

River Table Meeting: Tuesday October 11th at 6:00 pm at Masonic West River Park?

Opening Prayer

Continuing Business

Approval of minutes from last month's River Table Meeting

Financial Report

Review of Table Reports

Pastor's Report

New Business

Approve Julie Lofdhl as a check signer.

Authorize \$421 to rent a dumpster?

Review results of Sunday's vote and what our next steps are going forward.

Discuss a plan for moving the office, cleaning out the storage space- Dumpster, etc.

Should we have worship on the morning of Sunday, December 25th, since we will have our Christmas Eve service on Dec 24th?

Start to think about people to talk with about being on the ballot to join the River Table in Dec 2022. Send 1-2 names to Pastor Hans and Katie by next week.

Closing - Lord's Prayer

Next meeting – Tuesday, November 8th at 6:00

River Table Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Meeting was held at River Masonic Park. President Angie called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Present: Angie Bedard, President
 Katie Weisenberger, Vice President
 Jerry Lindberg, Secretary
 Arlyn DeBruyckere, Treasure
 Nina Appleby
 Jeannette Krommenhoek
 Kurt Schultz
 Pastor Hans
 Jim Nelson

Pastor Hans opened the meeting with a prayer.

Angie asked if there were any questions or additions to the August minutes as previously emailed out. Kurt moved to approve the minutes. Kate second. Passed.

Financial Report:

Arlyn gave his report. He noted we are in good shape at this time. We have a \$200 per month commitment to Laundry Love and last month had \$274 in contributions. Pastor Hans noted that if this keeps up, perhaps the "watercan" contributions can occasionally go to other needs.

Pastors Report:

Hans noted he is excited to kick off the new school year. Kate has volunteered to help with Headwaters. He noted that meals are free and that food is served at 6:00 and everyone is welcome to attend. The question was asked if some of those who are struggling in our community could be invited to attend and eat with us. Once we get a handle on the participation (numbers attending) that may be a possibility. The number of confirmation youth is about 15. Kate noted she could use a volunteer to help with the crafts for the little ones. Someone to plan the crafts would be ideal.

Table Reports:

Table reports were previously emailed to everyone. There were no questions.

Discussion:

Discussion / new business centered around our proposed worship space. Pastor Hans, Angie and Jeanette met with Lynn Nueman with the City of Hutchinson. The City has met and agreed to continue renting to us through 2023 and perhaps longer. They are in the process of writing a lease agreement. The City will no longer rent out this space for events so for the most part we will be able to leave our equipment / furnishings in place each week.

The cost will be \$2,250 per month rent. (\$2,000 for the worship space and \$250 for office space). This will be a saving for RoH as we now pay a combined rent of a little over \$3000. We will need to move our office out of the downtown hotel building. We will retain our existing store room at the Event Center. Utilities are included in our rent.

The City will provide us with 3 keys and we will have 24 hour access to our leased space.

The Senior Center will continue to be open on the west side of the building. So the building will be open to anyone most days from 8:00 to 4:00.

The City will not allow us to install any permanent signage. We will continue with the portable signs on Sunday mornings and other events.

Hans will let Vineyard know that our situation has changed and thank them for their willingness to help us out.

Jerry made a motion that the River Table recommend to the congregation that we accept the Cities proposal and stay at the Event Center for 2023 pending review of the final lease agreement. Kurt seconded. Pass with unanimous vote.

We need to announce to the congregation for two Sundays prior to the congregational vote. Pastor Hans and any Table members attending should be available to answer any questions or concerns anyone has. It was noted that some feel strongly about worshipping in a church sanctuary.

As previously discussed, voting will be held both in person or online. Anyone who has been attending or contributing to RoH is eligible to vote.

Hans and Angie will craft a letter to be emailed to the congregation explaining the Tables vote and how we will proceed with the congregation vote.

Jim noted that our "stuff" stored in the hotel basement will need to be moved along with the office equipment. We need to evaluate what needs to be saved and what we need to get rid of. Meeting was adjourned following the Lord's prayer.

Jerry Lindberg, River Table Secretary

River of Hope Sewardship Table Meeting October 4, 6:30 pm via Zoom

Our meetings center around the promise of God saving and loving the world.

Our purpose: We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Our Guiding Principles: Remembering that “disciple” means learner.

God is God and we are not. We are called to grow together as disciples: to forgive, to teach, to love.

Disciples are inspired by the Holy Spirit to take risks. Disciples work for God’s justice.

Disciples serve with no strings attached. Disciples invite and welcome through loving acceptance.

We meet you where you are.

Agenda Items

- I. What have you been reading in scripture that has you intrigued and/or Share Good News!
- II. Financial Update – Arlyn DeBruyckere
- III. Riverpalooza
 - a) Story Telling in weeks ahead
 - i) What does ROH mean to you?
- IV. *Watering Can Themes*
- V. *Giving Tree Update for Advent*
- VI. *Counting Schedule*

October: Sue/Andy

November: Renee/Sue

December: Open’

Minutes from 10.4.22 Present, Arlyn DeBruyckere, Renee Koltarz, Rod Riewer, Pastor Hans Absent: Brian Tillmann and Andy Evenson

Financial update: General summary provided through August, Income Apx \$161K expenses \$163K. A number of charitable annual contributions made. Formal report forthcoming. Discussion of consultant to look into any dollars that may be available through Employee Retention Credit. No determination, Arlyn will look into this further and have conversation with consultant other churches have used.

Discussion of Employee Salary increases for 2023. Synod recommendations were communicated. Arlyn will work with Nan from Personnel Committee to review proposed staff compensation totals and make recommendation on long-term considerations, including Synod recommendations, Staffing/Payroll comparisons, etc..

Considerations for savings of Rent if congregation votes to keep worship space and move office to Event Center. How could ROH use that savings? Increase support, address additional youth programming, other programs and services to boost sustainability of small congregation. Future long-term strategic planning

session with River Table and other Stakeholders regarding the Future of the Church and growth opportunities.

RiverPalooza: Nov 20th. Stewardship presentation similar w/slide and narrative highlighting year in review and special events, participation. Arlyn will be reviewing high-level summary that was prepared last year. Work with Brian on Power-point and hand-out for November 20th. Hoping to bring back speakers and storytelling in advance of event....with theme, Why River of Hope – Sharing your Stories.

Discussed Pledge Cards inclusive of Time/Talent survey. Determined these things could be part of the Advent Giving Tree. Sue and Renee working on those details.

Watering Can: Rod will meet with Sara Nelson to create recommended community giving projects and possibility of specific themes throughout the year. Today it's used for Laundry Love with occasional special designations.

Next Meeting: Monday November 10th at 6:30.

We Go Out Minutes

9-8-22

In Attendance: Sara P, Sara N, Nan C, Sandy T, Kay Halstom, Pr. Hans

We started in prayer and introduced ourselves.

We discussed communication with Pr. Hans. We talked about the expectations of the responsibilities of our group. **Sara P. and Hans** will connect before & after the meeting to be better about communication.

We discussed God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. After much discussion, we decided to forgo doing it this year. We have a plan to discuss this earlier in the year in 2023.

We decided to focus on educating for now. We are hoping to use the Watering Can to help. **Sara N.** will be compiling a list of organizations that the watering can \$ will be donated to. We will have to connect to the Stewardship Table (**Pr.Hans**) so they are on board. We hope to begin this practice at Advent this year. We will educate our congregation of the organizations' mission. We may have a representative speak during offering time or a member of the table will speak about the organization.

We have also decided that during October, we will have education about Indigenous People. We will acknowledge the land on which we worship during the church service for the month of October. **Sara P** will find the right way to word this acknowledgement. We may do a book study. The book recommended is "Voices from PeJuhutazizi: Dakota Stories and Storytellers" by Teresa Peterson and Walter LaBatte, Jr. **Sara P** will connect with Karen from SWIF to discuss this. **Pr. Hans** also knows of someone who does some kind of program and he will connect with Sara P again to see if this is available.

Sara P. also discussed a Kid Friendly Movie Night using an animated movie that has an environmental aspect to it. She has to look into where and how we can do that and will discuss this with the Faith Formation table.

On October 2nd, we are having an outdoor worship service where we will have a potluck or our own picnic food. **Sara P.** will bring yard games so RoH can continue to have fun!

We should advertise River of Hopeful People as part of the WGO table.

A couple other things mentioned were:

Having a Valentine's Day Dinner where Confirmation kids serve adult's and take care of little kids to make money for Confirmation trips. Not sure which table that would fall under.

The movie Gigi & Nate was recommended!

Faith Formation Meeting
9/27/2022

Present: Pastor Hans, Katie Weisenberger, Kris Hartman, Kris Dobratz, Krista Picha, Ron Johnson

Prayer

1. October 26--Trick or Treat for Food Shelf
 1. 5th grade and up
 2. Meet at Hotel Lobby at 5pm, meet back there for pizza around 7pm
 3. Hans will get the maps from Amy DuFrene
 4. Katie will make drivers sign-up sheet to have at Sunday's worship
 5. Hans will ask Emily to make a slide for Purpose Sightings

2. Fellowship Dates
 - a. October--done (Trick or Treat)
 - b. December--Caroling with Jim Nelson

3. Camp Discussion
 - a. Possible "Urban Immersion" type experience through Green Lake; Hans will look into this some more
 - b. Camp of the Cross--go again? Or, find a closer option? We want something for grades 4-8
 - c. Bi-Lingual VBS could be another option this summer for younger age group, or we could try something closer like Pastor Janine's VBS in Dassel. (Hans will reach out to Janine to get more information).

4. Headwaters
 - a. Use name tags and a sign up sheet next time
 - b. Revisit the schedule after Oct. 5 Headwaters

5. Confirmation
 - a. Start in 6th grade or 7th?
 - b. Decided it's okay for N.D. to begin confirmation now in 6th grade
 - c. Hans will let other 6th grade parents know this is an option if they want

Next meeting: Tues. Nov. 8 @ 7:30pm