

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday October 18, 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 7:17 by Chuck Dueber President.

Angela Rud led us in devotions from Psalm 63 vs 1-8.

Get to Know Our Staff: Mary Toufar, Youth and Family Minister, was our staff representative for this meeting. Mary said Sunday was a good day. With Kids Club choir singing, Faith Lutheran Youth (F.L.Y.) leading worship @ 11:00, the youth band making their first outing, all making for a wonderful Sunday morning. Then in the afternoon B.Y.G. which is the 5th, 6th and 7th graders had a bonfire and kickball game at the yard of the Frisingers. It was the first event of the year and 30 kids attended. B.Y.G is a new group that is up and coming – they meet on Wednesday nights. So far there are 81 kids involved.

Mary also noted that 3 new families showed up Sunday morning to register their children for Sunday school. 278 kids are currently in Sunday school.

There are 5 main programs. 40 involved in Kids Club, 81 in B.Y.G., 88 in confirmation 43 will be confirmed next Sunday and about 35 are active in the senior high event. Along with 112 volunteers.

Mary sees the major challenge is the “And Family Events”. A speaker was lined up last Wednesday night and only 13 people attended.

In the next 18 months Mary would like to see more space for Sunday school and all the groups on Wednesday nights. And staff added in the Faith Formation area would be very helpful. Chuck said we are glad to have Mary on our staff. She is doing an amazing job with out youth – keep up the nice work.

Mary also noted that she wanted to come to this church because it is a young, vibrant and moving congregation.

Get to Know Our Ministry: Scott Johnson presented an update on Stewardship. Stewardship is using your resources and talents as Christ’s disciples. The Fall campaign is underway. Looking at time and talent it is encouraging to see that 1672 individuals are active in volunteering at our church. That is 73% of members that are active as a volunteer. The volunteer drive takes place in the spring.

The general fund budget for 2011 is \$767,000. The financial drive is in the fall and is currently underway. The theme is “Salt of the Earth, Light of the World”. Commitment Sunday is October 23rd. Volunteers will be making follow up calls on November 6th.

Thank you to everyone that has worked on the fall stewardship effort. Pastor Dale, Pastor Brandy, Mike Christopherson, Jean Krukowski, Tracy Hartmann, Leslie Jensen, Liz Heagle, Sandra Tietz, Michael Deering, Mark Fredrickson and Scott Johnson.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Dale: Pastor Dale thanked Scott and the stewardship committee. He said it is fun to have new people on board. And thank you to Ross Hanson for his stewardship talk at the church services last Sunday.

Mary Toufar, Pastor Brandy and Pastor Dale will work together to come up with a staff job description and salary for a new staff person for faith formation. We have a great staff and there is a greater need for additional staff.

Annual reports are due November 6th from each ministry area.

Pastor Dale said we had a very nice group of new members at the last new member Sunday.

We will continue with Wednesday night Bible studies. Pastor Dale will lead the next one.

Pastor Dale appreciates all the different perspectives of the people in our church. We all live out different stories in our lives and it is so important that we can cry together, laugh together and ask for help and share with one another. Pastor Dale appreciates the Body of Christ. Pastors are invited into many situations with our Faith family.

Church attendance has been good.

Pastor Travis: Pastor Travis said it has been a wild fall. Good situations and tough situations. There have been a few FTL “Failure to Launch” items. The Holy Land trip is not working out. Not enough people have signed up. Those that have will probably still go but combine with another group. And the 2012 Nigeria trip is still in the works but so far no one has stepped forward.

The 10th grade retreat was a wild weekend. Working on the I Believe Statements with the youth was a tough job but very powerful in what they wrote.

Pastor Travis mentioned that the pastoral care visits these past couple months have brought some very tough and challenging times for him. He asked for our prayers of support.

The Wednesday night Bible study has been fun and the turnout has been good.

Pastor Travis says he is still cruising in the tech process and still planning on it rolling out in January 2012. He is thankful for good guidance in the process.

Pastor Brandy: There are 13 new member households. Pastor Brandy will assign each council member a family to contact and welcome them.

Pastor Brandy was very pleased that they finally got a volunteer for the last small group for confirmation. Confirmation will be Sunday October 30th.

The women's Bible study continues Monday October 24th on the book of Esther.

The square dance was a disappointing turnout. Only 8 people to start and then later 16 people total. For those who attended it was very fun but for the amount of effort put into it and having a paid caller there ready to go, all the decorating that was done it is frustrating with the small turnout. And last Wednesday only 13 people came for the speaker that was lined up.

Do we keep offering these opportunities? From the past survey's this is what people would like to see – but then when it is offered – why the poor attendance?

Pastor Brandy said the Synod assembly will be in Prior Lake on February 17 and 18. A new Bishop will be elected. Our church is able to send 5 lay voting members and 2 youth.

Registration is now open. Pastor Brandy encouraged the council members to consider going. It would be nice if one of the council would be able to attend.

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 Tom Pierson. The motion was seconded by Kristen Bruellman. All approved. Motion carried.

Key Discussion Topics: Long Range Planning – Pastor Dale said that each ministry has been putting together their LRP and turning it into him. Pastor Dale passed out the LRP packet dated November 2011 including copies of what each ministry has given him. He said the next step will be to start with pages 7, 8, & 9 of the packet – fitting in ministry areas to the current reality, accomplishments since 2008 and 2-3 year success indicators 2011-2014 sections for each ministry.

Pastor Dale will send this in an email to the council. He would like everyone to look it over and give feedback as needed and plan to approve the LRP at our November 15 council meeting.

Once this is done the LRP will be ready for the congregational meeting later that month.

Chuck said we will finalize the budget for 2012 at a meeting scheduled for Monday January 23rd.

Jack Shaw gave us a building committee update. He said they have interviewed 3 different architectural groups. All 3 proposal bids came in at budget. Now, Jack said, the challenge will be to pick which group. Next step is to pick one and get underway with the 3D model that we had talked about.

Chuck handed out a Capital Campaign packet. The executive committee met with Ross Hanson and Ross stresses the need to have a Vision. Chucks packet was titled "In! Vest" He noted that he wants a cross in between In and Vest but he did not know how to do that. Building Service

for the Next Generation – 2012 Capital Campaign, our hope is for mortgage pay down and building renovation. Chuck would like everyone to look through this “Vision” packet and get back to him with ideas, changes and thoughts on changing “consumers” of Faith Lutheran to “in!vestors” of Faith Lutheran. Chuck stressed this is a very big deal and a very important piece in moving forward. He needs input.

We closed the meeting with Chuck Dueber giving a blessing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Hjelsand, Secretary