

Faith Lutheran Church
Board of Directors Minutes
September 18, 2017

Present: Pastor Biermann, Phil Whitmer, Carol Arends, Craig Hubert, John Crawford, Laurie Crawford, Sam Siegel, Suzanne Perreault, Andy Priestap, Aaron Gulyas, Jason von der Lage, Nancy Cottam, Brad Smith.

Absent: Laura Mulligan

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. Pastor opened with a devotion based on Psalm 16:11 Fullness of joy comes from God who fills us to overflowing. If we're willing to receive it, it's there. Like waves it just keeps coming from Him.

Secretary's Report: Brad Smith

- Reviewed the minutes from our August 21st meeting with a few corrections. Clarification under Worship that Communion under the new schedule is offered at all services. Clarification under Congregational Ministry that the schedule for volunteers for coffee hour is filled through August of 2017. Also from the Roundtable discussion that just "some" of the thermos coffee dispensers need to be replaced. Motion by John to approve as amended. Seconded by Craig. Motion was passed.

Pastoral Report/Notes: Pastor Biermann

- Reviewed the parochial reports. Noted that attendance was up 1.5% over August 2016.
- April 29th through June 30th, 2019 is his tentative new sabbatical dates.
- A book on cancer entitled "Cancer: Now What?" has been purchased with 26 copies as well as 12 giver's guides available to members. He reviewed the purpose of the book as a resource.
- A thanks to Carol Reed and the Moellering Family Memorials for the new ESV Bibles for the sanctuary. The old Bibles are being donated to the Franklin Avenue Mission.
- There is an updated gym and all facilities usage plan. There either has to be a member attending events or have a member sign the contract with the organization holding the event to be responsible for the keys and the condition the facility is left in.
- Wednesday night services and education is off to a great start. Feedback on all the other changes going on: Many have said they love the new Bibles. The two Sunday services are going quite well. The numbers seem to be good through the first three weeks.
- Provided an explanation of the new Communion flow for both types of communion. He included a chart as illustration (attached).
- Special thank you to Atkinson Heating and Cooling for assisting the LaFontaine family.
- The times for the breakfast served by the Men of Faith will be from 9:00 - 10:30AM.

President's Report: Phil Whitmer

- 500th Reformation Service update: He still has 10 tickets available so see him if we know of anyone interested. The District is looking for volunteers for ushers, set-up and take down for the service. They're also asking for donations for Lansing area charities. Men's socks and underwear as well as pillows for the homeless. He also mentioned that St. Mark's asked about seat availability on the bus. There are approximately 23 available that Phil was going to let them know about.
- Phil and Pastor discussed the church lay delegate and pastoral delegate selection process for the June 2018 Michigan District of the LCMS convention. Also noted that any district nominations by the congregation should be given to the district by February 24, 2018.
- Pastor spoke about designation of Pastor Biermann and a lay representative for the upcoming district convention who would speak on behalf of Faith. A couple of suggestions for lay delegates were Greg Baehr and Scott Hans. Phil will check with them about their availability.
- Nominations for candidates for circuit visitor, which is a pastor from the circuit, are open. Possible nominees might be Pastor Kelly Todd from Goodrich and Pastor Wonderly from Burton.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel

- The carpet was cleaned in the gym hall and the kitchen hall. Heins Hall's cleaning will take place this fall.
- They have been dealing with a skunk in the area by the pre-school, as well as a treating for a large number of box elder bugs due to the weather.
- Hot water heater and boiler maintenance is being conducted.
- Louis Barger will paint in the music room.

- Sam's waiting for bids from painters to complete the painting in the bathrooms.
- A reminder again to check doors before leaving when the building is being used.
- The smaller table in the library is being moved to the teller's room for their use.
- Inspections are required each year and are taking place for fire alarm, fire extinguishers, suppression system, as well as pre-school boilers. Just for our information that those are taking place.

V. P. Salary & Personnel: Aaron Gulyas

- Parish nurse job description is attached. A parish nurse insurance rider for \$100 a year was added to Faith's church insurance policy. Christie Hansard is getting her own personal liability coverage for \$110 a year, but Faith will reimburse her for this expense. Shirley Bauermeister will provide \$1,000 towards the parish nurse funding for this year. Pastor suggests the Pastor Harms Memorial fund, which is another \$2,300, be used for the additional funding needed for this fiscal year.

V. P. Finance & Stewardship: John Crawford

- Currently have funds on hand for approximately three months of operating funds.
- Still bringing in less than projected giving, but spending is less than budgeted so kudos to the committees for keeping the spending in line.
- John shared a letter from LCMS regarding the shortage of pastors suggesting congregations give additional funds to financially support pastors' education. Prayerfully consider that as we look ahead to next years' budget.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Elders: Craig Hubert

- Revised elder duties for Wednesday services. Looking at the need for the number of elders.
- Moving forward with the purchase of the communion ware through memorial monies.

Outreach & Evangelism: Suzanne Perreault

- Franklin Avenue Mission's "Clean and Green" is still experiencing a low turnout from Faith on the dates that we're responsible.
- Franklin Avenue Mission handed out 180 backpacks to neighborhood youth and they are looking at a diaper drive for October.
- The Guatemala trip meeting in October had approximately 25 people including some from other congregations.
- Just a thank you and praise for the people manning the welcome center on Sundays.

Worship: Laurie Crawford

- The women's choir is still in need of more members. The choral choirs will be performing one service per month. The hand bell choirs will be doing both services on the weeks that they serve.
- 80 plus have been attending the Wednesday worship service.
- Gradually adding to the alter care group.
- There will be some changes to this year's Advent services in that they will not all be music but rather a more traditional service.

Communication & Publicity: Laura Mulligan (absent)

- No report

Congregational Ministry: Carol Arends

- Alternate meeting nights are being held to accommodate committee members.
- Still having a tough time getting people signed up for coffee hour, not getting much response.
- Women of Faith on September 23rd will make pillowcase dresses for relief beginning at 9 a.m.
- Publicity for the Men's Christmas Dance is beginning to take place, and they're asking people to think of raffle items.
- Wednesday night classes and sessions are going well.
- Friday, October 13th will be the Trunk or Treat from 6:00 to 7:30PM. Asking for candy donations to give out. There will be hot dogs, popcorn, a bounce house, and many other activities provided for the kids.

Social Ministry: Nancy Cottam (absent)

- Christie Hansard will be attending their meeting Wednesday to see how they can assist.
- This Wednesday Nancy's going with Pastor to the community meeting at Holy Family Catholic Church to coordinate what organizations are providing for the community.

Youth Board: Andy Priestap & Jason von der Lage

- A handout was provided of their calendar of events which was reviewed. The first Monday of the month is youth board meetings.
- Reviewed upcoming Tool Time event for both junior and senior high at Concordia College in Ann Arbor.
- Need attendees for family life seminars coming up on September 30th and reviewed the purpose of the seminars.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ROUNDTABLE:

- Sam commented that the recent PBS series on Martin Luther was very good.
- Nancy said the Young at Heart is having great attendance with 35 signed up for their trip to Frankenmuth.
- Pastor reminded that Thursday of the current week through the following Tuesday he will be in Nebraska for recognition celebration for his father's 55th year as a Pastor. The following weekend he and Heather are conducting a marriage seminar in Indiana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- October 15, 2017 500th Anniversary Reformation Service.
- October 16, 2017 Board Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Pastor closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Smith, Secretary