

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES**

Meeting date: November 8, 2009

Call to Order: 12:14 p.m.

Roll Call: X indicates member(s) not present

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|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tom Hayes | <input type="checkbox"/> Matt McCoy | <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Rife | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nicole Parish | <input type="checkbox"/> Lyle Gernand | <input type="checkbox"/> Kate Scott | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Holman* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Peter** | <input type="checkbox"/> Barb Brewster | <input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Landis | <input type="checkbox"/> Samantha McCoy** |

* Denotes Congregational Treasurer ** Denotes Youth Liaison

Devotions: Tom Hayes led Devotions from Luke 23

Approval of Minutes from previous Council Meeting: Motion to accept the minutes made by Matt McCoy and seconded by Eric Peter. Motion approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report: Bill Holman presented the Treasurer's report. Faith's checking balance as of 10/31 was \$18,507.60; Scott Rife moved that the report be filed subject to audit ("approved"). Barb Brewster seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously

Financial Secretary's Report: Scott provided a report of weekly giving for September and October. Giving averaged \$2,968.96 per week for September and \$2,739.14 per week for October. Both of these averages are below the \$3,625.35 per week needed for Faith to meet its expenses.

President's Report: Pastor discussed the need to move the Contemporary service from Saturday night to Sunday afternoon at 12:30. Council discussed the need to amend the sign in front of the church to reflect this change. Council agreed this change will be effective 11/22.

Team Reports:

Stewardship Team: Scott gave the Stewardship team report. He reported that last year Faith had 41 pledges totaling \$130,494 and that this year Faith has 32 pledges totaling \$117,426.92 (as of 11/8). Scott reported that the news media has stated that giving is down at many churches this year, and that Faith's situation is not all that unusual given the recession.

Worship & Music Team: Pastor and Barb reported that we will be using Setting 10 for Advent. Pastor stated that in Advent we will also change back to the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer. Pastor stated that Faith will use the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer for six months, and will alternate to the contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer for the other six months. Barb stated she will put an advertisement in the newsletter for Christmas Poinsettias. Barb stated that Christmas Eve service will be at its usual time, 10:00 p.m.

Property Management Team:

Lyle Gernand reported that he has one bid for sealing the parking lot. Libs (a Floyd's Knobs-based company) gave an estimate of \$3,650 to fill cracks, seal and re-stripe the parking lot. Libs stated that if the pavement were to be extended over the area that now contains flower beds, that this would cost an additional \$3,300. Council discussed the possibility of covering that area ourselves, possibly using pavers ("stepping stones").

Lyle said that he'd contacted the company that had sealed the parking lot before but that they have not come out to provide the estimate so far.

Lyle said there will be one more estimate gotten and that all estimates will be brought to January's congregational meeting.

Lyle stated that the Property Team budget will be discussed the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday before Thanksgiving

Council discussed the need to steam clean the rug in the nursery. Council also discussed that there still was not a quote for window replacement in the preschool area, and that ants continue to be seen in the sacristy sink.

Council discussed the possibility of decreasing postage expenses by creating a mailbox at the church for members to pick-up their newsletters, etc. While there would still be a need to mail newsletters to shut-ins, the postage savings could still be significant. This approach would also have the benefit of being able to identify members who have not picked up their mail and target them for additional outreach. Members discussed that this could be placed on the wall where a drinking fountain is currently located.

Lyle made a motion to move forward with obtaining an estimate of the cost for individual boxes for each member. Kate Scott seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Christian Education Team:

Pastor discussed a decline in this year's Sunday School attendance. Pastor noted that many parents of today's children did not attend Sunday School themselves and so Sunday School may be "off the radar" of today's parents. Pastor discussed moving Sunday School to 11:45 a.m. -12:25 p.m.. Council members discussed this and agreed with the change. The change will be effective Sunday November 22nd.

Council members discussed possible advantages to moving the traditional worship service to 10:00 to allow for a less hectic schedule for the day. Council discussed that any change in the time of the traditional worship service would need to be made at the annual meeting. Council tabled this item and will put it on the agenda for the annual meeting.

Pastor reported that there will be two events for Advent. There will be a pitch-in dinner on Sunday 11/29 at 6:00 p.m. in which we will be making Chrismons for St. Paul's Lutheran Church (which lost their Chrismons as a result of flood damage) and another pitch-in dinner on Sunday 12/20 at 6:00 p.m. The 12/20 event will include a play written by Dan Diekhoff.

Kate discussed the need for the preschool's computer to have internet access, as not having internet access impairs the work of the preschool.

Pastor stated that the Tuesday afternoon Bible study is drawing about 10 participants, and that a second session will be coming.

Youth: Samantha McCoy reported on upcoming youth events, including the turkey dinner this Friday, recent Trailblazers events, a Peer Ministry event the weekend after Thanksgiving, helping with the Advent family pitch-in, and helping with Loaves & Fishes.

Lyle Gernand reported that a good time was had by all who went up to Lutheran Hills.

Parish Life & Outreach Team: Chuck Landis reported that PLOT held a Fall Festival on 10/17 and that Faith made baskets for shut ins. These baskets were then delivered by Pastor. Chuck reported that he'd received a letter from Salvation Army reporting a need for bell-ringers.

Mutual Ministry Team:

Pastor reported that the Mutual Ministry Team will meet tomorrow (Monday 11/9 at 7:00 p.m.)

Pastor's Report:

Pastor distributed to Council a written report of parishioners he has visited and those with whom he has scheduled visits.

Pastor reported on the recent meeting convened by Bishop Stuck at Christ Church (Louisville) regarding church-wide assembly's adoption of the social statement "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust". Pastor stated that the purpose of Bishop Stuck's meeting was to obtain feedback from the synod.

Pastor stated that as of now Bishop Stuck is only aware of one congregation in the entire synod that will be withdrawing from E.L.C.A. Pastor stated that in our conference of the synod, there are some congregations who are struggling with the decision, and others that are rejoicing.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Lyle discussed that Lutheran Hills is in financial need. Council discussed the possibility of making Lutheran Outdoor Ministry a line item in the budget. Council discussed that given the tight budget this is probably not possible, but that Council could agree to match anything raised during a fundraiser. Lyle motioned for Faith to match donations made during a church fund raising event for Lutheran Hills. Tom Hayes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed that Travis Arbuckle would like for Council to approve purchase of another wireless hand-held microphone. Tom stated that the lowest price Travis got was \$399

Tom made a motion to buy a new wireless hand-held microphone. Kate Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Kate Scott stated that she would like Council's permission to use the preschool area twice a month at 6:00 or 7:00 p.m. to host a Daisy girl scout troop. Kate said the majority of children will be coming from Northaven elementary and 11 of them will be in the troop. Council discussed that the only day that would present a conflict for this would be Wednesdays.

Kate motioned that the troop be allowed to use the church space. Chuck Landis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kate also provided more information on the "Faithful Losers" weight loss contest she will be coordinating during Lent. Kate explained that participants will pay \$5 and that the collected money will be donated to the church of the participant with the greatest weight loss.

Kate motioned that Faith allow the "Faithful Losers" group to use the church a couple of times a month during Lent to host events. Lyle Gernand seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Eric Peter stated he wanted to recognize Dan Diekhoff for his work to replace the damaged wooden altar cross.

Tom Hayes adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Next Council meeting:

Minutes Faithfully submitted,

Nicole Parish