

**Lebanon Lutheran Church Congregation Council**  
**Minutes of September 17, 2024 Meeting**  
**In Person - In Church Lounge**

**In Attendance:** Pastor Doug Ogden, President Wietse Schaafsma, Vice President Sarah Schmaltz, Treasurer Terry Beekman, Financial Secretary Curt Crouch, Cheri Crouch, Meg Eaton, Secretary Al Wheeler

President Wietse Schaafsma called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Wietse called for the **Agenda Review**. The agenda was accepted as written.

**Opening Devotion:** Al read from the book *The Lives We Actually Have* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie, a writing confirming that we should “feel things big” and not consider our emotions to be wrong or bad.

**Future Devotions:** October - Wietse

Participants shared **Recent Signs of God’s Grace**.

**Secretary’s Minutes:** Council reviewed the September minutes. Cheri moved, Sarah seconded, and the minutes were accepted as written.

**Pastor’s report: (See Pastor’s Report to the Church Council September 17, 2024):** In addition to his written report, Pastor Doug discussed the possibility that a power line on Church property may need to be moved and suggested that it be added as an agenda item in the October meeting.

**Financial Reports: (See Financial Reports to the Church Council September 17, 2024):** Curt commented that he had added an Income vs Expenses Comparison report. Income to date is disappointing, but still ahead of last year’s pace. Expenses are at 64.28% - just below budget. The food pantry is doing much better since we are now supplied by two sources.

**New or Urgent Business:**

- 1) **Margaret’s Computer:** No news to report. Estimate of \$2000 to replace - to be funded by Thrivent Choice.
- 2) **Replace Picnic Tables (Approved by Finance Committee):** One new table was delivered today and is being tested by the Property Committee before ordering more.
- 3) **Choir/Music Lessons (discuss):** Suggestion was made before music lessons began that the students might sing occasionally at church services in return for the use of the space. The number of students has grown considerably since then to include a choir, and so the Council tonight agreed that some monetary compensation for the use of the church for this purpose is appropriate. Council then had a productive meeting with Alexys Nevitt, the teacher, and it was decided that an offering would be taken at the choir’s concert on December 14 and donated to Lebanon Lutheran Church. In addition, it was agreed that, beginning January 2025, some fee would be charged on a monthly basis. That amount is yet to be determined.
- 4) **Event Planning - Hayride:** Attempts have been made by phone to schedule with no response. Desired date is October 20 or 27. Terry will provide a Thrivent card for treats and will continue attempting to schedule.
- 5) **Event Planning - God’s Work, Our Hands:** Discussed, but still no plan or ideas.

**6) Thrivent Action Cards/Calendar:** The paper towel dispenser in the lady's restroom needs replacing and liners for the changing station to be ordered. Terry will request a Thrivent Action card to help cover these expenses.

**Emphasis of the Month:**

**September - Faith Formation:** Kids to pass out thank you cards. Sarah is working on this.

**October - Samaritas:** No color tour - all funds raised to be sent directly to Samaritas. Meg will run another blurb in the newsletter.

**November - Worship:** Al will ask Michele to do a talk.

**Unfinished Business:**

1) **AV equipment to be moved:** When Mike is ready.

2) **Outdoor Sign for August/September:** Hayride - maybe color tour - Decolores.

**Calendar and Adjournment:** Decolores Group 1st week of October

At 8:00 Cheri moved to adjourn and Meg seconded, The motion passed unanimously. The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Al Wheeler