to consider. Karen Gregory keeps plugging away at it.

Youth Room – Dave Dvorak, Sr. painted the basement walls a light gray. They youth have a plan to decorate the outside wall with a geometric pattern, using blues and purples. Any further art work will be framed to make it moveable and updateable. Pillow covers and sofa slipcovers are being looked into. Jenny hopes to make this happen over Christmas break, possibly incorporating a lock-in.

Our new sound system will be installed this week!

The digital sign is here and stored at Bruce Hanson's house for now. It might get installed this week, too!!

Canoes- The 4 canoes being stored at Hansons are to be donated to Wapo Camp. Mollie emailed the camp to discuss when we could drop them off. Kent will do the delivery. Kent also to call Greg to discuss our decision to donate.

Kent to take pictures of the risers we want to get rid of. He can then post them for sale on social media platforms.

**Backlog Items:** Covered above.

**Action Items - who has agreed to do what/when?**

- Karen G.: work on basement organization
- Kent: work with Dave M. to sell the risers; write an article about Living Nativity for Quad Press; talk to Greg about canoes and then deliver them to Wapo
- Nancy: contact Carol Blomberg about playing piano Christmas Eve

**Important dates:**

**Closing:**

Adjourned 8:37 PM with prayer

**Next Council Meeting:**

NOTE: Next Meeting will be on **Thursday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 PM at Nancy Richter's house. Please bring an appetizer to share and possibly some wine. 6707 Sherman Lake Road, Lino Lakes 651-485-8098

Submitted by N.Richter