

Faith Lutheran Church
Board of Directors Minutes

December 19, 2022

Present: Pastor Biermann, Scott Hans, Chris VanLandeghem, Tim Miller, Phil Whitmer, Marcy Montez, Matt Guinn, Deb Lund, Jenny Mervyn, Leslie Stratton and Corrine Walworth.

Absent: Sam Siegel and Stephany Hall

Meeting opened at 7:03 p.m. with devotion by Pastor Biermann on how to turn difficult conversations into moments of grace.

Secretary Report: Tim Miller

Minutes from the November meeting were motioned for approval by Chris and support from Marcy. Correction to the minutes should include adding Corrine Walworth to attendance. Change to the total for cement repair expense from \$3900 to \$7500. The grinding was not included in the \$3900. Minutes were approved as presented with amendments by the Board.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Biermann

- Continued uptick in attendance with a 10% increase for November which is up from October numbers.
- Communication from the District was received on annual financial support with goals set for the coming year.
- Respect for marriage law changes have given way to concern towards the overall church as it relates towards performing rights of marriage for outsiders. Pastor distributed the Wedding Contract currently in place to be proactive. (see handout)
- Concordia Center for the Family (CCF) is a District organization out of Ann Arbor which Pastor Biermann has worked with for quite some time in different aspects of their ministry. Their current director is retiring and they have asked Pastor to help them transition for 9 months at a rate of up to 10 hours per week. There would be a \$2000 per month stipend paid to FLC. Travel expenses would be covered by CCF. Pastor stressed that his service to Faith would always take precedence over work for CCF and that most of the extra hours will be manageable as he cuts back on other tasks he performs in the community beyond Faith. Pastor asked the Board for support in this position in addition to his Senior Pastor duties. Scott will look for a vote of approval in the January meeting.

President Report: Scott Hans

- Scott asked all Board Chairmen to have Annual Board Reports back to Alicen by January 6th.
- Forum on January 21, 2023 with an agenda currently being worked on with Pastor Biermann.
- Voters Meeting set for January 29, 2023 at noon.
- Scott met with Sam on quotes for replacing carpets in the hallways and narthex of the church for an estimate of \$35,000.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel

- No report.

V.P. Salary & Personnel – Chris VanLandeghem

- Reported last month looking to replace the payroll company at a cost savings. There has been an additional quote received for a comparison to the current company being used.
- Housing allowance expenses for 2023 were reviewed for those awarded such.
 - Pastor Biermann - \$57,000
 - D.C.E. Cindy LaFontaine – 100%
 - Sue Hooper – 100%
 - Pastor Scott - \$30,000
 - Joel Zander – 70%
 - Deaconess Christie Hansard – 50%

Motion to accept housing allowance was made by Chris as submitted with support from Marcy. Approved by the Board.

V.P. Finance & Stewardship: Phil Whitmer

- CTNG balance is \$125,335 with 152 commitments totaling \$908,934.
- November financials were reviewed.
- Giving for November and December is tracking lower than prior year.
- Discussion took place on annual wage increases for all church staff. Marcy made a motion to approve the budget submission to include a 3% wage increase to the base wages for all church staff with support from Jenny. This would include continuing with the current mortgage payment at the current rate and will be renewed upon approval of the motion. The motion was approved by the Board with Tim Miller abstaining from the vote.

Board Reports

Outreach & Evangelism: Deb Lund

- Looking at working with Ascension Conference Center and taking food from them that is extra to Franklin Avenue Mission.
- Care boxes went out to service people in early December.
- Taken over the student contact from Connie Green with updates taking place on the list.

Youth Board: Jenny Mervyn

- Youth room is back in order again with new flooring.
- Many events taking place during the months ahead.
- Escape Room in Flint had 20 kids attending the event.
- Youth gathering Thanksgiving feast had 30 kids with many attending from New Life Church.

Elders: Matt Guinn

- Nothing big addressed at the monthly meeting.
- Discussion on having a brief healing service after late service on months that have a 5th Sunday in them.
- Still having discussion on having a staffed nursery during services again.
- Transfers In; none. Transfers Out; Megan Trost

Communications & Publicity: Stephany Hall

- No report.

Congregational Ministry: Leslie Stratton

- AHG Fundraiser for February 10th Court of Honor to sell tickets for a bowling event to be held at Holly Lanes. Ticket sales will be on January 13th. Motion made by Marcy and support from Pastor.

Worship: Corrine Walworth

- Altar Guild has purchased all poinsettias for the altar area and looking at a means for them to be distributed when the holiday season ends.
- Replacing computers in the sanctuary with a new computer to operate the screens up front. Should help with issues currently taking place.

Social Ministry: Marcy Montez

- 5 families were on the Angel Tree with 13 food baskets handed out on December 20th.
- Volunteers starting to become active in the mentor program for Grand Blanc Academy in January with training taking place in early January.

Next meeting will be on January 16, 2023.

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Tim S. Miller