

Faith Lutheran Church  
Board of Directors Minutes  
February 19, 2018

**Present:** Pastor Biermann, Phil Whitmer, Carol Arends, Craig Hubert, Andy Priestap, Aaron Gulyas, Suzanne Perreault, Laura Mulligan, Sam Siegel, Brad Smith.

**Absent:** John Crawford, Laurie Crawford, Nancy Cottam

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. with a devotion by Pastor Biermann who had a devotional handout of Lent Words (attached). The word for 2/19 was Fast and referenced Isaiah 58: 6-7: Fast from selfishness – spend time on others or on the Lord.

**Secretary's Report:** Brad Smith

- Minutes from the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Laura, seconded by Aaron. Motion was passed. The minutes from the January 28<sup>th</sup> Congregational meeting were also reviewed with no corrections but no motion was made as they'll be reviewed by the congregation at the 2019 meeting.

**Pastoral Report/Notes:** Pastor Biermann

- January's attendance was up 19% over January of 2016, but it was noted that there had been some severe weather in 2016.
- He had a meeting this past week regarding forming a community group to offer support for the needy with food and clothing in Grand Blanc. They are discussing ways to move forward and to coordinate efforts.
- Follow up from the Congregational Forum topics. Both staff and elders have solicited feedback and discussed and the current status is:
  - Concerns from some members about Communion every week. They've met with those they know of to talk about their concerns and the plan is to continue to offer it at all services.
  - Putting together an altar guild and looking to have five two-person teams. Darlene & Bruce Baker would be one and they have two others so they're still looking for more volunteers to train.
  - Sunday school and Bible study start times will be going to 9:45 start and end at 10:30. Still getting feedback from teachers on when to start (probably June).
  - There will be a designated fellowship time on the second Sundays to coordinate with the breakfasts. It will include a short family devotion at each table and celebration of what's going on at Faith. There will be special celebration fellowships through the summer on the second Sundays.
  - Wednesday nights will move to 5:30 suppers with classes/Bible study from 6:00 – 6:50 and worship at 7:00 beginning in the fall. 7:00 worship times will begin after Memorial Day.
  - A motion by Craig and second by Aaron to adopt the changes as presented. Motion was passed.
- Pastor's sabbatical will now be for nine weeks in the spring of 2019.
- Discussion of ways to try to get more congregational input into how to best serve Faith's needs.
- Brainstorming ideas on how to best recognize volunteers and when. Decided to do a recognition at the May 13<sup>th</sup> Fellowship breakfast.
- Pastor made the board aware that he had been nominated to be considered for the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year 2018.

**President's Report:** Phil Whitmer

- The Congregational Forum topics:
  - A suggestion to have Pastor Cottam be pulpit supply for any fifth Sundays for Faith. Working to coordinate that with his schedule.
  - A question about when we might next have a pictorial directory. Pros and cons were discussed and Laura will check into having our current on-line directory become more regularly updated and accessible through Faith's website.
- Reviewed the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) submitted by the Endowment Fund Committee (EFC). After discussion there was a motion made by Pastor with a second by Craig to adopt the IPS with amendments to three areas (Definitions, Strategy and a typo in Acknowledgement) after Brad has reviewed these with Greg Baehr. Motion passed. Additionally there was a motion made by Carol and seconded by Craig to approve Greg Baehr as Chairperson and Roger Swaim as designated committee members to transact business for the EFC. Motion passed. A copy of the amended IPS is attached.

**V.P. Property & Maintenance:** Sam Siegel

- The parking lot lights are being retrofitted to LED at an approximate cost of \$6,000 with an expected cost savings return of twelve months. Additionally Faith will receive a rebate from Consumers Energy of approximately \$1,500.
- There are some concerns about the Family Life Center (FLC) being used by some non-members when members are not present. He is tracking down who it is because he doesn't want to go through the cost/inconvenience of re-keying the exterior doors.
- He approved the rental of a 15 passenger van to transport the basketball team to the national tournament near St. Louis.
- Requesting that the boxes of Bibles currently in the library get moved to Franklin Avenue Mission.
- He's looking for suggestions from the board on who may be able to provide a stencil of a large hand to use for the fundraiser to retire the debt on the FLC.

**V. P. Salary & Personnel:** Aaron Gulyas

- Jason is currently exploring options for Faith's summer intern opening.

**V. P. Finance & Stewardship:** John Crawford, absent

- Email report sent to Phil (attached).
- Phil mentioned that the Nominating committee will be meeting March 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. Reviewed the open positions.

**BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:**

**Elders:** Craig Hubert

- The elders are sponsoring the March 21<sup>st</sup> Lenten supper.
- They are putting together military gift boxes to be sent for Easter.
- He reviewed the usher meeting notes.

**Outreach & Evangelism:** Suzanne Perreault

- Requested a fundraiser for the Guatemala team that would include a bulletin insert requesting support to sponsor a child and a video to be played before services on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve was made by Brad and seconded by Craig. Motion passed.
- They are working to develop more volunteers.
- They are focusing on reaching out to pre-school families.
- Working on outreach for the Easter services.

**Worship:** Laurie Crawford, absent

- No report.

**Communication & Publicity:** Laura Mulligan

- Discussed bulletin board usage in narthex.

**Congregational Ministry:** Carol Arends

- Easter egg hunt will be March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Springfest has been moved to Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>. It will start with devotion at 3:45 and square dancing will start at 6:30.
- A Women's Retreat will be held at Faith on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. They are planning it to be a multi-generational gathering.

**Social Ministry:** Nancy Cottam, absent

- No report.

**Youth Board:** Andy Priestap

- Pancake dinner was a success and they cleared \$150 - \$200.
- The next Trivia Night will be March 16<sup>th</sup> and they're selling tickets now.
- The Youth bulletin board in the narthex has been working well for getting their news out.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

**ROUNDTABLE:**

- From Pastor:
  - Reminder to ask John to get financial snapshots into News & Notes.
  - New Small Catechisms are available for sale in the office for \$15.00.
  - A special thanks to those board and committee members who have agreed to run for their positions again and to those who are considering doing so.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- March 19, 2018 Board Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Pastor closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brad Smith, Secretary