

Faith Lutheran Church - Council Minutes Tuesday, Aug 18, 2020

Members Present: Bob Kreie, Andrew Weckwerth, Marlys Miller, Monica Wehler, Penny Stuber, John Olsen, Niki Pokornowski, Pastor Dave, Pastor Scott, Pastor Paul, Marsha Schmit, Laura Weikle, Kristen Matthews, Jeff Amundson, Wendy Magruder, Sara Wegner and William Holt. **Members present via Zoom:** Carl Horton, Maria Weikle,

Call to order by President Bob Kreie at 7:32 p.m.

Opening Devotions by Carl, based on the theme of blood atonement in the book of Hebrews.

Secretary's Report: John Olsen offered a correction to the Church in the World report. Strike the sentence "The plan is to have a group take turns to fill the box." **Action** - M/S/P to approve minutes from July as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: The General Fund balance is \$111,109.19. Reduced by \$6900 from last month. Special Fund increases are due to mission trip receipts that will be paid out next month. Building Repair and Improvement fund decreased due to paying ½ Otis contract and the last MEI bill.

Capital Campaign balance decline was discussed. We pay \$19,413 every month for the mortgage and we have paid that every month since inception. Due to a declining balance in gifts to the capital campaign, we have had to cover more of each payment out of our reserve account; in July it was \$7200. The good news is that after this month's payment, our mortgage balance will be under \$300K! Comment was made that we have received more for the mortgage than was committed in pledges and some people have pledges left to pay. A special appeal is planned to encourage paying this off.

Ministry for Discipleship expenses are high this month due to paying the church's annual commitment for the high school mission trip. We have 90 households giving recurring offerings through Simply Giving and more one-time offerings as well. **Action** - M/S/P to approve the Treasurer's report.

Pastor/Staff Reports: Nothing to report.

Ministry Team Reports:

Congregational Life (Niki and Marlys)

*On Sept. 13, will provide beverages for the picnic and individually wrapped cookies for adults and candy for the kids

Discipleship (Andrew and Gail)

*The team discussed plans for fall and how it could contribute amidst the uncertainty.

Management (Exec Comm)

*Elevator – initial work done; some adjustments remaining but work should be complete soon

*Personnel: one interview so far for a new Director of Music and Worship that went well; posts up on LCMC website-will run for ~2 weeks. No other applications so far.

*Purchase of a new unit to live-stream worship services was discussed. The cost is \$1,295 and will allow one-button streaming; better than going through a laptop. The device is made by AJA and it will interface with Facebook. Mark Guggemos will donate another device that will convert our analog cameras to a digital signal.

* Discussed how long to continue live-stream broadcasts. Concern is that is not substitute for attendance at church.

* Giving push to payoff mortgage-\$200K goal; talking about strategies on how to do this without impacting regular giving

Worship (Maria and Katie)

*Fall Worship schedule—8 a.m. overflow in Foundation; 10:10—Foundation overflow to Faith Center and Sanctuary overflow to the youth area.

*Discussing gift cards for Jeff and Dick Krueger for their steady help with outdoor worship.

*Will-the piano in Sanctuary needs new full length cover for piano to manage humidity better; the current cover has holes in it. Cost would not exceed \$600. **Action** - M/S/P to purchase a cover.

*Worship team will serve the October Community meal

Children, Youth, and Family (Dan and Monica) Put plans together for start of Sunday School and educational year on September 13 in the park.

Church in The World (Penny and John)

*Community meal on Sept 13 still needs a sponsor. It should still be served in “drive-in” style. A large amount of hamburger is in the freezer from a canceled meal last spring that could be used.

*Discussed idea of making videos of mission leaders to introduce them to the congregation.

Old Business: (See Management notes above for updates)

1. Elevator
2. Will's replacement

New Business:

1. Sept 13th – will be final outdoor worship with Sunday School before and a picnic afterward.
2. Fall theme—Originally, the theme was focused on the 150th anniversary, but that celebration is delayed. After staff retreat, it was decided to sue the Faith Groups study developed last spring, but not used. It is called “God’s Promise: Abraham’s Faith.” It will start on Sept 13; Faith groups start after September 20.
3. How to use Faith’s resources to serve the wider church? Discussions ongoing among staff. No firm plan yet, but asking for prayers
4. Augustana District convention is last weekend of Sept. Not doing a banquet, but hosting at three sites; one is Faith. Guest speaker is G. Barry Anderson, Minnesota Supreme Court justice and formerly a resident of Hutchinson and a member of Faith.
5. LCMC annual convention truncated to Monday only and most people will be watching on line.
6. IT information from Mark Guggemos—special box to livestream that does not require a computer. Cost is \$1,300 and will fit within the IT budget. **Action** - M/S/P to purchase the device.
7. Switch may need to be replaced for fiber optic connection; Mark Schumann getting estimate on what it will take to fix this.
8. Mission trip for next year-going to Savannah GA in July, Covid permitting. If not a go, will be in Hutch again.
9. Communion Schedule:
 - a. John and Andrew will serve on September 6.
 - b. Niki/Penny can serve on September 13
10. Correspondence: Mission Society thank you was sent for our donation

Endowment fund balance was \$800K; caveat is that proceeds need to go for Missions; gave \$40K to missions as a result of strong stock performance

Some Scholarships to Students attending school; Support for Missionaries. Pastor gave thanks to God for His provision.

Closing Prayer by Pastor Scott

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 15 @ 6 p.m. Wendy will send an invite for in person and/or zoom

Devotions for next month: Bob Kreie

Carl Horton – 2nd rate fill-in for Connie Stromseth 😊