

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday November 15, 2011 at 6:30 pm

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*

Council Members	Present	Absent
Chuck Dueber, President	X	
Tom Pierson, Vice President	X	
Paul Thom, Treasurer		X
Rachel Hjelsand, Secretary	X	
Jack Shaw, Building & Maintenance	X	
Nikki Wedge, Faith Formation		X
Jay Roddy, Life, Growth & Mission	X	
Angela Rud, Social Outreach	X	
Scott Johnson, Stewardship	X	
Kristen Bruellman, Worship & Music	X	
Dale Peterson – Sr. Pastor	X	
Travis Gerjets – Associate Pastor	X	
Brandy Gerjets – Associate Pastor	X	

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 by Chuck Dueber President.

Rachel Hjelsand led us in devotions and read the Mission and Vision statements.

Get to Know Our Staff: There was no staff represented this month.

Get to Know Our Ministry: Jay Roddy presented on Life Growth and Mission. Jay said that he and Susie Watts have been talking about the family center and using the theme of Bringing Families Together. Maybe putting together a Life Growth and Mission pamphlet with information and people can use that to find something that fits in with each families or individuals schedule and find something that each person or family would like to do. Jay noted that growth of our LG & M is a reflection on our congregation. And people just need to try things and more than likely they will find out they like what they chose to do. If not there are plenty of other opportunities. Everyone is encouraged to at least try. Jay also mentioned using a calling tree, wondering if that would be a way of spreading the word better.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Dale: Pastor Dale said the men's breakfast was very good. Mike Rinke, his son and

friend reported on their trip to Costa Rica. They are also planning on being one of the upcoming adult forums.

Worship and Music has recommended that we go to an 8:00 – 9:00 and 10:30 service next fall with Sunday school at the 9:00 and 10:30 services only. And the summer service will begin at 9:00. There are so few kids at the 8:00 SS and the most kids currently go to 9:30 SS. So hopefully by changing the 2nd and 3rd service times a half hour earlier that the students will be more evenly spread between those two class times.

Pastor Dale asks that ushers for the 9:30 service please usher people in to fill in the seats up front in the church. If we do that we should not need to set up chairs for our regular church services. Any council members at the 9:30 service are invited to encourage people to move forward to fill in pews to make room for others.

Faith will host the Thanksgiving service this year. There will be a lot of people attending.

Advent starts a week from Sunday on November 27.

Pastor Dale said that there will be about 20 kids participating in their 1st communion on December 4th.

A workshop called “Process of Electing a Bishop” was held recently which Pastor Dale attended. He said it was fun and he enjoyed it a lot.

Also Bible study on Wednesday nights has had a good turn out. It is on 10 key people of the Bible.

Pastor Dale shared that there have been some tough pastoral care situations lately, tough stories in people’s lives to deal with. And thankfully there are some wonderful stories also. He shared some situations with us.

Pastor Travis: Pastor Travis said he attended a retreat at St. John’s from Sunday to Tuesday and feels refreshed.

He said that the Social outreach mission partnerships are going well. Puerta Abierta - Shakopee Faith along with several other churches will be serving a thanksgiving meal at St Johns Lutheran. Public Safety mission – Dan Carlson will be here on Sunday. Redeemer mission – will have the Christmas store. The confirmation groups will take the kids shopping. The 2012 mission trip will be a family trip to St. Johns in Texas. And the 2012 trip to Nigeria will happen. Audrey and Nelson Fox along with Pastor Travis will go along with members of other churches – this is part of the Synod.

Pastor Brandy: Pastor Brandy said that 43 young people were confirmed on October 30th. It was a great day. She said the 2 services worked wonderfully. More kids got to participate

during the services.

About 20 people attended the Service of Remembrance that was held on Halloween. It was a simple quiet service. Pastor Brandy said she got a thank you from one of the people who attended. Mike Christopherson offered music for the service also which was very nice.

There are still spots available for the Synod assembly on February 17 & 18. So far one person from our church is going.

Pastor Brandy said that the conference assembly is this Sunday in Blaine. This is a prep for the Synod assembly.

The women's Bible study on Esther has been fun.

Pastor Brandy said that the Stephen Ministry is looking to branch out. She is not sure at this time how that will look. But they will work together to figure that out.

There are several adult forums scheduled over the next months. Please check bulletins and church calendar on the web site for upcoming events.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Thom

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Meeting Minutes as submitted by Treasurer Paul Thom and Secretary Rachel Hjelsand via e-mail was made by Scott Johnson. The motion was seconded by Tom Pierson. All approved. Motion carried.

Key Discussion Topics: Scott Johnson gave an update on Stewardship. He said that 9 people made phone calls to about 300 people who had not sent back their pledges. Scott said as of today we have 242 pledges totaling \$441,279.36. And last year at this time we had 235 pledges totaling \$449,048.00. Last year the total pledges that came in were 286 out of 540 households. Scott said he may review the list again and do a follow-up.

Chuck Dueber said the semi annual meeting is this Sunday at 10:30. He went over the agenda and we discussed how the meeting will go. Chuck asks that everyone attend and remind others of the meeting.

Jack Shaw gave a building committee update. He said the committee is really engaged and right on track. On Sunday Galen Tongen (Jack will be out of town) will give a road map of where we have come from to the present. The architect will be at the meeting also. There will be a preliminary floor plan and a site plan showing the link and expansion. The 3D model will be on display. Jack is very pleased with how well the committee works together.

Chuck passed out the Vision Statement document. He stressed that this is the marketing piece to start conversations with members of Faith. This is to bring the project to a reality. Chuck along with Pastor Dale is working on an introductory letter to go with the Vision Statement. The

theme of the Vision Statement is – Involve, Invest and Invite. Chuck went over the Vision Statement and we had discussion on it. The capital campaign is to renovate, add and pay down the mortgage. How do we communicate to the people of Faith? Step one to be tried is Pastor Travis is going to send out a mass email to all members who are currently in the data base. This will be tried first and see if it works. Again Chuck reminded us to invite people to come to the annual meeting. There will be 2 adult forums to field questions about this. The first is being planned for Monday Dec 12th at 6:00 after the building committee meeting. Jack will check to see if that will work. And the other is scheduled as an adult forum on Jan 8th at 9:30. Both times will field questions with a small presentation.

The Long Range Plan is still being worked on. Each ministry area needs to get information about their budgets to Paul. The new budget for 2012 will hopefully have room for another full time education staff person to work with Mary Toufar.

We closed the meeting by saying the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Rachel Hjelsand, Secretary