

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday January 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
Mike Haugsby, President	X	
Chuck Dueber, Vice President	X	
Paul Thom, Treasurer	X	
Marcia Willmsen, Secretary	X	
Tom Kurtz, Building & Maintenance		X
Nikki Wedge, Faith Formation	X	
Jay Roddy, Life, Growth & Mission		X
Angela Rud, Social Outreach	X	
Keith Sjodin, Stewardship	X	
Paula Leske, Worship & Music	X	
Ann Marie Powers, Youth Representative		X
Austin Stole, Youth Representative		X
Whitney Vacek, Youth Representative		X
Dale Peterson – Sr. Pastor	X	
Travis Gerjets – Associate Pastor	X	
Brandy Gerjets – Associate Pastor	X	

Devotions were led by Chuck Dueber

Susie Watts – Lenten Soup Supper Information presentation

Susie Watts joined our meeting to give us the information for Ministries responsible at each Soup Supper during Lent. Each ministry will be responsible for serving at one Lenten service. We will order soup from Saints Food Service, the same food service we used last year. Saints Food Service. Life Growth and Mission Ministry puts this all together. Confirmation small groups have also volunteered to help with the suppers. The Ministry Liaison is responsible for recruiting volunteers from your ministry to help set up and serve the soup on Wednesday nights. If anyone has any questions, just call Susie Watts.

Get to Know our Staff - Carl Bredburg, Faith Custodian

I really enjoy working for Faith. Everyone is very nice, friendly. The Building and Maintenance Ministry and Faith's Electrician has helped too. I am married. I started out on a farm by Fairmont where I ran a dairy farm for 20 years. It was a good living but after 20 years it was time for a change. My wife is a Director of Nurses at various places. We lived in Alexandria, St. Cloud and then moved to Minneapolis where my wife took a job with American Family. I have done a lot of different things. My last job was Maintenance Man and Carpenter for 6 years before I came to Faith. I am very happy here - thank you.

Mike Haugsby, President

The feedback we have gotten is that the church is spic and span and in very good shape. Thank you Carl!

Get to know our Ministries - Worship & Ministry - Paula Leske, Liaison

I've given everyone a handout of what our Ministry has worked on for last fall including Advent. We explored what meaningful worship meant to each of us. The 11:00 service "The Gathering" is dedicated to be a little more informal. It has become a good mainstay and well attended. This has been spearheaded by Pastor Travis. We are happy to have more participation with our HS students.

Question: Could we have a similar service at the 8:00 and 9:30 worship times to give the other members a taste of what it is like?

Answer: We have done this at 9:30 but we want to keep 8:00 as a traditional worship service.

Our Ministry is very committed to maintaining the Long Range Plan specific to getting more people involved in worship.

Another initiative is the Adult Forums led by Pastor Travis. These are small groups of people, but those that are interested are going and growing in their faith. This is encouraging.

During Advent our theme was sharing Art with our congregation. Mike Christopherson wrote the liturgy for our 11:00 service which was beautiful and had good message. The Pastors did a great job of looking at different pieces of Art and how it is used in our world while bringing a biblical theme to these art pieces.

On Christmas Eve we had many services, much music and the story of our saviors birth. The 3:30 service was great with our kids leading the service. The 4:30 service was a little different this year. There were more songs that the congregation could sing with and I think it was well received. The rest of the services were also very good. We had lots of people involved and the services were beautiful. We are blessed to have such talent in our church

We have added two more bible study opportunities for our members. Thursday morning bible study at 9:00am and 7:00 pm. This is in addition to men's text study at 7:00 am Thursday mornings.

Pastor's Reports

Pastor Dale – some of this information will follow with Paula's Ministry update. Unfortunately, Pastor Brandy's installation to be held Dec 12th was snowed out but it was a great installation service last Sunday.

We chose our theme for Lent, which will be "Blessed to be a Blessing", the same as our fall campaign. You may be asked to write a daily devotional on this theme.

We will begin to hold a First Friday Worship Service which will be a Recovery Service. This service is designed for people in recovery programs but it will be open to everyone. We are hoping this will be a worship opportunity for the AA people who already are meeting here Friday nights. The first service will be February 4th.

We have a great staff!! Thanks to Chuck Dueber, last Tuesday we did annual reviews which went well. We have a good spirit here and I am thankful for our Leadership team. Things are good!

It has been good to visit with Colin Faust. The benefit will be held April 2nd. The goals for the benefit are to raise money for Colin and others, bring awareness on how people can support our military and to be a prayer service giving people an opportunity to pray for those in the military. Theresa Schmidt is spearheading this with Pastor Travis.

Pastor Travis – The bible study for Sermon on the Mount has been fun for me to do. We have had good numbers attend and more people have talked to me about coming in the future.

We've organized a technology e-committee. If anyone is good with technology, we will need your help. We are talking about updating our technology. What is the next step for our congregation? And making sure that all works together well. What is the plan going to be for our future? We have been talking with Pastors and Mary Toufar about how decisions we make now will impact the mission and ministry in our community, especially connecting with our younger members. Feb 22nd will be our first meeting. If some people want to be involved but can't make it to the meeting we will Skype with them. We have e-mailed a group of people who could help with this.

Comment: Time and Talent sheets will be out to our members in the spring. We should add this to our Time and Talents lists, looking for anyone who can help with technology.

Question: Pastor Travis can you send Council a list of services you need help with and maybe we can help find people to volunteer to help with this.

Pastor Travis – I had a chance to meet with Jorge Serava, the Minister of Puerto Abierta based in Shakopee. He has a number of house churches within hispanic communities in the Shakopee, Chaska and Jordan areas. I have invited Jorge to speak at the beginning of our next Council meeting to give us information about his ministry.

Pastor Travis submitted his housing allowance information sheet to Council for approval. This is for income tax and payroll purposes.

Motion: Keith Sjodin made the motion to approve the housing allowance for Pastor Travis as submitted to Council on January 18, 2011. 2nd – Chuck Duebers. All approved. Motion carried.

Pastor Brandy - I was installed last Sunday, Jan 16th. When we met in December, we talked about having more outside lights shine on the Church on Christmas Eve. I took a phone call from a distraught neighbor because the lights were too bright.

Pastor Dale - We will need to get approval by the City to allow us to have the outside lights shining on the church, but we will wait until we get the next building phase approved and we will add this to the approval.

Pastor Brandy - At beginning of the month, Mary and I switched roles for Confirmation. I am now the head and Mary is assisting. I am the one to be in contact with guides. Right now we are working on finding Mentors who will be connecting with confirmation students during lent. We still need a few more people to be Mentors so pass your suggestions on to us.

New Member class will be held Jan 25th starting with a meal at 6:30. We are inviting current members to share a meal with our new members. We are hoping more current members will be up for this role. Right now we have 5 new member families signed up. We are serving lasagna. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

Mike Haugsby - Council is always invited and encouraged to attend New Member classes. We should all step up and commit to this event. All that is needed is a short introduction right at 7:00 pm to welcome new members to Faith.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Thom , Treasurer

We ended December with \$21,300 in our General checking account and \$28,000 in our Building fund. It's great to have both funds end in the black.

We had a good December with \$69,000 in revenues to the General fund and \$50,000 to the building fund as well.

The actual revenue vs. budgeted revenue for 2010 was within \$9,000 and expenses were within \$6,700. All came out very well thanks to our prior Treasurer, Chuck Dueber.

Motion: The motion to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted and December's Council Meeting Minutes as submitted for review by Marcia Willmsen was made by Paula Leske. 2nd – Nikki Wedge. All approved. Motion carried.

A summary of the Budget for 2011 will be available in the church office starting Thursday and will be forwarded to Jean to add to the website. Most of the members who attend the meeting are savvy and trust the council in working through the details of the budget.

Question: Why do we put pass through items in the budget - why don't we just put a net number in the details? If we compare from year to year it is hard to understand the fluctuation.

Answer: The fact is that pass through items are reality and this reflects what is actually happening.

We are proposing an optimistic budget of an increase of 13% but we are also predicting a 13% increase in revenues.

The bottom line is that we committed to this model as a congregation so this is the way we need to go forward. We have included a modest salary increase for our very hardworking staff who did not get a raise last year, although it was much deserved. The Cost of Living is going up each year so this is a practical budget.

Mike Haugsby made the Motion that we approve the budget as presented and we will present the 2011 Budget of \$766,300 to the congregation for approval on Monday Jan 24th. 2nd – Paula Leske. All approved. Motion carried.

Thanks to all - smooth budget approval. We will see you all at the Congregational Meeting on Monday January 24th. Please come at 5:30 to help set up for the Soup Supper which begins at 6:00 with meeting to follow at 6:30 pm.

Devotions for February meeting will be led by Tom Kurtz.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.