

Faith Lutheran Church
Board of Directors Minutes
September 17, 2018

Present: Pastor Biermann, Phil Whitmer, Marcia Gauthier, Craig Hubert, Suzanne Perreault, Laurie Crawford, John Crawford, Jennifer Hocken, Aaron Gulyas, Andy Priestap, Laura Mulligan

Absent: Sam Siegel, Stephany Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with prayer from Pastor Biermann and a reference to Isaiah chapter 58. He is on our side!

Secretary's Report: Marcia Gauthier

- Minutes from the August 20th meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by John, seconded by Craig. Motion was passed.

Pastoral Report/Notes: Pastor Biermann

- Parochial report review- Attendance was down during August of 2018 compared to August of 2017. Bad weather during one week of 2018 may be the reason.
- An update on the Grand Blanc Faith Community Outreach Organization and its efforts to help those in need in our community was provided. The 501C3 application was submitted and we are awaiting approval. Pastor Biermann had Craig Sippell review it as well for legal purposes.
- The sabbatical leave plans for 2019 were shared. A handout outlining the time frames, personal objectives, budget, fundraising and coverage was reviewed by all. The opportunity to donate to this mission work was also outlined. There is a new option to do this on Faith's website in the "Give" pull down menu.
- Staff training for approximately 30-35 will take place on October 16th and was briefly discussed. This training is focused on how we interact with each other. A self-assessment personality profile worksheet was completed by all present to prepare for the training. A potluck organized by Cindy is planned for lunch that day.

President's Report: Phil Whitmer

- The planned change to our Constitution to Section 2, Part C, Item 3.d is still in the process to reflect that for financial purposes, Parish Nursing will be managed under Social Ministry instead of Congregational Ministry.
- John Koke has had this published in the Faith Walk and Faith Happenings and the information must run for two months. September qualified as month 1 and October will qualify as month 2.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel, absent-no report

V. P. Salary & Personnel: Aaron Gulyas

- No report
- Phil asked if all office staff changes for hours and pay have taken place as planned for September 1. Aaron confirmed that all planned changes have occurred.

V. P. Finance & Stewardship: John Crawford

- Income is down but Faith is still in good shape and there is still an excess of 4 months of operating cash on hand.
- Revisited the opportunity to pay online for church events. John has been working with Brooke on this. ACS can't handle this but PayPal is an option through our website host Clover. They offer to track usage and more. Research into this will continue.
- There is a great need for more tellers. We need a captain and administrator. We also have 2 new tellers.
- There is a need for a Financial Recording Secretary (4 to 5 hours/week) in the future as Amber Petzold will not be able to stay on long term.
- The request to possibly print the financial status in the Faith Walk and Faith Happenings was addressed. John mentioned that people can always ask him questions and that a complete analysis would not be available on a regular basis. A discussion occurred about what should be posted weekly. The two offering sections will remain as is in the Faith Walk for now.

- In answer to Phil's inquiry last month about the Guatemala funds and other mission work budgets, John explained Marge's guidelines for restricted funds.
- Guatemala funds were reconciled this month.
- The premium for a life insurance policy of an elderly and failing Faith member will possibly be paid by Faith temporarily. The future of this policy will be discussed with the member's family
- Marge may possibly change the Huntington Bank checking account to a different type of account to earn interest. There are service charges to stay in the current account and the new account will offer fraud protection and more access. Marge would like to stay with Huntington and, in turn, will have to learn about the new account features. Pastor Biermann recommended we make the change if Marge is in favor of it.
- There is a need for an "understudy" for Marge so that someone else knows how to do all that she does. Craig recommended Gayle Pickett.
- John explained a Heins Endowment Fund at Concordia Seminary. People can donate to this for seminary students. He will have something in the Faith Walk and Faith Happenings to notify members.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Elders: Craig Hubert

- Described concerns regarding Common Cup Communion distribution. He is revisiting this with the Elders to make sure all are following the proper guidelines.
- Requested that names of Elders on duty be placed in the Faith Walk for the current Sunday in addition to the 'Next Week' list we have always printed.

Outreach & Evangelism: Suzanne Perreault

- Suzanne was thankful for the explanation received from John regarding Guatemala funds after last month's inquiry from Phil. John explained this in detail after checking with Marge.
- The homecoming tailgating event is cancelled.
- The second quarterly Faith Newsletter went out at the beginning of September.
- WAVE Grants-two have been granted. The first was for Christmas ornaments in December, 2017 and the other was for Trunk or Treat in October, 2018.
- Helping families in Guatemala since the devastation from the volcano eruption was revisited. Lutheran Hour Ministries is organizing relief efforts and this topic will be addressed with the congregation on October 21st. Forms will be available to make donations.
- Another diaper drive to help FAM is in the planning stages.

Worship: Laurie Crawford

- Altar Guild-Linda Robinson has called a meeting for retraining
- John asked about ushers doing more traffic control during Communion dismissal on those Sundays where we have kneeling Communion. People are leaving in different directions and sometimes cause a traffic flow issue. Laurie said she will address this with the usher teams.

Communication & Publicity: Laura Mulligan

- No report

Congregational Ministry: Jennifer Hocken

- Fundraising requests- AHG for Nuevo Vallarta dinner tickets, Kroger Rewards and bracelets to raise money to visit the ARK and stay overnight. Aaron motioned and Laura seconded the motion to approve all three fundraisers. Motion passed.
- Phil reminded everyone that only 2 fundraisers at "any" time should be in front of the congregation .
- The Women's Retreat on November 3rd and Trunk or Treat are both on Facebook and a lot of people have signed up for both.
- The nursery budget falls under BCM and there is a need for a nursery coordinator.
- Roxanne Steffe is organizing a new pictorial directory and is looking for a project coordinator as she will be in Arizona during the time in 2019 when this is most likely to occur.
- Marcia asked Jenny if the donut account has been settled with Dawn Donuts. Jenny said it is all figured out.

Social Ministry: Stephany Hall, absent-no report

Youth Board: Andy Priestap

- Approximately 25 youth in the Catechism class attended the Michigan Christian Youth Camp the weekend of September 8th.
- September 23rd-Apple Orchard and bonfire at Doyle's home
- September 24th-Youth and parent meeting
- The National Youth Gathering is in Minnesota next summer and Faith is coordinating with other churches for travel options.
- Faith may have a new app available for parent training soon-Parent Cue.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ROUNDTABLE:

- Marcia followed up regarding the Ally Challenge fundraising opportunity. Maybe we can take part in this next year.
- Marcia mentioned that she has reached out to Jason and others about selling spirit wear for a fundraiser. He was not interested. Marcia has reached out to Laura for help organizing this.
- Marcia asked for feedback on the new Faith Walk and Faith Happenings design/layout.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

Closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.
Next meeting is 10/15/18 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Gauthier, Secretary