

Faith Lutheran Church

Board of Directors Minutes

November 15, 2021

Present: Pastor Biermann, Bruce Trevithick, Matt Guinn, Krissa Zander, Corrine Walworth, Chris VanLandeghem, Tim Miller, Marcy Montez and Jenny Mervyn.

Absent: Ken Duetsch, Leslie Stratton and Sam Siegel

Secretary Report: Tim Miller

Minutes from the October meeting were motioned for approval by Matt with support by Marcy. Corrine was not at the last meeting. Minutes were approved by the Board with the change made to members absent.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Biermann

- Pastor will hold gatherings for Preschool parents the mornings of chapel. This allows for an opportunity to build relationships with Pastor and also between preschool families.
- Both pastors will also meet with new members and visitors in a “Lunch with Pastor” after late service on the second Sunday of each month as a means to help assimilate new members into the Faith family.
- Pastor brought to the Board the request by Preschool parents to install new playground equipment. Two families have taken on the project and will also contribute to a major portion of the expense. Discussion took place on concerns regarding fundraising within the congregation. The Board wants to keep this centered within the Preschool and any information going to the congregation can be run through Krissa. Pastor has the final approval on all correspondence regarding any fundraising efforts as it relates to this project. He will keep the Board informed of activities with this project.
- Pastor was approached by Dr. Maier, Michigan District President, while he was in South Africa, on the possibility of Pastor Biermann being a mentor and conducting leadership training for the congregation that he has worked with previously in Africa. There are many factors to be considered as they relate to the request from Dr. Maier. Pastor asked for thoughts from the Board. Discussion followed. Pastor will update the Board again at the December meeting.

President’s Report: Bruce Trevithick

- Housing allowance proposals for our called staff were presented to the Board and motioned by Marcy and supported by Matt to accept as submitted. (See attachment) Motion approved by the Board.
- The Deaconess/Parish Nurse call information was reviewed by the Board and discussed. All supported moving forward and sharing the documents provided with the congregation.
- Members were provided with a sample of last year’s annual report and reminded that they should submit something for this year’s report by the next BOD meeting.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel

- Property board is continuing to look at building a pavilion located on the church grounds and uses within the community. Looking also at funding for the construction project and the possibility of using funds previously donated by a member family. Pastor will meet with Sam on having discussion with the member.

V.P. Salary & Personnel: Chris VanLandeghem

- Budget presentation in the area of salaries is looking at a 2.5% wage increase for the 2022 Budget

V.P. Finance & Stewardship: Ken Duetsch

- Budget review was presented to the Board with an overview and highlighted specific areas of change.
- Board budgets are basically the same as previous years. Any changes and/or additions to board budgets need to be sent to Ken in preparation for next month's meeting. Finalized budgets will be presented to the Board next month.

Board Reports

Elders – Matt Guinn

- The board discussed continued mask policies and if any changes should be proposed.
- Discussion took place on how weddings are handled and the time involved for volunteers.
- Attendance is still down 40% from 2019. Online still averaging 100 views per week.

Outreach & Evangelism: Sarah Palmer

- Good attendance at the tailgate event for Homecoming. Good to be active in the community.
- Looking at possibilities for gift baskets in the community.
- Questions from Board members on activities with Franklin Avenue Mission taking place.

Youth Board: Jenny Mervyn

- Looking at a smaller trip to “The Ark Encounter” instead of or in addition to attending the National Youth Gathering.
- 5 families interested in going to National Youth Gathering. Concerns about COVID risk and placing so much importance on the event.
- Gearing up for youth gatherings going into holidays.
- Question was raised on whether masks need to continue to be worn. Genesee County has made the decision to no longer require masks after December 22nd for ages 5 and up, vaccinated or not. Motion was made by Jenny and supported by Marcy to allow no masks at the youth Christmas party in December. Board approved motion as stated.

Worship: Corrine Walworth

- Change in new director for Altar Guild from Linda Robinson (who moved away) to Sue Pontin.
- New Advent wreath has been constructed and will be dedicated at the first Advent service.

Communications & Publicity: Krissa Zander

- Postcards went out to the congregation last week.

Funds were given to the Tree Lighting in Bicentennial Park.

Congregational Ministry: Leslie Stratton

- No report.

Social Ministry: Marcy Montez

- Ramping up for holiday events such as Thanksgiving gift cards and Angel Tree.

New business

Pastor brought to the Board the need for an LCMS Commissioned Minister to be nominated from the North and East Region (our region) to be on the ballot for Michigan District Board of Directors at next summer’s District Convention. Motion by Chris and supported by Matt to nominate Joel Zander for this position. Board approved motion as submitted.

Next meeting will be December 20, 2021.

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 8:42. p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Tim S. Miller