**Faith Lutheran Church**

Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2016

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| Council Members |
| **President**Brian Lauer (15) | X | **Vice-President**Wade Eastman (15) | X | **Treasurer**Niki Pokornowski (15) | X | **Secretary**Linda McGraw (15) | X |
| Ken Holler (16) | X | Jan Kreie (15) | X | Brad Burch | X | Michelle Malchow (16) |  |
| Steve Killian (15) | X | Dan Brinkman (16) |  | Jon Kamrath (16) | X | Christine Ruppert (16) | X |
| Jeff Amundson (15) | X | Jon Wehler (16) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Staff |
| Pastor Scott | X | Pastor Paul | X | Diane Pedersen | X | Josiah Frusti | X |
| Pastor Dave | X | Marsha Schmit | X | Gladys Bonnema | X |  |  |
| Pastor Paulus | X | Wendy Mayland | X | Mike Lauer | X |  |  |

# Opening

## President Brian Lauer called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

* Jeff Amundson opened with devotions.

**Secretary’s Report:**

* **ACTION - Motion/Second/Passed** to approve the December meeting minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

* **ACTION - Motion/Second/Passed** to approve the December Treasurer's report.

 Outstanding year-end giving - extensive discussion on year-end finances.

**Pastor / Staff Reports:**

* Written reports submitted with the agenda.

**Ministry Teams:**

* **Worship (Dan and Jeff)**
	+ Discussed the handling of palm branches after Palm Sunday
	+ Discussed Lenten worship ideas
	+ Discussed Spread the Joy items
* **Church in the World (Jan and Ken)**
* Discussed the increased benevolence in the 2016 budget
* Requested a courtesy gift of $100 each to K. K. Alavi and his son Abdul, presented by Dick and Dorothy Desens on their visit
* Discussed Spread the Joy items
* Suggested a line item in the 2016 budget for an adult mission trip scholarship
* **Congregational Life (Brad and Michelle)**
* Hosted the January 10 Community Meal - 25 to 30 people
* The 50 new members will be called to answer questions and encourage them to participate in the congregation's activities
* Lenten Picnic Supper - March 16, 2016
* Discussed the Mingle Box project
* **Discipleship (Jon and Steve)**
* Breakfast and Bibles - January 9, 2016 - 10 men - next event set for February 20, 2016 at 9 a.m.
* Mugs and Muffins - January 16, 2016 - speaker Lou Ann Perschau
* **Management (Executive Committee)**
	+ Discussed financial reports, budget and Annual Meeting presentation
* **Spiritual Formation (Jon and Christine)**
	+ Upcoming Faith Family Fun Night Events

 February 14, 2016 - Swimming at the Middle School pool

* **Spiritual Formation (Jon and Christine)**  - continued

 March 2016 - Indoor luau

 April 2016 - Build bird houses

 May 2016 - Red Carpet Sunday with frozen yogurt

* + Vacation Bible School - June 26 - 29, 2016 with Christ the King

**Old Business**

1. Nominating Committee Report - All positions filled - good response.

2. Other - None

**New Business**

1. Annual Meeting Prep - All reports submitted and Annual Report to be printed and assembled.

2. Imagine Update - (Annual Meeting) - Over $500,000 in Imagine gifts were received in 2015, which equals two-thirds of the amount pledged over three years, the mortgage interest rate has been reduced, possible matching gifts campaign, and possible congregational challenge to pay off the remaining mortgage balance by 2020, Faith's 150th anniversary.

3. Preliminary 2016 Budget Review - program budget line items change little year to year.

 a. Employee health insurance was changed from individual to group insurance at no additional cost. A wage increase

 of 2% was included for all employees to help offset the increase in the group health deductible.

 b. 2016 budget increased by approximately $14,000 due to benevolence and personnel wage increases.

 **ACTION - Motion/Second/Passed** to recommend at the Annual Meeting the proposed 2016 budget and addenda discussed

 during the January Council Meeting.

4. Christmas Recap - Church attendance increased from previous years. Jonathan Swenson's presentation was well received by both parishioners and others in attendance.

5. Spread the Joy - Year-end response to Joy to the World was tremendous. All Ministry Teams were asked to prepare a wish list of non-budgeted items needed.

6. **ACTION - Motion/Second/Passed** to send a courtesy gift of $100 each to K. K. Alavi and his son Abdul, presented by Dick and Dorothy Desens on their visit.

7. Presidential Farewell - President Lauer expressed his thanks to the Council and for the opportunity to serve the church.

8. Other - None

Communion Helper Schedule:

 February 7: 8:00 a.m. Linda McGraw and Steve Kilian

 10:10 a.m. Jon Kamrath and (volunteer)

 February 14:  8:00 a.m. Brian Lauer and (volunteer)

 10:10 a.m. Chris Ruppert and Ken Holler

Correspondence: None

Closing Prayer: Jan Kreie

Adjournment: President Brian Lauer adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting:  Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 6 p.m.

Devotions for Next Month: Ken Holler

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McGraw, Secretary