

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Waconia, Minnesota**  
Church Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday June 17, 2009

*Mission: To learn, serve and share the Gospel by growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ, one another and those beyond our walls.*

*Vision: We will fulfill our mission through:*

- *Unyielding faith in Jesus Christ*
- *Strong ministries that engage our members*
- *Active participation in our church and greater community*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dawn Genz called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dawn Genz, President	X	
John Roebke, New President	X	
Brian Everett, Vice President /Worship & Music	X	
Mike Haugsby, New Vice President	X	
Cindy Schmieg, Secretary		X
Marcia Willmsen, New Secretary	X	
Brian Ebent, Treasurer		X
Chuck Dueber, New Treasuer	X	
Dan Pannier, Life, Growth, Mission		X
Tom Kurtz, Building & Maintenance		X
Cindy Roelefs, Faith Formation		X
Keith Sjodin, Stewardship	X	
Chuck Stevenson, Social Outreach		X
Ann Marie Powers, Youth Representative	X	
Austin Stole, Youth Representative	X	
Whitney Vacek, Youth Representative	X	
Jason Okryznski – Assoc. Pastor	X	
Dale Peterson – Sr. Pastor	X	

**Dawn led us in a “Get To Know One Another Jelly Bean Game”**

**MISSION/VISION reading**

### **Building Facility Update:**

The Building Facility Committee provided a report to all council members at the May meeting. Dawn will forward a copy of this report to all New Council Members.

- The goal of the report was to determine the current status of Faith's Buildings, focusing on the current condition of the South Building. (Note: the current condition and overall structure of the South Building is good and worth remodeling to suit our needs). The committee also consulted with all ministries of Faith to determine our needs for the future. From this information, the committee provided a report, which included options for expansion, remodel, etc. From here, we can decide what our best option might be when we are at a point to pursue this as a congregation.
- Originally, we were planning to include this report in our presentation of the Capital Campaign to the congregation. The idea was to incent the younger families to contribute to the debt reduction in order to begin moving forward on remodeling the South Building sooner rather than later. Greg Swan of Davy and Associates felt this would be confusing and we should only present the Capital Campaign as a debt reduction endeavor. The Building Facilities Report and Options could be presented to the congregation in the Fall of 2009.

Galen Tongen, Chair of Building & Facilities Committee is available to answer any questions regarding building facility report.

**Action Item: Present Building Facilities Report and Options to congregation in Fall of 2009.**

### **Staff Member Update**

A letter of resignation was received from Kallie Stroh, Youth and Family Minister, on Monday June 16<sup>th</sup>. Her last day will be July 28<sup>th</sup>. She had planned to continue her leadership in summer programming for Youth including Boundary Waters trip for 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmands and to lead the Youth and Adults at the Youth Gathering in New Orlean. Pastor Dale, and Personnel Committee, will evaluate needs of Faith Formation – Youth & Family to see if we rehire or if we make some changes.

*Update: Kallie's last day was June 30<sup>th</sup>. Marit Rinke and Marcia Willmsen volunteered to help keep summer programming going for Youth in grades 6 – 12. Marit and Marcia met with Kallie and Pastor Jason on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> to obtain all information in regards to programming for youth ages 6<sup>th</sup> grade thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade in particular, the details of Confirmation, the Boundary Waters Trip and the Youth Gathering trip. All programs will continue to move forward until a replacement for Youth & Family is hired.*

### **Discussion:**

1. What do you expect from position or help from Council?
2. How do we get more kids involved? No easy answer.
3. Suggestion – Whitney – Westwood Church has a special service for kids every Sunday which is led by the kids. Could Faith do this? If so, how, where, how often?
4. Communication with kids – e-mail via special website for kids. Texting, word of mouth. What is the best way to communicate our programs to our youth to get them involved and committed?
5. Triple AAA adults – how do we keep this program going?

**Goal – Depth rather than Breadth – focus over the past 2 years.** Successes – Kallie’s morning bible study. We will be adding some programs in fall to broaden the Depth of our “Creating and Sending Missionaries out to Share Christ”. Pastor Jason will be starting a “Peer Ministry Program” which will be a Youth program similar to the Stephen’s Ministry program – but for Youth. Faith received a Grant for our Triple AAA program.

**Goal: Creating and sending missionaries or disciples out to share Christ.**

### **Pastors Report – Pastor Dale and Pastor Jason:**

**VBS** – 139 kids attended Vacation Bible School’s Prayer Safari led by Justin and Jason. Some “non-members” communicated interest in joining Faith Lutheran church after children attended VBS.

**BYOB** – “Bring Your Own Bible” to all worship services held in June. Pastor Dale has received lots of good feedback from congregation regarding this series. The Pastors would like to do another series on another book of the Bible. More to come.

**Community Service Day held in May** – organized by Social Outreach Ministry of Faith. The committee received a plaque from Carver County for participation in a community service project.

**Two Students from Nigeria visiting** - There are 2 students coming from Nigeria that will be staying with the Okrazinski’s, the Flemigs’ and the Ellingsons’s. The girls will also be attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Activities are being planned for all kids going to the Youth Gathering to be able to meet the girls prior to the trip.

**Peer Ministry Program** - Pastor Jason will be starting a new program for Youth this fall called Peer Ministry. Goal is to name and equip ministers and leaders within the high school for the purpose of Peer Ministry. This will be similar to the Stephen’s Ministry program. How do we empower our Sr. High Students to be leaders in our church?

### Discussion:

Some would like to see more “stuff” posted about our kids. For all kids, Hockey, Football, Show Choir, Use our Faith in Action – to celebrate our kids achievements. There are Pro’s and Con’s to this.

**Pastoral Care** - Lots of people in need right now. Our Pastors work very hard to be available to visit with all those in need.

### **Reports:**

**Capital Campaign** – 189 pledges received for total of \$476,000.00. This is great for the first week of the campaign. 100 cards are still out. We are hopeful we will reach our goal. We received 287 pledges for our operation budget. We need a minimum of \$528,000 to reduce debt and also pay consultants bill. Our goal is receive \$750,000.00 in total pledges.

Several pledges were zeros due to unemployment. Some people may not pledge but will give and will give as they can.

We had 80 home visitors for the kick off of the campaign, each bringing about 5 packets to families. Many hands made light work.

**Prior months minutes** – only 2 people responded. We verbally approved May Council meeting minutes by Motion to Approve. 1<sup>st</sup> Motion – Mike Haugsby, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion – Keith Sjodin.

**Action Item:** In the future, all Council Members are to read and approve last month’s minutes by responding via e-mail to Cindy/Marcia – Secretary.

**Succession planning** - to create strong committees and a good succession plan to move people into council positions prior to the transition in June of each year. July is transition month. All Council Members should always be looking for someone to replace you in your current council position. Ask early.

**Action Item:** - Congregation has to approve new council members. We will have to stay active with old members until congregation vote. The next Congregational Meeting will be held June 19<sup>th</sup> at the very end of the worship service so that we are sure to have a quorum to approve new Council members and approve last congregational meeting notes. All existing council members will stay active in their positions until after the congregational vote on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Council Positions to be Approved**

John Roebke - President

Mike Haugsby – Vice President (will move to President June of 2010)

Marcia Willmsen - Secretary – need to have a backup person to take notes in the case of absence

Chuck Dueber - Treasurer

Tom Kurtz - Bldg Maintenance

Keith Sjodin – Stewardship

Dan Pannier – Life Growth

Chuck Stevenson – Social outreach

Brian Everett - Worship

Will each new member be on for 3 years? If only one year we need to get succession plan in place right away to plan for next year.

**Action Item:** Members were to indicate on list how many years are remaining in your terms so we can have accurate succession plan in place.

**Financial Report** – Faith's original mortgage amount was \$2.7 taken out on 12-20-04. Could we re-amortize the loan? Could this reduce our payments? There is no fee to process this once every 12 months. Treasurer could just send an e-mail request on the payment due date to project out the calculation.

This could save us \$3300 off current monthly mortgage payment. Brian Ebent to bring to finance committee to put into laymen terms for Council to see. We should let the Finance Committee determine if this is what we should do.

**Action Item:** Mike asked Chuck to have this conversation with the Finance Committee to determine if this is what we should do and report back to council at our July meeting.

Finance committee has been asked to give straight information to us. Get a list of same 5 questions that congregation members ask so that we can have clear information to congregation to answer these questions.

**Action item:** Dawn will prepare Council Binders for all new council members.

**Next meeting July 21, 2009 at 6:30.**

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Motion to Adjourn the meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> motion – Keith Sjodin, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Brian Everett.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45.