

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday October 20, 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

John Roebke called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Devotions – Chuck Stevenson led devotions prepared by Dan Pannier.

Prior Month Council Minutes: The minutes from the September 15, 2009 Council Meeting were approved via e-mail and were forwarded to Jean Krukowski to be posted at church and on Faith's website, and to Mike C. to be archived.

NEW MEMBERS - a list of all new Faith Lutheran members was provided at the council meeting. Each Council Member was assigned 2 – 4 new members to call and welcome to Faith Lutheran and ask if they have any questions regarding Faith Lutheran.

A motion was made by Chuck Dueber to approve all new members to Faith Lutheran. 2nd made by Chuck Stevenson. All approved – motion carried.

Action Item: All council members should contact the New Members assigned to them at the October Council meeting. The goal is to welcome the new members and answer any questions they may have. Also encourage them to get involved at Faith Lutheran Church.

REPORTS

Pastor's report – Pastor Dale:

- Confirmation Students - Last month, council members interviewed all confirmation students. Council members relayed feedback from Confirmands to Pastor Dale. The goal is to be aware of Confirmand's view of successes and concerns of our Confirmation Program so that we can continually improve our program and also to be an example of serving at Faith Lutheran church.

A motion was made by Chuck Stevenson to approve the confirmation students of 2009. Mike Haugsby - second. All members approved. Motion was carried.

Confirmation retreat – 38 students attended the confirmation retreat. Only 1 student was not able to attend which is an excellent turnout. All small group guides also attended. Members from the Stewardship Ministry visited the confirmation students at the retreat to teach them about being good Stewards. Stewardship Members were Mike Haugsby, Herb Monson and Liz Heagle. This visit by Stewardship Ministry members will continue throughout the coming years.

Sue Megrund, Interim Youth Director and Elizabeth Roebke, Interim Pastoral Assistant, are currently leading the confirmation program as well as all fall programming for our Jr. and Sr. High Youth.

- Stewardship Campaign – the theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign is "Make it Simple". All temple talks for the last week in Sept and first two weeks in October were presented by various members of Faith and/or the Stewardship Ministry. The Children's Time during worship was presented by various Sr. High Students. Kurtis Kettler created the slide show, which was shown the 2nd Sunday in Oct. We also held a processional offering where all members were invited to bring their monetary offering as well as their Time and Talent form up to the front of the church to be placed in baskets. All presentations were done very well and the Stewardship Campaign "Make it Simple was a very positive experience for Faith Lutheran members.
- Concern: the worship attendance and offering in the month of September were lower than what was expected.
- Elizabeth Roebke – Interim Pastoral Assistant, has received a call for the Associate Pastor position from a congregation in Billings Montana. Elizabeth's ordination will be held at Faith Lutheran church on Saturday Nov. 14th at 2:00 pm. All are invited to attend and celebrate Elizabeth's ordination.

Elizabeth Roebke continued.....

It is tradition that our congregation would present Elizabeth with a gift for her ordination. The council had discussion on the appropriate gift. Chuck Dueber made the motion that Faith would have a budget of \$500 for a gift upon the discretion of Pastor Dale. Keith Sjodin - second. Vote to approve Chuck Dueber's motion - all approved. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report – Elizabeth Roebke, Interim Pastoral Assistant:

- Within a 2 week time span, Elizabeth Roebke has attended 3 retreats with 158 members of Faith Lutheran Church. The retreats included the 8th grade confirmation retreat, the 10th grade confirmation retreat and the Women's retreat. She has also started a Women's Bible Study, which will be held Monday evenings. There are 20 women, so far, who have signed up to attend the bible study.
- Confirmation
Representatives from the Stewardship Ministry visited the 10th grade Confirmation Retreat, which was very well received by confirmands. The Stewardship Ministry will be sending a Time and Talent form out to all confirmands with a letter encouraging them to get involved at Faith Lutheran church. The letter will also explain that Stewardship is being a good role model and using the talents that God has given them to better and share in the world.

Elizabeth and Justin Kosec, Children and Family Minister, have spent some time reviewing and improving the existing confirmation curriculum for the fall session and will meet again to review and improve the curriculum for the spring session.

- Elizabeth has kept complete notes of all items and programs that she has been involved with so that she can easily hand the information over to the next Youth and Family Minister.

Staff Updates – Mike Haugsby

- Youth and Family Minister Position
Pastor Dale has received 8 – 12 resumes from candidates interested in the Youth and Family Minister position. The interview committee consisted of Pastor Dale, Mike Haugsby, Justin Kosec, Marit Rinke, Kim Sop, Brian Everett and Marcia Willmsen. Pastor Dale reviewed the resumes and he and Justin had an initial interview with qualified candidates. Mike Haugsby arranged the interviews with 4 of the candidates and the interview committee. Upon reflection of all candidates by the interview committee, there was a unanimous decision to recommend Sonja Nelson to the Council to make an offer of employment. Sonja is most experienced and is currently educated and practicing the AAA Adult and the Exemplary Method of Youth and Family programming. Sonja is very mature, experienced, educated and very comfortable sharing her Lutheran theology with the committee and with the Youth and Families that she has been leading. Sonja has her Associates of Ministry degree which means she has completed a 2 year masters program and is Rostered with the Synod. She has good supporting references. Sonja has three strong qualities we are looking for in a Youth and Family Minister, which are education, experience and an ELCA Lutheran philosophy. She will be a very good permanent fit with our current staff.

Youth & Family Minister - Staff Update continued.....

A motion was made by Mike Haugsby for the council to approve an offer be made to Sonja Nelson for the Youth and Family Minister position and for the Executive Committee to negotiate a compensation package. Chuck Dueber – second. Vote was made – all approved. The motion was carried.

- Associate Pastor Call Committee

We feel fortunate to have had many members approach Pastor Dale and Mike Haugsby expressing interest in being a member of the Call Committee for the Associate Pastor position. Pastor Dale and Mike studied the candidates to be sure all demographics are covered. The list of committee members will be: Scott Stole, Chairman, Mavis Flemig, Barbara Grangaard, Molly Henke, Ann Rassman, Gary Bass, Scott Johnson, John Kittleson and Michael Brown, Youth Representative.

Pastor Dale, Mike Haugsby and Whitney Vacek will be Council liaisons for the Call Committee.

A motion was made by Chuck Stevenson that council approve the candidates listed above to the Associate Pastor Call Committee. Keith Sjodin – second. A vote was made - all approved. The motion made by Chuck Stevenson to approve call committee members was carried.

The Associate Pastor Candidates will first interview with Pastor Dale and then the Call Committee. The Call Committee will make recommendation to Council for any qualified candidates.

Scott Stole – Call Committee Chairman will contact the Synod to have a representative come out to inform and guide the call committee in the call process.

Action Item: All council members should personally thank all suggested call committee candidates for their willingness to participate on the call committee.

Youth Report – Ann Marie Powers and Austin Stole

The Youth are very excited to have new Youth Director to keep programs moving forward. They are involved in the new Rotation Style Sunday School program and are currently leading the music portion at the 11:00 service. They feel it is a very good program – lots of fun for all involved.

Stewardship Report – Keith Sjodin

The pledges received for the Capital Campaign have surpassed our goal of \$650,000 and have come in just over \$1,000,000. The cash flow in so far has been slow but this is typical for our congregation. The Synod has recommended that churches consider separate commitment times for Financial Commitments and Time and Talent Commitments. Congregations should separate these commitment pledge times by 6 months so that the focus can be made separately on a Financial Pledge and then on a Time and Talent Commitment. This is worth considering for the future.

Action Item: Someone from the Stewardship Committee should talk to Susie Watts to get her opinion on Time and Talent commitment process and what might work.

Treasurer's Report – Chuck Dueber

- September was a disappointment in our general giving. We are \$10,000 down and now have a negative balance in general fund which might be discouraging. We are using some funds from the building fund for our general operating fund, which will be paid back when the money comes in. This borrowing of funds from our building fund may be a better solution to make ends meet than borrowing money from the bank. This is interest free. This is a sign that we are stretched in our general fund and is a "sign of the times". Our church has a history of turning things around in Nov and Dec.
- A Quarterly report was mailed to members stating the current status of our budget. We discussed the proposed budget in depth making changes where we felt necessary. Each Ministry should look closely at their numbers and work with Chuck Dueber to help finalize a proposed budget. The proposed budget will be presented to the congregation at the Nov 22nd Congregational Meeting.

Action Item: All Ministries should get their final proposed budget numbers to Chuck Dueber by Nov. 11th. More discussion on Proposed Budget will take place at the Nov 17th Council Meeting.

- Accounting Policy Procedure – will be moved to November Council Meeting.

Congregational Meeting Nov. 22nd held in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 – Agenda Items:

- Annual reports will be included from all Faith Ministries.
Action Item: The annual reports for each Ministry are due to Mike C in the office by Nov. 11th. The reports should be short and to the point. Copies of prior annual reports are at the Church Office. Contact Mike C. for a copy.
- Congregational Vote regarding the hiring of Sonja Nelson as Youth and Family Minister. A vote is necessary due to Sonja's Associate in Ministry Rostered position with the ELCA Synod.
- Presentation of 2010 Proposed Budget. A vote to approve 2010 budget will be held at the January Congregational Meeting.

Call to order for the meeting will be done at the end of the 9:30 worship service. Elizabeth Roebke will be preaching on Nov. 22nd, which will allow Pastor Dale to attend the congregational meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Nov. 14th – Elizabeth Roebke Ordination at 2:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church

Nov. 11th – all Ministry annual reports for Congregational Annual Meeting should be given to Mike C. in the church office.

Nov. 22nd – Capital Campaign Thank You Celebration in between worship services. Cake and refreshments will be served.

Nov. 22nd – Annual Congregational Meeting to present Ministry reports and Proposed Budget for 2010.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next meeting will be Nov. 17th at 6:30 pm. Marcia Willmsen will do devotions.