

## Atonement Council Minutes 8/24/2023 630pm

### Council Attendees (8/9)

Brad Anderson	Angie Brickson	Curtis Klaassen
Tina Boutelle	Nathan Choate	Jeremy Otto
Lyn Bowers	Dave James	Dave Stelzer

### Other Attendees

Pastor Zac Sturm                      Ros & Jim Thorpe                      Pat Bjuland  
Kevin Shannon, Neil Pfeiffer – Call committee  
Steve Ruschill, Stephanie Christensen – WIT team

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### *Devotions, Prayer: Pr. Zac*

### *Call Committee update (Neil, Council)*

1. Neil call committee history, conclusion:
  - a. Previously presented ministry-site profile, from transition team.
  - b. Organized mid-July. Worked with Rev. David Whitter
  - c. First-call candidate (one-at-a-time),
  - d. Rev Vicar Jordan has been interviewed => all positive impressions
  - e. Officially: Recommend Vicar Jordan, for council considerations.
2. Angie et al: Council thanks Call committee (!) for energetic efforts, effectively communicating progress throughout the process, and.. esp. Jordan's strengths.
3. Strengths include:
  - a. her appreciation of Atonement's future strengths and challenges
  - b. Discipleship, Reaching Wider, etc
  - c. Appreciation of Atonement's future strengths and challenges, Discipleship, Reaching Wider, etc.
  - d. Expanding Care ministry by applying background experience (e.g., crisis center)
4. Call committee's Aug 17<sup>th</sup> letter may be included or folded into a letter to the congregation. PZ will target sending Saturday before weekend church.
5. Motion: Move to accept Jordan as a congregational candidate for Associate Pastor.
  - a. Brad motions, Curtis second.
  - b. Unanimous approval.
6. Motion from Sept 1-10 be in a "covenant" relationship
  - a. includes pay/benefits prior to official calling
  - b. Angie motions, Jeremy second.
  - c. Exec committee has re viewed/approve compensation
  - d. Unanimous approval.

7. (Sept 7 2023 addendum) Tina: *“Dave James will be unavailable on Sunday so not able to take notes for the meeting/vote. As President, I am not allowed to assume the secretary responsibilities, so I need a volunteer to be Council Secretary for Sunday, September 10th.”*
- a. Angie – motion, Lyn – second.
  - b. Email-approved, unanimous.

### ***Welcome and Inclusion Team (WIT) Team Check-in (Steve, Stephanie)***

1. Intended to “kick-off” council meetings going forward
2. Summary presented



Welcome Team  
Mission and Approa

- a. No end-in-mind, long-term. This is a process, not an event.
- b. Discernment, to provide council with perspective
- c. Want to be “objective listeners” vs. recommendation generators.
- d. Longer term – may expand beyond LGBTQ, welcoming/inclusion
- e. Beginning with original RIC process/survey, heavily modified – to be taken by the Council. Given feedback WIT decide if/when to expand with a congregational survey.
- f. Independent lessons Bible studies by PZ, are INDEPENDENT of this process. Bible study is intended to be unbiased with respect to WIT objectives or results; not intended to influence or sway beliefs around social/political issues.
- g. Intent to host “listening sessions” – a series. TBD.
- h. Note to council: Represent the congregation, not individual perspectives.
- i. Would like \$500 for survey costs, meeting costs, etc.
- j. Need to coordinate with Faith Network feedback sessions.
- k. Updates will also be provided to Atonement LGBTQ team.

***July Minutes Review: Jeremy moves, Nathan 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved all.***

***July Staff reports review: Brad moves, DaveS 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved all***

### ***Finances – Mike Daley:***

July:

- For July, we had a surplus of \$13,000 which was \$25,000 better than budget
- Giving was \$16,000 better than budget due to \$21,500 of >\$5k gifts in the month.
- Expenses were \$9,000 better than budget due to lower property costs of \$4,000, lower salaries & benefits of \$3,000 (Intern housing, lower benefit costs), lower worship of \$1,500 all partially offset by higher KFAM of \$3,000
- Year-to-date deficit is \$85,000 and we are behind the budget by \$6,000.
- Giving is lower than budget by \$25,000 and expenses now are \$19,000 better than budget

**Balance Sheet:**

- Cash balances are \$190,000 in unrestricted cash and \$215,000 in restricted cash, totaling \$405k compared to \$403k at June month end.

- Advanced giving is still \$85k, more than covering the giving shortfall.

### *October Council Retreat:*

1. Planned Oct 7 8am-1pm, Council + PZ attending.
2. Goal – prioritized list, w categories, list of expected and desired expenditures going forward.
  - a. Via Brainstorming, prioritization exercises, etc.
  - b. Co-facilitated by Tina, Mike, PZ.
  - c. Between now and then: Council members will meet with associated team for feedback
  - d. Initially, Mike will present budget perspectives.
3. Further-review, refinement of agenda on Sept 28 Council meeting.

### *Personnel (Pat)*

1. New Director of Youth ministry, Drew Renollet hired. Official welcome, bio, etc., planned for an upcoming service.
2. Policy for staff sending congregational email documented – Senior pastor’s approval required.
3. 20-year Julie Assel celebration Sept 10.

### *New Membership*

1. New members list distributed, for contacts.

### *Adjourn - 8:24pm*