

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annual Congregation Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2017

1. **Call to Order** – Larry Patterson, President, 12:02 pm
2. **Invocation** – Opening Prayer with congregation - - Larry Patterson
3. **Confirmation of Quorum** – Alyssa Jacobs, Secretary
4. **Designation of Parliamentarian** – Richard Hinojosa
5. **Presentation of nominees for Council:** Treasurer, Secretary, Member-at-Large Positions 1 & 3 and the 2018 Nominating Ministry Team – Brian Weaver (See ballot below).
6. **Call for motions and then Announcement of Election Results**
 - a. No nominees from floor
 - b. Austin Adams made motion to close nominations from floor, second from Louis, motion carries
 - c. Austin moves that we direct the secretary for an unwritten ballot to accept new council members, second by Jeff Gappinger, motion carries
 - d. Motion to elect nominating team for next year by Brian Weaver, seconded by Shawn Elder, motion carries.
7. **Status Updates** – Larry Patterson
 - a. **Sale of Land** – several inquiries no offers
 - b. **Associate Pastor Call Process** – ongoing, some telephone interviews no viable candidates
 - c. **Outreach Programs** – supporting assisted living community, video of worship services, small groups up to 19 serving 119 people
 - d. **Branching Out** – No change in strategy
8. **Ministry Plan Implementation – significant progress** – Larry Patterson explained progress made to implement the plan citing almost a dozen key accomplishments showing the power point slide.
9. **Presentation of funding comparison analysis 2018 vs. 2017 Ministry Plan Budget** – Matt Engelmann
 - a. Accounting change for Faith Formation.
 - b. Administration line – positions filled today are funded for next year. Associate Pastor not included. We have added to the staff to cover key position over the past year.
 - c. Debt service – number is exactly the same. Agreement with MIF that goes through August 31, 2018 to hold 15K payment until land

is sold. Hoping to either sell land or work with MIF make agreement to keep payment the same. Old payment was 25K/month

10. Overview provided of Funding (Pledges & Unpledged contributors) Summary of 2017 Ministry Plan Funding and remaining Funding Gap – Larry Patterson, presented the results of 2017 ministry Plan funding as of November 5, 2017 and identified a gap of \$306,401.

11. Presentation for adoption of 2018 Proposed Ministry Plan Budget - Matt Engelmann, Treasurer and Larry Patterson:

- Motion to adopt contingent ministry plan made by Matt Engelmann, seconded by Jeff Voight: Larry opened the floor for comments and questions:
 - Ransom Alexander - If we are not including associate pastor in budget, how are we going to attract one.
 - Jerry Gray - plan needs to be bigger by 150k because also missing assistant for Kitty. If contingent why not include the extra 150K for assistant and associate pastor? Larry – Definitely, will take into consideration during the Council budget review in January. Matt – 100% agree, but need commitment from our mission partners. Jerry – if we never put it in we will never get it.
 - Lois Heckert – I don't believe proposed budget realistic based on 2017 expenses for utilities and maintenance areas. Both down 10k. I don't understand with high use of campus how that can be. Matt- those numbers are based on this year's actual expenses.
 - Austin Adams – what exactly are we voting on? I've heard that this is contingent, but contingent on what? What are we really voting on now. Larry - we are voting on a Contingent 2018 based upon maintaining the existing staffing and programs. If we close the 2017 funding gap then the Council can consider adding the two positions that Jerry mentioned. I would love to get there and consider having a party instead of a meeting in January. However, there are other items the Congregation needs to consider in January related to possibly changing the annual meeting and fiscal year change to get them in line with Day School. Austin – if we close this gap, we will not have a vote, we will just party in January, so this becomes not contingent but the real number? So we are voting on an unknown number? I understand the other two positions carry round numbers based on experience. Larry – this is the number that fulfills Ministry Plan based on keeping the folks we have on board. The reason it is contingent, is if we come in under budget (this year) we are just kidding ourselves that we will meet a

larger budget next year. If we don't make the 2017 Ministry plan budget, we are going to have to make cuts. We have no reserves for repairs. I know that we have are very generous group, over 60K was donated for Hurricane Harvey alone, if we can do that, why can't we fulfill our Ministry Plan. Austin - as a result of my questions, I would move an amendment to the motion that it requires a confirmation vote at a January annual meeting. Matt accepts amendment. Jeff – noted that Austin's amendment was out of order and not timely. Richard agreed.

- Pastor Rusty – the church cannot spend more than it takes in. We are not in that place right now, but we will get there if we don't commit to fully fund the ministry God has given us. If between now and the end of the year we do what we are going to say we are and close the gap which we are fully capable of doing, fine; if not, then we are going to need to come back on Jan 21 and say what we will do without in 2018. I'd love to come back on the 21st and party with Larry, but we can't live by a plan we are not fulfilling.
 - Gene Davenport- the treasury cannot write checks without an approved budget. Matt says yes and Larry agreed.
- Larry, ended discussion and noted that the Motion to adopt the 2018 Contingent Ministry Plan had been made and seconded, he called for the vote, motion carries. Austin Adams and Jerry Gray opposed.
 - Final comments by Larry - Again, the Council recommended approval of the Contingency 2018 Ministry Plan Budget with the understanding that the Council will come back to the congregation in January 2018 with appropriate adjustments depending upon what happens to close the \$306,401 gap between now and the year-end.

12. New Business, Announcements and Glorias - None

13. Closing Comments and Final Prayer – Pastor Rusty

14. Adjournment – Larry Patterson, President, 1:08 pm

Ballots:

**Election of Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at-Large Positions 1, & 3 and the
2018 Nominating Ministry Team – Brian Weaver, NMT Leader**

2-year terms

Treasurer:	Gene Davenport
Secretary:	Bruce Turner
Member-at-Large #1:	Sinikka Marten
Member-at-Large #3:	Maury Tiller

2018 - Nominating Ministry Team

**Alyssa Jacobs
Matt Engelmann
Myra Haugene
Jerry Gray
Pat Uszler
Holly Royer
Nicole Levin**