

Faith Lutheran Church  
Board of Directors Minutes  
November 26th, 2018

**Present:** Pastor Biermann, Phil Whitmer, Marcia Gauthier, Craig Hubert, Suzanne Perreault, Laurie Crawford, John Crawford, Jennifer Hocken, Aaron Gulyas, Andy Priestap, Laura Mulligan, Sam Siegel  
**Absent:**-Stephany Hall

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with devotion and prayer from Pastor Biermann focusing on Psalm 136:1. Pastor also mentioned that we will no longer be spending time on Luther's Small Catechism but invited us to come to the two Bible studies he offers.

**Secretary's Report:** Marcia Gauthier

- Minutes from the October 15th meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Laurie, seconded by Craig. Motion was passed.

**Pastoral Report/Notes:** Pastor Biermann

- Review of the October Parochial Report-noted the drop in Wednesday night service attendance.
- On December 2<sup>nd</sup> during the 10:45 service Pastor Heins will be honored for 60 years of service to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Phil and Craig will represent the congregation during this recognition.
- The voting for synodical president will take place between June 22-25th. Pastor Scott and Greg Baehr will be Faith's voting delegates. A motion to approve their service in this way was made by Laurie, seconded by Craig. Motion was passed. Marcia and Phil will take care of the required paperwork for this.
- Reminded all that forum reports are due electronically by Monday, Dec. 10th.

**President's Report:** Phil Whitmer

- LCMS nominations- Faith will nominate those names that were mentioned for a few weeks in the Faith Walk. SYNOD PRESIDENT: David Maier, Tim Klinkenberg  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT: Scott Sailer, John Denninger  
GREAT LAKES REGION VICE-PRESIDENT: Keith Haney, Randy Raasch
- Greg Baehr suggested a name to be nominated for LCMS Pres., but that person was not interested in being nominated.
- The Faith annual congregational forum will be on January 12th from 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m. BCM will provide a continental breakfast.

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

- A bat "nest" has been removed from the sanctuary.
- A meeting took place on the morning of 11/26 with William Floyd regarding the vent in the library. Air can't get through. Some options were explored.
- A 60" television has been installed in the Adult Ed Room.
- The gym floor will be redone the week of 11/16 for approximately \$2,000.
- Explained an issue with the air vent in the narthex near the office area. It is often very cold in that area. The board decided to leave it up to Sam as to turn the air completely off or not during the winter.

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

- Noted that Sue Hooper will be reducing her hours at the end of April, 2019 and another individual will be hired to cover necessary duties.

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

- Thanked all for their time with budget preparation and reminded all that a budget is a tool, not an end all.

- *Overall Receipt and Expense Budget (2018 Fiscal Year) worksheet #1* was distributed and reviewed.
  - Andy asked if we consistently have more revenue than expenditures for the preschool.
  - Sam asked if we have ever estimated what it costs to run the preschool with heat, lighting, permits and more.
  - Suzanne asked if we have any desire to do a strategic plan for preschool
  - John recognized that these were all good points but asked that we table these questions for now.
  - Pastor asked that these questions be initially addressed at an Executive Board meeting.
- *Overall Receipt and Expense Budget (2018 Fiscal Year) worksheet #2* was distributed and reviewed. Discussions took place regarding each board and its budget.

## Boards

### Property and Maintenance-

- Sam explained that the new LED lights in the parking lot have saved a lot of money and they will be put in the gym too. We will need a new parking lot within the next 5 years (\$210,000), a new gym floor (\$16,000), more painting and new carpet due to the large wrinkled areas.
- Suzanne suggested we do a capital improvement plan for big expenditures.
- John explained the capital expenditure process and that we are limited with it.

### Youth-

- Andy doesn't know all costs for NYG yet. Hotel's location and price are not available yet.

### Elders-

- Craig said we will be providing pulpit support while Pastor Biermann is on sabbatical, per the pre-approved sabbatical plan.

### Worship-

- Laurie said her budget will not need approximately \$500 for bulletins.
- Organ maintenance will fall under Property and Maintenance.
- We pay a lot in licensing fees.

### Communication and Publicity-

- Laura noted that the Living Faith newsletter is all out of her budget now instead of both Communication/Publicity and Outreach/Evangelism budgets.
- Marcia asked how much this costs for each quarterly issue (~\$1,000).

### Outreach and Evangelism-

- Suzanne distributed a budget worksheet with a breakdown of expenses.
- Showed a letter from the Michigan District of the LCMS in regard to Dr. Khumalo coming to Michigan for a couple of years from South Africa and the opportunities to support his time here. John asked for further discussion on this to take place at the next BOD meeting because there are a lot of concerns/options with his visit.
- The FAM accounts for food and yearly distribution have been "cleaned up".
- Internship funds have been removed from this budget.

### Finance and Stewardship-

- A brief discussion took place regarding on-line giving vs. the use of envelopes. Should those who give on-line have the opportunity to opt out of receiving envelopes? This will be addressed at future meetings.

### Social Ministry-

- Funds for the GBAFCO (Grand Blanc Area Faith Community Outreach) have increased this budget.

### Congregational Ministry-

- There is an increase in this budget due to coffee hour and the nursery.
- Asked for clarification on how to handle graduate school scholarship requests.

- *Budget Comparisons FY 2018 Annualized vs. FY 2019 Budget* worksheet was distributed and reviewed
  - There is an increase in revenue due to other staff members covering some of the duties that were previously covered by Pastor Moyer without extra compensation.

-There is a plan for growth and a need for overall strategic planning.

## **BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:**

**Elders:** Craig Hubert

- The elders' offer to pray with individuals after services has begun and a few stayed and prayed after the Wednesday night service on 11/21/18 for the first time.

**Outreach & Evangelism:** Suzanne Perreault

- Guatemala - The corn and bean fundraiser to help support the families of World's Redeemer Lutheran Church in Santiago Zamora has brought in a handful of monthly commitments and one time contributions. A second monetary contribution was sent in last week to purchase the next installment of corn and beans.
- Franklin Avenue Mission -
  - There is a need to better communicate what is happening at FAM with the congregation at Faith and inspire folks to get involved.
  - A Flint Police Community Service Center will soon be located as part of the Franklin Avenue Mission (in the building next to the church).
  - Children's Christmas gift lists for ages newborn through 17 are being compiled. Marcy Montez will be working on the Angel Tree at Faith. The Children's Christmas Party is set for Thursday, December 13 when all gifts will be handed out.
  - Faith's dates to serve are: DEC 18, 20; FEB 5, 7; MAR 26, 28; and MAY 14, 16

**Worship:** Laurie Crawford

- No report

**Communication & Publicity:** Laura Mulligan

- The Spirit Wear fundraiser is going well. Details will be available at our next meeting.

**Congregational Ministry:** Jennifer Hocken

- Nursery - Brandie Cupp has agreed to continue being the point of contact for now
  - Efforts will continue to find more volunteers (adults/experienced older teens)
  - Hours worked by paid nursery staff will continue to be reported to Cindy LaFontaine
- Preliminary plans for 2019 events:
  - Friday, February 8th - chili/soup cook-off during game night
  - Saturday, April 6th - family and friends retreat (team building stations, community service, etc. - next step: establish committee)
  - Fall - Road Rally/Kick off
  - Possible smaller events such as baseball games, theatre visits, etc.

**Social Ministry:** Stephany Hall (absent-report via email)

- Board of Social Ministry is happy to report that 16 families received a Thanksgiving meal, including a frozen turkey and bags of non-perishable goods.
- Social Ministry will be taking names of Faith's family & friends in need of a food basket at Christmas. Names will be taken until Monday, December 17th and food baskets will be distributed on Friday, December 21st from 9-11 a.m. in the Family Life Center. The pick-up date and time has been coordinated with Marci Montez for the Angel Tree.

**Youth Board:** Andy Priestap

- There was a good turnout for Nerf Wars and good response to the new format (one day for 6th grade and younger and one day for middle and high school)
- Initial plans are underway for the Trivia Night fundraiser. The youth will be asking for and accepting donations for a raffle.
- Deposits are being made for National Youth Gathering next summer. Approximately 20 youth are planning to attend.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Phil requested another Executive Committee meeting before the next Board of Directors meeting.

**ROUNDTABLE:**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Forum reports are due 12/10/18.

Closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.  
Next meeting is 12/17/18 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Gauthier, Secretary