

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
Waconia, Minnesota**

Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 20th, 2019 at 6:30 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
Richard Scott, President		X
Patrick Butler, Vice President		X
Mary Fahrenkamp, 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	
Jim Karstens, Stewardship	X	
Kristin Johnson, Worship & Music	X	
Aaron Kopel – IT & Communications	X	
Dale Peterson – Sr. Pastor	X	
Katie Escalante- Associate Pastor	X	

The meeting was called to order by Mary Fahrenkamp at 6:32 p.m.

- Pastor Katie opened with devotions. A friend of hers has said that everything you need to know you can find in a children’s book. At our church, there is inclusive grace and contagious love for all. It is important to teach inclusion and acceptance and this should start at a young age.
- Pastor Katie read the vision and mission statement

Ministry Moment- Faith Formation- Sarah Hartwig (October- Stewardship)

- It has been a busy summer and we have made a big impact
- We are always in need of volunteers
- We are wanting to get more visibility- need to tap into the High School ministry and try and get more to come. We want to make it a place where kids want to come.
- Keep parents more informed on what is going on and what kids are learning

- **Standing Monthly Reports**

- **Pastors' Reports-**

- **Pastor Katie**

- Pastor Katie presented a proposal that \$20,000 be designated from her 2019 salary in 2019, and the proceeding years unless changed by a vote of the church council, as housing allowance and that this amount need not be included as salary for income tax purposes. The proposal was reviewed by the council and a motion was made by Quentin Knaak to approve the proposal as submitted. The motion was seconded by Kari Colby. All approved. Motion carried.
 - Wish List request- As part of the budget pare down process at the end of 2018, the budget for retreats was eliminated. The 2020 Marriage Retreat Planning Team is requesting \$1200 for the purpose of covering our speaker fee, Scott McRae, the hotel cost for Pastor Katie, and for the cost of supplies. Would like to have this money available by December 15th.
 - Connections- Preparing for program launch
 - Small groups- The book is Everybody. Always by Bob Goff- we do not have any leaders yet, so we are asking for volunteers.
 - Connections Fair is September 15th
 - Fall Festival is scheduled for October 6ht. There will be a new name for this but it has not been decided yet.
 - Beginning in October, we will be using Sign-up Genius for worship assistants/volunteers
 - IT & Communications- Working on ads and getting our name out there. New website design is in the works

- **Pastor Dale**

- We are ramping up for fall.
 - Rally Day Jen Bostic will be there. We are hoping for community attendance as well
 - If you are here for more than once service, please leave the main parking lot open for congregation
 - Attendance has been down
 - Worship as been good- preaching on Sabbath
 - A lot of families going through family members with addictions. Glad we are a place where they feel comfortable talking to us about that.
 - Letter of call- There has been an increase in parental leave from 6 weeks paid to 12 weeks paid. The Synod is requesting that we modify our Letter of Call verbiage. A motion was made by Kari Colby to have this modified on Pastor Letter of Call. The motion was seconded by Sarah Hartwig. All approved. Motion carried.
 - Please look in your mailboxes. There is a handout regarding 'What does becoming a sanctuary denomination mean for the ELCA'
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- **Treasurer's Report- Mary Fahrenkamp**

MTD Revenue- Unfavorable to budget (25k) driven by decreased attendance and one less Sunday in July compared to 2018

MTD Expenses- Favorable to budget 3.7k driven by salaries and Connections

YTD- Revenue unfavorable to budget (39k); expenses favorable to budget 22k for Net Operating Income unfavorable (17k)

○ Secretary's Report- Peggy Phillipy

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report and the Secretary's report for July 2019 as submitted via email by Peggy Phillipy was made by Aaron Kopel. The motion was seconded by Kristin Johnson. All approved. Motion carried.

● **New Business & Key Topic Discussion**

- **Project Updates/Wish List-** Pat Butler is working on a plan to manage the wish list process. The goal is to create a defined process for recommending wish list items. The hope is to have a draft to the executive team at the September meeting.
- **LRP Update-** Richard submitted listening notes, sample LRP template, copies of previous LRP and key themes to council members. Ministry chairs will work with their teams to complete implementation plans. Richard will work with Pastor Dale to complete other portions of LRP. The LRP will build on the MAP recommendations. We hope to have by the next council meeting. This would need a council vote and would be good to have affirmed by congregation.
- **50th Anniversary-** Nothing new from last month. It is a great committee. We will advertise closer to 2020
- **Child Protection Update-** There is a written application for volunteer applicants- We will not request employment information or references. There will also be no in-person interviews. We will, however, do background checks on all applicants 18 and over. This is a cost that is not budgeted. How often should we do these checks? Every 5 years? There is a mandatory training. How do we make it enforceable? Ongoing sessions? Whose job is it to manage the database?
- **PBF Update-** We are preparing for year 2 of our 3-year campaign. There will be letters that will go out to everyone in appreciation for their giving and encourage to increase. October 27th Bob Stromberg, comedian, will be at Faith. We will be inviting the community. This is free admission. There will be a Faith message after. We would like to increase the number of people who give electronically. Paul Peterson is leading the work group and does a great job. Met with Mike- quarterly statements will include a stewardship message. We also need to have an active follow-up.
- **Rutz Lake Cemetery Rules and Regulations-** A motion was made by Mary Fahrenkamp to approve the rules and regulations sent out via email by Peggy Phillipy. The motion was seconded by Sarah Hartwig. All approved. Motion carried
- **Connections Café-** The coffee is not great. Looking to do a taste test of some other coffees. Let Pastor Katie know if you are interested.

Meeting was closed with a one-word prayer. Amen

Meeting adjourned 7:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted – Peggy Phillipy, Secretary

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