

Faith Lutheran Church
Board of Directors Minutes
November 18th, 2019

Present: Pastor Biermann, Bruce Trevithick, Marcia Gauthier, Matt Guinn, John Crawford, Jennifer Hocken, Sam Siegel, Scott Hans, Andy Priestap, Laurie Crawford, Suzanne Perreault

Absent:- Stephany Hall, Laura Mulligan

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with devotion from Pastor Biermann. He shared the devotion book that Joel Zander made for Faith families, *Daily Bible Verses for Advent*, and read the December 1st devotion from the book of John, Chapter 1.

Secretary's Report: Marcia Gauthier

- Minutes from the October 2019 meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by John, seconded by Andy. Motion was passed.

Pastoral Report/Notes: Pastor Biermann

- Reviewed the October Parochial Report. Attendance is stable.
- Reviewed the letter (attached) addressed to all members regarding Christie Hansard's Deaconess program and her time as an intern beginning in early 2020. Her installation in a public worship service will be January 12th, 2020. (Exhibit #1)
- Reminded all board chairs that their reports are needed by 9:00 a.m. December 9th for the Annual Forum scheduled for January 11th, 2020. An example will be sent to all for review.
- Discussed prayer list concerns and ideas for a new process. Matt shared the Elders' comments from their last meeting (attached) regarding these concerns. (Exhibit #2) The plan is to start with a new approach now. Names will stay on an "Urgent Need" list for two weeks and if someone would like to be on longer then the name will need to be resubmitted. Suggested a list for on-going needs/prayers for individuals which would be printed only and a list for immediate needs to be verbalized in worship and printed. The on-going list would not be on the screen and the immediate list (including active military) would be on the screen and read out loud. Elders will still be available for prayer before and after services.

President's Report: Bruce Trevithick

- Discussed a plan for providing the BOD's agenda and minutes to the board members in a way that would work for everyone. It was agreed upon that they would be placed in individual mailboxes in the church office.
- Faith's proposed constitution changes need to be made available to all members. They need to be printed and ready for members to read by November 24th, 2019.
- Strategic Planning efforts: A capital fundraiser may take place in the fall of 2020. This would be similar to others we have had in the past (Family Life Center and Here We Stand). The idea is to have a steering committee and introduce the idea and content at the January 11th, 2020 Congregational Forum meeting.
- John mentioned that Ray Zavada has offered to guide Faith in this project. He has a lot of experience with this type of project in his work for the Michigan District of the LCMS and would provide his talents at no cost to Faith.

V.P. Property & Maintenance: Sam Siegel

- The parking lot had asphalt cold patch done this week to get us through the winter. Member, Brian Pardee, had extra asphalt and did this for Faith for free. The lot was also recently "lined" with new paint.
- Simoni Systems provided an estimate for new screens and projectors for the sanctuary. A different plan of action has been requested from them resulting in a new estimate. Other bids are coming in too. Some memorial money will be used.
- Efforts to conserve energy are showing favorable results. Previous years' bills have been approximately \$65-68,000 and since the new boiler and LED lighting have been installed the bills have gone down to approximately \$53,000.
- There was a leak in Heins Hall roof last week. It is "ok" now.

V. P. Salary & Personnel: Scott Hans

- Diligently working with Marge and Alicen in regard to streamlining procedures in the office and things are going well. There are still some concerns.
- John reviewed the draft (attached) of the new voucher policy (Exhibit #3). This was previously sent to the board via email. Any concerns should be brought to the attention of Alicen by Wednesday, November 20th, 2019.

V. P. Finance & Stewardship: John Crawford

- Reviewed financial report and stated that there is a total of 4.5 months of operating cash on hand.
- John read the Housing Allowance 2020 letter out loud as required. This letter is placed in the November 2019 BOD meeting file. (Exhibit #4)
- Reviewed Overall Receipt and Expense Budget - Annual Meeting (attached). Exhibit #5
- Reviewed Faith Lutheran Fiscal Year 2020 General Fund - Revenue Projection (attached). Exhibit #6. There is a concern that offerings are down about \$100,000 from this time last year.
- Reviewed Faith Lutheran General Fund Revenue 2002-2018 (attached). Exhibit #7 Historically, financially it looks like we are going backwards and not building to a solid future. Suzanne thanked John for his efforts on this summary. She pointed out how helpful the work is that went into putting this historical summary together. She questioned as to how this will now fit into our strategic plan? Bruce pointed out that this is on target and that we need to figure out how to use this information to better the church. A discussion took place regarding demographics vs. tithing vs. knowledge about church budgets.
- Reviewed Faith Lutheran Church Operating Statement Fiscal Year (attached). Exhibit #8
- Reviewed 2020 draft board budgets for each individual board.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Elders: Matt Guinn

- No report

Outreach & Evangelism: Suzanne Perreault

- No report

Worship: Laurie Crawford

- She has cut her budget.
- Poinsettia sales are going on at this time.

Communication & Publicity: Laura Mulligan, absent

- No report

Congregational Ministry: Jennifer Hocken

- A "panel meeting" is scheduled for November 24th, 2019 after the 10:45 a.m. service to discuss the *Ring of Silence* movie that was shown at Grand Blanc High School.

Social Ministry: Stephany Hall, absent

- No report

Youth Board: Andy Priestap

- Jenny Mervyn, Tony Craw and Heather Hocken are members of the new Youth Board and will be meeting monthly and will also have an open meeting quarterly. They are still looking for one more parent member to

represent the kindergarten-second grade age group. Bruce recommended having a youth on the Youth Board.

- Twelve youth went to the escape room event in Davison on November 3rd.
- The youth Advent service is December 4th with at least 25 youth taking part in it.
- The youth Christmas party is scheduled for December 8th at 2:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

ROUNDTABLE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Closed with prayer from Pastor Biermann. Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.
Next meeting is 12/16/19 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Gauthier, Secretary