

Coren Team Minutes

July 24, 2023

Present: Pastor Chad Gilbertson, Patrick Rasmussen, Tanya Alemu (Chair), Collan Zehnder, Lynnette Dobberpuhl, Paula Green, Don Oram, Carol Ottoson

Opening Prayer

Finance Update: (Patrick) Current budget and expenses, as of June 30 our investment funds are growing nicely at 4+% interest rates. In April we moved the past interest accrued (approximately \$10K) into the general operating fund, and are projected to have another approximate \$8000 by end of year. Midway through 2023 we are at about \$18,000 more in expenses than in income (pledged, unpledged and interest income). At this point in 2022 we were about \$16,000 more in expenses than income.

In looking at memorials we see we need clarification on the Gail Fuad memorial fund if it is designated for a specific purpose.

It would be best to avoid using memorial funds which are receiving interest, if mission funds or general funds are available (for instance for church camp) and if necessary, wait to transfer out of the correct memorial funds at the end of the year.

I-Team: We are officially part of MN Reconciling Congregations, with our profile prominent on their website at <https://www.mnrcumc.org/priorlake/>. With the June mission offering for Reconciling Ministries, half is going to the national, and half to the Minnesota organization. We will continue to do a monthly inclusion focus. July has been Disability Pride, and August will be Anti-Bullying. Tina will be purchasing 100 silicone bracelets using money designated for the I-Team. In September we are looking at focusing on Memory Loss Awareness. We are looking at a new project using rainbow-colored doors, and possibly a multi-skin tone door, to be used as outreach on the green along county road 21, along with a door by the front that would highlight the monthly inclusion focus. This project emerged as the outcome of an earlier conversation about possibly flying other cause flags (Pride, BLM, UMC) on the flagpole, but the door project was considered a more preferred option. The I-Team will check with the city about codes, and bring a presentation and an opportunity for interested people in the congregation to weigh in on the project during the first part of August before the Core Team votes on the matter. The I-team meets the first Sunday of the month after worship, and anyone is welcome to join.

Online Ministry: (Don) tabled, some classes will be available at a future date.

CYF: (Lynnette) STORM Camp was July 9-13 and largely a success, with 20+ jobs fulfilled by teams across Minnesota, connections made within our community and three young people connected with our church engaging in this for the first time. VBS will be Aug 14-17, and we have volunteer leaders for most things, but are looking for a couple of more meal makers. Kids' Church (vs. Sunday School) Rather than a separate Sunday school, beginning Sept 9 we will have kids joining their families in worship at 9:30, then after children's time (shortly before the sermon) kids through grade 5 will be given the option to go downstairs during the last part of the service for Kids' Church, a simplified version of the message and some table activities until their parents are ready to join them. One of our first activities will be a logo contest for Kids' Church!

Night to Unite (N2U): (Chad) We are registered for N2U on Tuesday, Aug 1 with activities planned from 6-8pm. We are not doing a full dinner with hot dogs and ice cream, but doing bars and cookies, chips,

snacks, water, fizzy drinks from last day of Sunday school. Deanna is sponsoring a bouncy house, and we will have yard games. The Sign up Genius link for volunteers was sent in an email last week and Trini-Ties this week. This is an ongoing opportunity to be a good neighbor and a first opportunity to let our neighbors ask about our new All Our Welcome signs (and Homecoming Sunday and Kids' Church and VBS).

Bread Oven Ministry: (Don on behalf of Rene) the team is uncertain about following through on the plan for an ethnic bread/garden food event for Sept 10, as there weren't any volunteers eager to bring a recipe, also a Vikings' Sunday.

New business items for second half of 2023: **Van transportation** for people who cannot drive to in-person church requires people to drive and a co-pilot for help navigating and engaging people. Would love to be able to officially start on Homecoming Sunday. Will be working with Care Team on moving toward this goal as well as the whole congregation.

Next meeting: Monday, August 21 at 6:30