

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2017
3:00 PM

FLC Vision: Developing Relationships ... That Matter!

FLC Mission: We faithfully honor Jesus by developing disciples to reach others with the light of God's hope and love.

1. Call to order at 3:05 by Larry Patterson
Present: Larry Patterson, Pastor Rusty, Treasurer Matt Engelmann, Secretary Alyssa Jacobs, Richard Hinojosa, Maury Tiller, Myra Haugene, and Cynthia Murphy
Absent: Vice President Anna Geleske
2. Devotion – Larry Patterson – Matthew 22: The Parable of the Wedding Banquet
3. Approve minutes from previous meetings: Regular meeting September 20, 2017
Motion by Richard, seconded by Matt, motion carries.
4. Receive reports with discussion as warranted on regular agenda items:
 - Finance Report
 - i. Receive September 30, 2017 report – **Matt, Council Treasurer**
 - ii. September was an improvement over August, but still running at a spending deficit. October is a 5 Sunday month so hoping to see an improvement. Nothing unusual from a spending standpoint. We are almost exactly where we were last year in terms of giving. We did cut check for half of audiovisual equipment out of Branching Out campaign.
Motion by Alyssa, seconded by Maury, motion carries.
 - Pastor's Report
 - i. Staffing Update / budget impact / other items of interest
 1. Last week treasurer from ELCA was in town and visited Faith. She enjoyed her experience.
 2. Kitty and Pastor Rusty have found a great fit for the Contemporary Worship Leader, however, we cannot afford them at this time. Good news, but we have work to do in order to be able to fulfill position.
 3. Briarwood struggles when the summer is over. They are struggling to make payroll at this time (cash flow, not income issue). Pastor Rusty deployed the sponsorship gift for the Golf Tournament. Council had previously committed/approved gift. Note, situation may come up again.
 4. Discussion about Faith being able to help Briarwood with cash flow if/when needed until income comes in. Pastor would like to get them out of the position of Board member's writing personal checks to get them out of this position in the future. Faith needs to be a part of a solution to stand with our partners and help them when we can.
5. Discussion regarding FY 2018 Ministry Plan - - budget development
 - Projecting a \$30-40K deficit this year.
 - Spending is approximately \$50k under 2017 Ministry Plan
 - Added staff throughout the year and next year their entire salary will be in budget
 - No Associate Pastor, no contemporary worship leader
 - Mortgage is currently at \$15k and our three-year grace period ends in September of 2018. Will have to renegotiate in order to keep payments from resuming full amount in September.
 - No salary adjustments.

- Looking at approximately same number as last year (\$1,151,904). However, we have more staff, and no associate pastor, no contemporary worship leader.
- Health care - remaining the same as last year
- For the past two years we have given benevolence in the \$10k range for good causes – create an extra fund?
- Challenge to put a budget in place for \$1.15m when we haven't met this year's Ministry Plan. We cannot deficit spend, not because of overspending, but because we haven't funded the plan we agreed to.
- We had some buffer this year that we will not have next year in terms of benevolence and maintenance funds.
- More new people than ever before. 20 net families YTD. Plus, an online audience!
- Cannot give simple message of everyone doing more. Must name a target and ask members to meet it.
- \$1.154 is the number we need to tell congregation is our proposed Ministry Plan for 2018. We also need to tell them the current gap. In January 2018 we have another meeting and whatever our end number for year-end 2017 is what we adjust the budget for 2018. Responsibility to quantify what we are asking.
- No associate pastor in plan, we will come back to them when we have a person.
- Give presentation to all Small Group Leaders to pray about within their groups.
- Send targeted email to FaithBlast recipients of meeting summary.

6. Receive report from Nomination's Committee for 2018 Council Members

- Nominations Committee is meeting October 16th. They have made connections with 4-8 people. Brian will be in touch with Larry after meeting.

7. Future Actions: November 12, 2017 Congregational Meeting - - presentation topics

- Approve minutes from last meeting
- Vote on new council members
- Day School incorporation due to constitution change (Maury or Ann)
- Vote on moving congregational meeting (Spring time)
- Vote on changing fiscal year (goal to fit FLDS)
- Update on Surplus Land Sale
- Update on Roof Repair due to Hail Storm Damage
- Vote on Ministry Plan (interim plan?)

8. Ongoing projects:

- Update regarding sale of surplus North 3.5 acres – **Larry**
 - i. Larry spoke to Realtor about response we sent – at this time they are evaluating. Positive that it was not an outright rejection. However, Larry told them we need an answer before Congregational Meeting.
- March 26, 2017, Hail Storm Damage to church facilities – Status Report
 - i. Waiting to hear from apparent low bidder about supplemental claims – need a response before Congregational Meeting. Repairs will have to be done during summer with Day School in session. Will need to talk to insurance company because it will be over a year since damage occurred. Pastor has spoke to colleagues about their repairs and all have been more costly than insurance settlement.
- Sanctuary furnishings sub-committee(s); Status Reports – **Anna & Richard**
 - i. Kari ordering the altar this week.
 - ii. Pastor Rusty put out call through ELCA network for churches impacted by hurricane that need furnishings. Have not heard anything yet.
- Hurricane Harvey Relief
 - i. Our Congregation, through Thrivent, has given \$60K to Hurricane Harvey Relief. Thrivent is matching donations dollar per dollar.

9. 24D Vision training - - Future meetings: November 14th (Module 8) and December 12th (Module 9)
10. Adjournment at 5:32

FUTURE MTGS: 24D – November 14th – 5:30 PM
Council meetings All Sunday @ 3:00 pm - - Nov. 5th, Dec. 10th,

Congregational Meeting Nov. 12th
Fall Retreat TBD