

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

11:24 AM – Flip Wilson opened the meeting with a prayer.
There were 47 signed up with a few non-members present.

Agenda- 2024 Budget and Voting in 2 members for council.

2024 Budget: Flip thanked all who turned in their pledges. We received \$150,000 in pledges and that leaves us \$56,000 below what we need to operate. JoJo was the only member of the church's staff that received a raise and that was due to the minimum wage regulations. The council will reevaluate this sometime during the coming year. We can increase the giving by loose offerings, the parking lot donations, and building usage. Are there any questions from the congregation? Jenny Minor wanted to clarify the 2023 budget.

*Hank Whittet made the 1st motion to approve the 2024 Budget and Brian Laabs made the 2nd.
Approved.*

Flip reminded everyone that the Budget is a working document.

Council Vote: There are 2 positions open. Flip asked all candidates to say why they wanted to join the church council.

Ginny Ruths said that she wants to see the church thrive and survive.

Anne Reed said that she loves this church and Pr. Kelsey and will do the best she can for the church.

Penny Carr has a commitment to Grace and feels privileged to serve with the gifts she has.

Karin Crain and Courtney White collected the ballots and proceeded with the count.

Flip thanked the congregation for putting up with him while being President of the council and he thoroughly enjoyed it. He thanked Courtney White for an outstanding job. He thanked Nancy Tindell for taking the minutes at the meetings.

Other topics:

Security: Everyone and all groups using the church needs to make sure that all doors are locked and all lights are out before they leave. The key has been left in the door twice. Lights are left on often. Keep doors locked while you are in the building. The person wanting in can use the doorbell or their phone to be let in. We had people just come in. Some were threatening. We have had items come up missing as well. We do not have a panic button. Cathy Irwin suggested that and mentioned that Westside Cares Pantry has one and they have used it. Can we have badge access? That would be very expensive. But it will be looked into.

Vote: We have to take a 2nd vote because of a tie between Ginny Ruths and Ann Reed. Penny Carr is in council now.

Property: Brian Laabs said that they cleaned out the gutters on the roof and found pieces of shingles. It is now time to replace the roof.

Mental Health Conference: The class was held at Grace on November 11th, and it was outstanding. We would recommend having it again.

Vote: Ginny Ruths received the most votes and will be in council for 2 years.

New Council Members: Ginny Ruths and Penny Carr. Congratulations!

Note: If we do not meet our expenditures, we will still have to use our savings. Tom Tindell asked how much longer we have if we keep pulling out of savings? We transferred \$10,000 to make it to the end of this year. We have had people that have paid for things such as copy paper and internet.

Karleen Cotton made the 1st motion to adjourned. Approved

12:00pm- The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Minutes taken by Nancy Tindell