

Faith Lutheran Church
Board of Directors Minutes
December 17th, 2018

Present: Pastor Biermann, Phil Whitmer, Marcia Gauthier, Craig Hubert, Suzanne Perreault, Laurie Crawford, John Crawford, Aaron Gulyas, Andy Priestap, Sam Siegel

Absent:-Stephany Hall, Jennifer Hocken, Laura Mulligan

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. with devotion and prayer from Pastor Biermann focusing on the Christmas story from the book of Luke. He also shared a heartfelt message about Peace On Earth.

Secretary's Report: Marcia Gauthier

- Minutes from the November 26th meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Laurie, seconded by Craig and John. Motion was passed.

Pastoral Report/Notes: Pastor Biermann

- Review of the November Parochial Report.
- Read and signed the Statement of Collaboration with Veterans. This is an agreement with Veterans Affairs to assist veterans (due to the high rates of PTSD, depression and suicide). One initiative is to provide gun locks for veterans. Pastor Cottam will address this during the next Veterans Day celebration at Faith.
- Announced that on January 29th, from 6-9 p.m., Grand Blanc City Police will do ALICE safety training at Faith. This is open to the congregation.
- Described Faith's need for a vision and how the BOD needs to use our meetings to collaborate about Faith's future. The annual forum will address the preschool, outreach, staffing and more.
- Mentioned that maybe Cindy LaFontaine, Pastor Scott and Jason von der Lage should be invited to BOD meetings.
- Suggested that we strive to keep BOD meetings to two hours or less in length.

President's Report: Phil Whitmer

- LCMS nominations- Phil confirmed with Marcia that Faith's voting delegate paperwork was submitted. They were mailed on 11/18/18.
- Phil requested another Executive Committee meeting after the forum in January to discuss matters such as Dr. Khumalo's visit to Michigan, a strategic plan for Faith's preschool, a cost analysis for the preschool, and a capital improvement plan for Faith.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel

- Toilets were fixed.
- New clocks and LED lights were placed in the sanctuary.
- One new LED light was placed in the library.
- Library duct obstruction was resolved.
- Phil asked about bright paint on sidewalks-it is to alarm people of the uneven cement that changes with the weather.

V. P. Salary & Personnel: Aaron Gulyas

- There was some further refinement of office staff tasks, including Brooke helping Jason with the administration of VBS.

V. P. Finance & Stewardship: John Crawford

- Read the Housing Allowance letter and asked Marcia to submit a copy of it with the minutes. Phil asked if Sue Hooper's allowance will change due to the change in her work hours in April 2019. John explained that she will have to discuss this with Marge.

- Faith currently has 4 months of operating cash on hand.
- Reviewed budget. A motion to approve the budget proposal was made by Sam, seconded by Aaron. Motion was passed.
- Stated that we should have budget proposal available for two weeks before the Annual Congregational Voters' Meeting.
- Shared a security concern that stemmed from an incident at the completion of the 12/16/18 10:45 service when a gentleman approached him in the narthex asking for money.
- Explained that there will be a new system written and put into place for mission trip monies due to withholding tax issues. This stems as a result of Pastor Biermann having to pay taxes on the South Africa mission trip funds. All donations will go into a Faith Lutheran Mission Trip fund, then funds will be made available for reimbursement to those needing them.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Elders: Craig Hubert

- William and Patricia Gottschalk requested a release from membership.

Outreach & Evangelism: Suzanne Perreault

- No report

Worship: Laurie Crawford

- Asked about having a team of lady ushers
- Andy mentioned that the high school youth are considering forming an usher team as well.
- Sam mentioned that there was a request to have all signs removed that point to the Teller Room. Discussion occurred as to what these signs look like and where they are located.

Communication & Publicity: Laura Mulligan, absent (report via email)

- The Faith spirit wear fundraiser raised \$124 for the preschool scholarship fund.

Congregational Ministry: Jennifer Hocken, absent

- No report

Social Ministry: Stephany Hall, absent (report via email)

- 20 shut-in baskets were delivered through the Parish Nurse Ministry and there are currently 19 families on the list for Christmas food baskets. Pastor Cottam was given a donation that will help fulfill all of our Angel Tree requests!

Youth Board: Andy Priestap

- The youth Christmas party had approximately 15 in attendance at the Bilbeys' home on 12/16/18. A short discussion took place regarding the large number in attendance last year compared to this year. There are a lot of variables.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ROUNDTABLE:

- Sam mentioned that the Angel Tree is a very successful project.
- In reference to John's safety concern as noted above, Marcia asked about putting a plan in place to address the issue. Pastor Biermann explained that the ALICE training will be a good step in the right direction.

- Suzanne asked about Faith being a bigger part of the Grand Blanc community safety system and Pastor Biermann identified our current role, the text alert system from Grand Blanc schools and how Faith assists with the school district's safety efforts.
- Sam reminded everyone to lock doors and turn off lights when exiting the building.
- Sam announced that Faith will have two senior high basketball teams and twelve home games this season.
- John invited all BOD members to a meeting on 12/18/18 with a rep. from the Michigan District LCMS Church Extension Fund. He and Don McFarlane are working on establishing a scholarship fund.
- Laurie asked if anyone keeps track of people using the gym. The contract process was mentioned. Craig asked if we keep these records.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

December 19th-Christmas Concert at 7:00 p.m.

January 12th, 2019-Forum at 9:00 a.m.

January 21st, 2019-Board of Directors meeting at 7:00 p.m.

January 27th, 2019-Annual Congregational Voters' meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Next meeting is 1/21/18 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Gauthier, Secretary