



# NOVEMBER

## The Messenger 2023 CELC Newsletter

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### Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregation Council Meeting Minutes October 16, 2023

*Draft version. Minutes not officially approved until the following Congregation Council meeting.*

**Present:** Ryan Smarsh, Amy Lodge, Chuck Heindrichs, Tim Gottshall and Katie Koch

**Absent:** Pastor Laura Kuntz, Eric Mohney

Quorum was met.

The in person meeting was called to order by Council President Ryan Smarsh at 6:30 p.m. and opened with prayer.

Review and officially accept minutes from previous Council meeting

**Motion:** Accept minutes of the September 11, 2023 Congregation Council Meeting.

**Motion:** Chuck Heindrichs


**Second:** Amy Lodge

**Motion passed.**

### Pastor's Report

On behalf of Pastor Laura, Ryan Smarsh reported that an e-mail has been sent out regarding a class/book discussion that will be starting October 22 after service, with lunch and babysitting.

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**Treasurer's Report**  
**Financials thru September 30, 2023**

	<b>September</b>	<b>YTD</b>	
<b>Income</b>	\$26,426	\$172,280	
<b>Expenses</b>	\$8,151	\$190,587	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$18,275</b>	<b>-\$18,307</b>	
<b>Organ Loan</b>	\$18,656	Pledges Reserve of 9/30/2023	\$1,979
<b>External Funds</b>	\$850,536		
<b>Internal Funds</b>	\$35,371		

Chuck Heindrichs reported the Endowment Committee will meet on October 29 to discuss applications. The ERC Fund will be applied as “other income” at the end of the year.

**Property**

Tim Gottshall reported the gas line was upgraded per the Fire Marshal mandate. The water fountain was inspected and will need a service technician. The preschool bathroom has been repaired and new playground equipment installed. The trellis removal is scheduled for Saturday, October 21.

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### **Previous Business**

The Call Committee had a mock interview, but are still looking for candidates with the aid of Pastor Mitch.

Laura Knight and Chris Owens will be attending the delegate meeting for Lutheran West on October 18.

### **New Business**

For budgeting and planning purposes, the bells will need to be refurbished in 2026.

At this time, Council discussed the 2024 budget, including personnel pay increases.

**Motion:** To accept 2024 proposed budget.

**Motion:** Ryan Smarsh

**Motion:** Amy Lodge

**Motion passed.**

Council discussed the upcoming Eclipse on April 8, 2024. More information is needed and Amy agreed to reach out to the city to get more specific details involving street closures and access to the church.

Decorating the sanctuary for Christmas will be on November 26, after service.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Ryan Smarsh

**Second:** Amy Lodge

**Motion passed.**

Ryan Smarsh adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Date for the next council meeting will be November 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katie Koch  
Secretary



<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Karen W	1
Marshall K	4
Erik Y	6
Genny H	7
Carrie Y	7
Seamus K	8
Julie S	11
Matthew B	12
Paul E	17
Kristen L	19
Ella B	20
Brian K	20
Vince M	20
Quella C	25
Doris G	25

## FALL CONGREGATION MEETING

The Fall Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We will be discussing several topics and voting on the 2024 proposed budget, which includes a few changes. Materials for the meeting will be mailed to your home. Please bring your copy to the meeting for reference. Your attendance is needed and appreciated.

### Call Committee Update – October 24, 2023

*We are waiting in time for the eternal God to speak to us, to direct us, to lead us out in service to the world.*     When the Church Stops Working, c. 2023, Root and Bertrand

**Waiting for God’s timing is not easy. We do not like to wait. Waiting makes us anxious. Our culture has taught us that we need to be busy. We need to make things happen. This is *our* way. Not so with our eternal God. In the Bible, we read that Jesus tells his disciples to wait a number of times. We, too, are in a period of waiting. We do our part responsibly, pray for Holy Indifference, then wait until God gives us direction. A brief review of our past months may relieve some anxiety and answer frequently asked questions.**

**February:** Council announced formation of Call Committee (CC) and began seeking volunteers.

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**April:** CC formed, met for orientation with Pastor Mitch Phillips; began working on Ministry Site Profile (MSP) and online surveys for the congregation .

**May 21-June 14:** Congregation completed 62 surveys.

**June:** CC tallied surveys; completed MSP first draft and submitted it June 28 for NEOS synod review and revision suggestions.

**July:** MSP returned July 12 for corrections and revising; CC and Church Council worked together on revision; CC submitted new draft on July 25.

**August 23:** MSP draft reviewed by Pastor Mitch, accepted and “went live” (meaning it was posted across the United States on the ELCA site for all rostered ministers who are considering a new call to read and consider) If pastors feel they have the gifts and talents we need, they will contact Pastor Mitch to assist in arranging interviews with us.

**September 6:** CC met with Pastor Mitch for interview training; began preparing a mock interview plan.

**September 27:** CC completed a mock interview with Pastor Tina Crog (extremely helpful).

**October 4:** CC revised and improved first interview plan; Pastor Mitch was advised that CC is ready for first interviews; continue to pray and wait for interested candidates who are a good match, whose gifts and talents align with our needs as stated on our surveys and in our MSP.

**November-:** First interviews with potential candidates will be approximately 1.5 hours long via Zoom. This is to reduce the costs in terms of time and confidences, protecting both the pastor and their congregation from any negative effects on their ministry together, as well as limiting the financial costs to the congregation who is in the call process. Obviously, it is less costly to interview online than in-person when travel and food expenses are eliminated. Prayerfully, through the Zoom interview, both the Call Committee and the rostered minister gain a sense of whether or not a relationship together is worth pursuing in-person. ....We continue to pray.



# November 2023 Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 10:00am Holy Worship 10:00am Prek-6th Grade Sunday School during worship 11:30am Book Discussion- The Post Quarantine Church	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:00am Holy Worship 10:00am Prek-6th Grade Sunday School during worship 11:30am Book Discussion- The Post Quarantine Church 11:30am Choir Practice	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir Practice	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10:00am Holy Worship 10:00am Prek-6th Grade Sunday School during worship 9:15am Choir Sing 11:30am Book Discussion- The Post Quarantine Church	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir Practice	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10:00am Holy Worship 10:00am Prek-6th Grade Sunday School during worship 10:00am Bells Play 11:30am Book Discussion- The Post Quarantine Church 11:30am Fall Congregation Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Office Closed Thanksgiving	<b>24</b> Office Remote Pastor's Day Off	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10:00am Holy Worship 10:00am Prek-6th Grade Sunday School during worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:15pm Bell Choir Practice	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>2</b>

# Worship Assistants and Volunteers

## November 5

Usher: Chip Crout  
Lector: Marilyn Culler  
Cantor: Julie Pressnell  
Live Stream: Bill Higgins  
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler  
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson  
Grass: Chuck Heindrichs and Andy  
Young

## November 12

Usher: Betsy Floyd  
Lector: Betsy Floyd  
**Cantor:**  
Live Stream: Bill Higgins  
Counter: Eric Klenz  
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler  
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson

## November 19

Usher: Brian Knip  
Lector: Laura Knight  
Cantor: Michelle Young  
Live Stream: Bill Higgins  
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler  
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson

## November 26

Usher: Eric Mohny  
Lector: Tim Gottshall  
Cantor: Anita Hlava  
**Live Stream:**  
Counter: Eric Mohny  
Altar Care: Marilyn Culler  
Bulletin Folding: Nadine Carlson



CELC Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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Worship  
10:00 a.m. Sunday

## NOVEMBER BLESSINGS

May the LORD bless you and  
protect you.

May the LORD smile on you  
and be gracious to you.

May the LORD show  
you His favor and  
give you His peace.

NUMBERS 6:24-26

