

Faith Lutheran Church
Board of Directors Minutes
January 21st, 2019

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

Absent:-Stephany Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. with devotion and prayer from Pastor Biermann focusing on John Chapter 2 and the wedding in Cana. He stressed that "whatever" God has planned for us is His way.

Secretary's Report: Marcia Gauthier

- Minutes from the December 17th, 2018 meeting were presented and reviewed. There were no questions or concerns. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Laurie, seconded by Craig. Motion was passed.

Pastoral Report/Notes: Pastor Biermann

- Reviewed the December Parochial Report.
- Noted that Pastor Scott and Cindy LaFontaine were in attendance to provide input as staff members and to utilize our meeting time productively.
- Reviewed main points from the Congregational Forum held on January 12th. Thanked those present and said that the Forum provided a lot of good information. Mentioned areas of concern and planned changes for a few of those concerns:

~The Faith Legacy program will be reinstated with efforts made to keep consistency and continue through high school.

**Suzanne thanked the staff for reinstating the Faith Legacy program and mentioned having a "passport" to mark the way and act as a road map. Pastor Scott and Jason are currently working on this.*

~A Sunday School Christmas celebration day will occur, maybe in the late service on the second Sunday in the month of December.

**Cindy reviewed summer Sunday School and mentioned that it will not be happening this summer. The Second Sunday Celebrations are such a good event that Sunday School will continue to be cancelled on those Sundays. The children can enjoy fellowship with each other and/or help with the breakfast efforts.*

~The Faith Walk will start highlighting a ministry opportunity each week so members know more about what is involved in an effort to recruit volunteers.

~Wednesday contemporary service will continue to last 30-40 minutes but will hopefully have live leaders for music.

- Announced that Every One His Witness had a good turnout for its first session with over 100 in attendance on Feb. 20th.
- Described his efforts, as Circuit Visitor, to assist Pilgrim LCMS in Burton with its pastoral needs. A meeting is scheduled to discuss options.
- John asked if lay people can become Biblical counselors. The process was described.
- Noted that he has been summoned for jury duty in February.

President's Report: Phil Whitmer

- Confirmed that all deadlines for LCMS Convention 2019 have been met in response to a reminder he received in the mail.
- Reviewed the agenda and timing for the Congregational Voters' Meeting to be held on January 27th.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel

- Explained and showed new library light fixtures to save energy and improve lighting.
- Pre-school also had 60-70 lamps replaced.
- Sample LED replacements were temporarily installed in recessed cans in the hallway and other options are being explored for lighting issues.
- Will try to replace gym lights after discussion with Consumers regarding a possible rebate (up to 50%).
- Explained that he has been doing a lot of closet cleaning throughout the building.

V. P. Salary & Personnel: Aaron Gulyas

- No report

V. P. Finance & Stewardship: John Crawford

- Stated that there is \$412,733 of operating cash on hand and the budget is stable going into 2019.
- Reviewed budget projections (exhibit F) and suggested that Faith is stable for the next 4 years, but the 5th year may be negative. Faith remortgaged last year to insure stability to build for its future. The payout was reduced by \$60,000. All this will be reviewed with the congregation during the Annual Voters' Meeting on January 27th.
- Noted that we would always like to have this amount of money on hand and hopes that Marge could invest it somewhere to earn more interest.
- Suzanne asked questions about future planning concerns for things like space for more preschoolers. John agreed that we definitely need to look into these planning projects.
- Pastor Biermann asked about officially changing the Biermann Mission Trip fund to Mission Trips in the paperwork and suggested John work with Marge to make necessary changes.
- Phil asked about specific funds and discussion occurred about how to direct these funds to sub accounts, not individuals. John will discuss this with Marge.
- The Nominating Committee will start work in February. Currently, someone is interested in running for President but we will need a Vice-President of Salary & Personnel (Aaron has decided not to seek a second term), 8 or 9 BCM members and 11 or 12 Elders.
- Sam's position of Vice-President of Trustees was also discussed in order to make a provision for him to stay on longer than the term limit. This would go outside the parameter of the Constitution. Sam asked if there is a time limit to this longer term and Pastor Biermann read the constitution section regarding this provision. Aaron noted that we need to vote on it as a congregation. A motion to take this provision to the Annual Voters' Meeting was made by Craig, seconded by Marcia. Motion was passed. Phil will add it to the Annual Voters' Meeting agenda for 1/27/19.
- Pastor Biermann described the difference involving term limits in regard to serving on a board versus serving on the Board of Directors and stressed that we really need to find someone to be mentored by Sam.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Elders: Craig Hubert

- Distributed and discussed a list of members who are being recommended for removal.
- John inquired about the process of creating this list and Craig explained.
- A motion to bring this list to the Annual Congregational Voters' Meeting was made by Sam, seconded by Laurie. Motion was passed.

Outreach & Evangelism: Suzanne Perreault

- No report

Worship: Laurie Crawford

- No report

Communication & Publicity: Laura Mulligan

- Described a Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce advertising drawing to win the use of 3 local highway billboards for a month at a reduced price of \$2000 (versus \$15,000). Pastor is willing to enter a Faith business card into the drawing, but approval is needed from the BOD for this cost if we win the drawing since the \$2000 fee would exceed this board's projected budget. Sam made a motion to allow this increase in the budget and Marcia seconded it. Motion passed.

Congregational Ministry: Jennifer Hocken

- Noted upcoming BCM events - Chili Cook-Off and Faith Family Feud (2/8), Easter Egg Hunt (4/13), End of Sunday School/End of Year/Sabbatical Send-Off party (4/28) to replace the Springfest that has been cancelled for 2019, Road Rally (Fall)
- Announced that the Sign-Up Genius program has been a success for Coffee Hour sign-up and all dates are filled through March.
- Discussed the nursery staff situation. Brandi Cupp is still leading the efforts and a few others are helping. Maybe elimination of the nursery during the 10:45 service is necessary due to the low number in attendance. Mentioned that a video monitor in the nursery would also be a good idea.

Social Ministry: Stephany Hall, absent (no report)

Youth Board: Andy Priestap

- Stressed the need for more NYG meetings.
- Noted that the youth would be going to the Winter Jam concert in February at a cost of \$15 each.
- Listed upcoming fundraising opportunities: Trivia Night and concessions for the national basketball tournament scheduled at Faith in March.

NEW BUSINESS:

- --

ROUNDTABLE:

- Sam questioned the timing for destruction of records as he continues to clean out storage areas.
- Pastor Scott updated the board regarding current FAM efforts, February dates to serve and a new Sunday evening Bible study offered there.
- A request was made to seek "historians" in the next Faith Walk to help Sam with his cleaning and restoration efforts.
- Cindy explained that it has been an exciting year for Faith's preschool. She mentioned that bridges are still needed between the school and the church and that she may be creating a preschool parent committee. A discussion followed regarding enrollment numbers and capacity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- --

Closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.
Next meeting is 2/18/19 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Gauthier, Secretary