

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 16, 2010

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 Roelofs, 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 were led by Mike Haugsby.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Dale:

Dan Marquette has been filling in for Denny Dehn our custodian while Denny was home recuperating from hernia surgery. Dan's help has been much appreciated.

Pastor Dale provided a copy of his Housing Report for all council members, asking for an approval of the information provided. This information is then given to his tax accountant for tax preparation. Pastors are required to submit an estimate of housing expenses each year and obtain council approval. This is not a requirement of our church bylaws or the ELCA Synod.

Chuck Dueber made the motion to approve \$4150 per month be deducted from Pastor Dale's salary in 2010 as housing allowance and that this amount need not be included in his salary for

income tax purposes. Chuck Stevenson - 2nd. All approved. Motion carried.

Staff reviews were conducted this week by Pastor Dale, Mike Haugsby and all staff members. All reviews went well. This also created a baseline of information to move forward. Staff Members are doing well and are happy. Job descriptions were reviewed and compared to what each staff person does each day. Mike Christopherson is in the process of collecting new job descriptions to update Faith's Employee handbook. Staff members appreciate an opportunity to share their jobs and goals and to have the ears of the council. Mike Haugsby was impressed with the current morale of our staff.

Curtis Kettler's last day as Worship Coordinator, is end of May or middle of May. He plans to attend graduate school in the fall. When we began to look at our budget for 2010, we decided we could do without a Worship Coordinator over the summer months since we only have one service per week. We will need to look into all items that Curtis did for worship services so that those items could be covered by existing Staff or the Worship Ministry beginning next fall.

We would like to not lose sight of this position in coordinating the 11:00 worship service beginning the fall of 2010. In the future we should look into a possible Music Director/Coordinator position.

Once the Associate Pastor position is filled we will better know the skill sets available and will be able to better understand and determine what we can do and what we should be doing to provide meaningful worship services for our members.

Bibles for our church pews will be ordered by the Worship Ministry Committee. After Easter, members will have an opportunity to buy a pew bible.

March 27th – will be "Faith's Fabulous 40's" variety Show which will be a night of fun and entertainment.

We received a letter from Bishop Craig Johnson congratulating Faith as one of the few MN ELCA congregations that have ended the year of 2009 in the black financially.

Associate Pastor update - The Call Committee received approximately one dozen names of qualified candidates. They identified 5 possible candidates for Faith. Pastor Dale interviewed 4 candidates and 3 of these candidates will be interviewed by the Call Committee. These interviews may be held as soon as next week - the week of Feb 20th.

Treasurer's Report - Chuck Dueber:

The Finance Committee has revised the Accounting Policy to improve our accounting procedures. A copy is attached. The Accounting Policy has gone through various review processes from 2 or 3 professional accountants within our congregation, as well as our Finance Committee and Mike Christopherson, our Finance Coordinator. The goal is to have formal procedures in our accounting processes and to protect everyone involved in the accounting procedures of Faith Lutheran, especially Mike Christopherson our Finance Coordinator.

Keith Sjodin made the motion to approve the Accounting Policy as presented. Brian Everett - 2nd. All approved. Motion carried.

Faith's finances for Jan 2010 are off to a decent start. We have a balance of \$21,000 in our General Fund even after a \$23,000 transfer of Capital Campaign Receipts has been made from the General Fund to the Building Fund.

YTD revenues of \$52,413 are well over our YTD expenses of \$46,000.

Mike Christopherson has done a great job of the transition to a new Simply Giving procedure which is now handled by our congregation members or Faith Staff.

Pastor Dale made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Tom Kurtz - 2nd. All approved. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Announcements:

Lenten Soup Suppers begin February 17th.

Action Item: Each Ministry will serve at a Soup Supper. Susie Watts, Volunteer Coordinator provided information as to when your ministry will serve.

Building and Property Ministry is designated to provide a Temple Talk and Ministry Moment in the Faith in Action Newsletter for the month of April.

April 24th is the Mpls Area Synod Assembly. We are able to send 5 members, plus a youth delegate and our Pastors. The Assembly will be held at Shepard of the Lake in Prior Lake. Let Pastor Dale know if you are interested in going to the Synod Assembly.

New Members- we had 7 new families recently join Faith Lutheran.

Action Item: Each Council Member will be assigned a family to contact and welcome them to Faith Lutheran. Pastor Dale will e-mail a list which will designate a family to each council member.

Discussion Topic:

Who should serve on Church Council? Tom Kurtz, Brian Everett and Dan Pannier's terms will be done the end of May 2010. Cindy Roelofs and John Roebke's one year terms will also be done. Chuck Stevenson would like to find a replacement Liaison for the last year of his term. Angela Rudd was Social Outreach chairperson a few years ago and has expressed interest in being involved again. We will need Liaisons for the following Ministries: Worship & Music, Social Outreach, Life Growth and Mission and Faith Formation. We will also need someone for the Vice President position of Executive Council.

Concern - do we need to have Liaisons agree to a 3 year term as stated in the Bylaws? We have made the exception for council members in the past. Should we change the requirements? After discussion we determined we do not need to focus on the term of the Liaison but simply recruit new people to serve on council and leave the term up to the individual and the current need of the council position.

Question - how many years do other church council members serve?

Action Item: We will take the next 3 weeks to call other ELCA churches to find out what the service time is for council members in other churches in our area. Pastor Dale will e-mail names of churches for each council member to call and get information to relay back to council.

Question - eliminate the paper newsletter?

Action Item: We will invite Jean Krukowski to our next Council Meeting to talk about converting more correspondence to our Members from our current mail format to an electronic format.

Maybe we should review our Long Range Plan at one of our next Council Meetings to be sure we are on track with strategies and goals for our Ministries and Faith as a whole.

We will ask for an update report on our current Capital Campaign. The report may be given by Ron Christensen, Ross Hanson or Mark Davy and Associates.

Devotions - March 9th will be done by Chuck Dueber.

Next Meeting - March 9th rather than the 23rd due to spring break.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.