

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Waconia, Minnesota**

Church Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 17th, 2020 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 Richard Scott at 6:28 p.m.

- Opening Devotions- Jim Karstens
- Reading of Faith’s Mission & Vision Statement- Jim Karstens

Get to Know the Staff- No staff represented. This has been put on hold until we are able to meet together as a group.

**Ministry Moment- Stewardship, Jim Karstens (April- Faith Formation)**

- The first two months of 2020 have gone well. As of right now, we are in uncharted territory as far as worship is concerned. March will look very different from the first two months.
- We will continue to keep the congregation informed.
- The message online in regards to giving was helpful.
- We are receiving some offerings in the mail.
- There will be a ‘news and notes’ inserted into the quarterly statements.

## Standing Monthly Reports

### ○ Pastors' Reports-

#### Pastor Dale

- It has been an interesting couple of weeks. Hopefully everyone saw the letter that was sent out.
- In helpful information from the Synod, the representative said that we should be careful with our language. We will be modifying some verbiage online as well as what is posted on our doors.
- Staff has had great ideas on how to communicate and to navigate in this time of uncertainty.
- We are trying to make sure we have videos posted on Wednesday/Sunday. I will also be posting guided meditations.
- We want to make sure we keep connected and to reach out to those who are vulnerable. We have a great visitation team and Pastor Jim has been wonderful.
- PBF and Stewardship- we want to encourage people to sign up for electronic giving.
- We will need to decide if we are going to strictly follow the CDC guidelines. We are looking at the calendar and seeing what can be rescheduled and what we can do virtually.
- There will be people hurting financially. A motion was made by Pat Butler to move \$2,000 from the Steiner Fund into the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This was seconded by Kristin Johnson. All approved and motion carried.

#### Pastor Katie

- We want to keep people connected in small groups and we are looking at ways on how to do this and how to facilitate groups on-line. It is good to provide options.
- I would like to ask everyone to engage with our posts. If you see something posted, please try and respond and interact.
- Pastor Jim is awesome.
- At the staff meeting, I felt a lot of HOPE. Thanks to everyone.

\*\*Kari Colby had a question in regards to the rescheduled date of the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Class- As of right now, we are thinking possibly June. Richard encourages us to possibly explore other options as this could possibly last 12 months. It is important to understand the science of it and to determine how to move forward.

\*\*Quentin Knaak had a question in regards to Live Streaming. Dale responded saying that we will be looking into Live Streaming options/equipment/costs but as of right now, we will be recording some aspects of worship (music, liturgy, and sermon)

### ○ Treasurer's Report- Mary Fahrenkamp/Secretary's Report

- February MTD- Revenue is unfavorable (0.2k) or (0.4%) to budget and expenses are unfavorable 4.3k or (5.1%) to budget. Net Operating Income is (24k)
- February YTD- Revenue is favorable 26k to budget and expenses are flat to budget. Net Operating Income is 4.5k.

- February attendance was up 17%

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report for February 2020 was made by Aaron Kopel and seconded by Kari Colby. All approved and motion carried.

Motion to approve the Secretary's report for February 2020 as submitted via email by Peggy Phillipy was made by Richard Scott and seconded by Pat Butler. All approved and motion carried.

- **New Business & Key Topic Discussion**

- **2020 Budget Updates-** Nothing new to report
- **Project Updates/Wish List**
- Staining the wood is scheduled for the spring as well as Waconia Comfort will do work on rearranging HVAC for appearances.
- Scott met with Carl regarding a new commercial vacuum. The quote for the vacuum, a Trident V14D is \$626.78. A motion was made by Scott Texley to approve the funds to purchase the vacuum. The motion was seconded by Jim Karstens. All approved, Motion carried.
- Scott is working on quotes for the new refrigerator in the Community Kitchen.
- **COVID 19-**
- The videos we have posted online have been nice.
- \*\*Pat Butler had a question in regards to sermon notes/volunteer hours- There are taped sermons that the kids can use to complete their sermon notes. Pastor Dale will communicate with Ally to have her send an email out to kids/parents detailing this information.
- Idea to have people meet in their homes (10 or less) to have conversations, a piped in service, etc. We want to build more social networking. As weather gets nicer and there is better ventilation, we may have more options. We need to be open to new and creative ways in doing things. If you have any ideas, forward to Dale and Katie.
- We are hearing the needs and anxieties of people. We will need compassionate people to reach out beyond the fear. We should fan the flames of spontaneous need and pay it forward. If you know of any needs, let us know. We have people who are willing to shop and deliver.
- Love INC is expanding their outreach and meeting needs in this time.
- Quentin talked to Angela Rud and the Food Shelf is having to change their model. They will be assembling and handing out bags. If you want to help, please contact the Waconia Food Shelf.
- This will be an ongoing thing. We want to be able to put people in touch with each other. We are in a sphere of influence and we need to be thinking of what we can do as a Faith Community. Everything is happening so fast. We will need to see where it goes and at some point, there will be a new normal.
- **Call Committee Update-**
- We will continue to receive applications thru March 31st. As of right now, we have 6 applications. All are women of mixed ages, life situations, and member tenure. Encourage people to sign up.

- **New Member Follow-Up**
- We are encouraged to reach out and connect with new members. Kristin had mentioned that when she talked to Denise Vondracek, she had mentioned she was not receiving emails. I have checked on this and she is in our database to receive emails. I will check with Christy Willis as I believe she will need to do a new download in Constant Contact to pull in these new emails.
- **Ministry Update-**
- **Quentin-**We had anticipated LoveINC to be up and running by June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be having a meeting next week. Spent some time with St Joe's and Trinity trying to drill down on supporting Gap ministry for personal care items (toilet paper, shampoo, soap, etc) and what that means for us. We would possibly be looking for Faith volunteers to collect items and take to St Joe's or to possibly deliver to those in need. Quentin made a motion to add LoveInc as a 'Mission of the Month' to support this Gap Ministry. The motion was seconded by Aaron Kopel. All approved. Motion Carried.
- **Kari-** We will be cancelling 'The Amazing Race'.
- **Closing Prayer-** Jim Karstens

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Peggy Phillipy, Secretary