

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota
 Church Council Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday February 19th, 2019 at 6:45 pm

Mission: To learn, serve and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Vision: To be a dynamic, energized worshipping community where all are growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ, one another and those beyond our walls.

Inclusive Grace. Contagious Love.

Council Members	Present	Absent
Lisa Moe, President	X	
Richard Scott, Vice President	X	
Craig Sinclair, Treasurer	X	
Peggy Phillipy, Secretary	X	
Scott Texley, Building & Maintenance	X	
Sarah Hartwig, Faith Formation	X	
Kari Colby, Connections Ministry	X	
Quentin Knaak, Social Outreach	X	
Stan Winnie, Stewardship		X
Kelly Dreier, Worship & Music	X	
Aaron Kopel – IT & Communications	X	
Dale Peterson – Sr. Pastor	X	
Christine Ruth – Associate Pastor		X
Katie Escalante- Associate Pastor	X	

The meeting was called to order by Lisa at 6:47 p.m.

Our regular start time is 6:30 p.m. However, the first 15 minutes was conducting confirmation interviews with the youth being confirmed in 2019. Here are a few highlights from the feedback provided:

- ✚ Overall, excited and positive about confirmation experience and feel closer to God.
- ✚ Enjoyed their small group time and wish more time was dedicated to this.
- ✚ Liked sharing their Highs/Lows.
- ✚ They would like to have more input in deciding what service projects to do.
- ✚ Would like time to reflect after service projects.
- ✚ Have students in the high school ministry share on being involved at Faith after confirmation.
- ✚ Enjoyed student led faith apps.
- ✚ Some felt the timing is hard as far as the times of confirmation during the week. Also, they feel the 9th graders get a little ‘lost’ in the transition of coming back their 9th grade year but yet before they are actually confirmed.

Opening Devotions: Scott had us go around the room and answer the question, “Can you think of a time when you felt God’s presence or “where do you feel God’s presence”.

Reading of the Faith Mission & Vision Statement: Scott Texley

Get to Know Our Staff: Mike Christopherson; Church Administrator-Finance

Mike has been at Faith for 13 years. He lives in Mayer with his wife who he has been married to for 39 years. Mike has 3 children, his youngest daughter is a Special Education teacher, his other daughter a chiropractor and his son, who is the oldest, works at Ford Motor Corporation. He also has 2 grandchildren.

Mike talked a little about the budget process. The process begins in the fall when we send the ministry budget to each area and ask you to complete the worksheets. You can increase or decrease from the prior years budget as well as request additional funds. Once the budget has been approved and given approval from the congregation, it is then entered into ACS. There are two ways to enter information. You can tell the system the dollar amount and then divide it equally by 12 or enter each month individually. We do a little of both.

On the final approved budget for 2019, it provides you with the numbers and then how the line items were split (under distribution). This is helpful information so we can see how the budget was calculated for each area.

Getting to Know the Ministries: Kari Colby, Connections (March-Stewardship)

Pastor Katie and Kari discussed Kari staying on for an additional few months with both Pastor Christine and Susie leaving to help with the transition for the new council member.

The Beer and Brainstorming event went well and they were pleased with the turnout. There were 15-20 who attended. Asked the questions on whether or not they feel connected at Faith and how we can get young adults and couples involved.

Goals for 2019 would be to come up with a calendar of easy and manageable events.

Upcoming event- The Amazing Race on May 4th.

Pastors Reports:

Pastor Katie:

Southwest Latino Ministry: Pastor Jorge officially started on 2/1; I met with both Pastor Jorge and Pastor Stephanie. Their plan is to begin in trailer parks with programs for children. The idea is to bring the church to them, rather than make them go to find the church. Pastor Jorge will plan and lead any children's programs and also reach out to their families, he will need volunteers from a congregation to help with projects, play games, and do some crowd control. Their hope is to identify and partner local churches with one particular trailer park and foster an ongoing relationship. This would mean that the church(es) would need to commit to going regularly (same day and time) for several months to build that relationship. Out of all of the churches in our area, Faith by far has been the most supportive and energetic, so they would like us to be the first congregation that partners with a local trailer park. Pastor Jorge and Pastor Stephanie are still working to identify where all of the local trailer parks are located and which schools already have programs in place in the parks.

Have been working with Pastor Christine on leadership to take over small groups.

Working with Kelly on a Prayer Ground, a more welcoming space for young kids/families.

Trying to have a growing presence on Facebook.

Jean possibly leaving in the next few months and are looking into contingency planning.

Worship planning for Lent- On Wednesday's, we will be having a DVD series from Rob Bell called NOOMA, exploring 5 weeks of intriguing and insightful lessons from daily life. On Sunday's, there will be guest speakers.

Trying to come up with a way to present FMF better to congregation so we can get more people involved.

Pastor Dale:

Staff is in transition right now. We had a nice farewell lunch for Susie. We got her a nice gift from the congregation as well as a photo from the church. We created a new job description for the Congregation Connector position. We have received one resume and a few phone calls at this time.

At the beginning of each year, each ordained minister must submit to the church council an estimate of their anticipated housing expenses. This includes all costs of maintaining a home such as house payment, real estate taxes, utilities, furnishings, repairs/maintenance, etc. Pastor Dale submitted housing allowance of \$50,840 and Pastor Katie submitted housing allowance for \$6,000.

A motion was made by Richard Scott to approve the housing allowances as submitted by Pastor Dale and Pastor Katie. The motion was seconded by Aaron Kopel. All approved. Motion carried.

6 new families will be joining Sunday. We would like the council members to give a call to the new members, but will wait a month to do so.

Transition meetings are going on right now and going well.

Pastors Book Study has been well attended. Book is "What Is The Bible", by Rob Bell.

Series, "Bible, Retired or Inspired", has been a good series.

Farewell Party for Pastor Christine after the second service on March 17th.

50th Anniversary task force- there has been about a dozen people interested and there is a nice mix of ages, new members and seasoned members. Will pull the group together in March.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted by Treasurer Craig Sinclair and the Secretary's report for January 2019 as submitted via email by Peggy Phillipy was made by Kari Colby. The motion was seconded by Sarah Hartwig. All approved. Motion carried.

Key Discussion Topics:

1. **Personnel-** Discussed in Pastor's reports
2. **Minister Housing Allowance-** Discussed in Pastor's reports
3. **Pastor Christine's Departure-** We will be taking donations over the next few weeks for gifts
4. **LRP-** Richard handed out packet for 2019-2024, including check list, listening session assignments and guides to help along the way. The timeline may need to be pushed back and Richard will readjust the timeline.
5. **Projects/Wish List-** Please send these to Lisa for right now as she will be the keeper.
6. **50th Anniversary-** Discussed in Pastor's reports

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Peggy Phillipy, Secretary