

**Faith Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 16, 2021 – 6:30 pm
Minutes**

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	Role	Present	Absent
Richard Scott	President	X	
Patrick Butler	Vice President	X	
Mary Fahrenkamp	Treasurer	X	
Jessica Hartmann	Secretary	X	
Rob Dansare	Building & Maintenance		X
Kristin Johnson	Worship & Music	X	
Jim Karstens	Stewardship	X	
Quentin Knaak	Social Outreach		X
Aaron Kopel	IT & Communications	X	
Sue Monson-White	Connections	X	
Sarah Wilson	Faith Formation	X	
Dale Peterson	Sr. Pastor	X	
Katie Escalante	Associate Pastor	X	

The meeting was called to order by Richard Scott at 6:33 p.m.

- **Opening Devotions** – Jim Karstens
- **Reading of Faith’s Mission & Vision Statement** – Jim Karstens
- **Get to Know the Staff** – Carl Bredberg – Carl has been working to keep Faith alive and well even during the shut down. He really likes meeting new people and enjoys the members and his job. Carl has been married for 51 years and has 12 grandkids. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve.
- **Get to Know the Ministries** – Stewardship – Jim Karstens
 - Jim read the description of the Stewardship ministry from the bylaws.
 - There will be a new three-year giving drive starting this fall and the Stewardship committee will be looking for more volunteers at that time.

- Being involved in the ministry has been very rewarding.
- For Stewardship to be successful, it takes the whole congregation to give of their time, talents, and resources.

Standing Monthly Reports

- **Pastors' Reports**

- Pastor Dale Peterson
 - Has been busy orienting and onboarding Shane Marcus in the youth minister position.
 - Wednesday evening Lent speakers have been great.
 - The priority recently has been prepping for Holy Week and Easter and the upcoming confirmation retreat.
 - One of the Pastor/Council roles is to do vision planning for the future. This year has really been a year where the challenge has been simply getting by day by day. Pastor Dale stressed that “that’s ok” and that the last year, as challenging as it has been, has been successful.
- Pastor Katie Escalante
 - The Lose, Love, Live book study and sermon series has been great.
 - She reminded those rolling off the Council that newsletter blurbs are due this Friday to Christy.
 - She is recommending that IT & Communications be rebranded as the Technology & Communications team since we have so many more aspects to technology no with livestreaming, etc.
 - She has been asked to write devotions for Christ in our Home again.

- **Secretary Report – February 2021 Council Minutes**

- Sarah made a motion to approve the February Council Minutes as submitted. Aaron seconded. Motion approved.

- **Treasurer's Report – Mary Fahrenkamp**

- February MTD had a negative Net Operating Income of (15K). Revenue was unfavorable to budget and expenses were favorable.
- YTD Net Operating Income is 37K with revenue and expenses both favorable to budget.
- YTD expense favorability is from Salaries and Property.
- With Shane now on staff, expenses will be more in line with budget than they have been in recent months.
- Jim Karstens made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Patrick Butler seconded. Motion carried.

- **New Business & Key Topic Discussions**

- **Project Updates/Wish List**

- We need a new laptop for the presentations used during the services. The proposed replacement is a Dell laptop that would cost \$1057.28 (approximately \$1,100). Sarah made a motion to use Wish List funds to purchase this laptop. Mary seconded. Motion carried.

- **Board Terms Ending in May**
 - There are four positions with terms ending in May:
 - Richard Scott - President
 - Aaron Kopel – IT/Communications
 - Sarah Wilson – Faith Formation (Sarah will serve a second term)
 - Quentin Knaak – Social Outreach
 - No further discussion other than a reminder to give an overview of the role to the Communications team.

- **Call Committee**
 - Patrick reported that the committee has had their first meeting and will be meeting again next week when they will officially kick off the process with the Synod.
 - The committee is a great team that is very serious about the mission.
 - They are targeting to have the process wrapped up by the end of the year.

- **Covid Update – Pastor Katie**
 - While the state is opening up on restrictions, Carver county is dealing with an outbreak of the B117 variant.
 - Not much has changed from the State regarding recommendations for congregations. The biggest change is that singing with masks is now allowed. However, due to the variant outbreak, we will hold off and consider singing for the Easter service, if the outbreak is subsiding.
 - We will be adding a few chairs for the service for Easter. However, social distancing and masking will still be observed.

- **Ministry Updates**
 - Rob – Building & Maintenance – Rob was not present. Patrick provided an update that the spring clean up is being scheduled – tentatively May 1.
 - Kristin – Worship & Music – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be held live with sign up and also livestreamed. Still working on Good Friday children’s service options. There will be three services on Easter which will include a scaled back brass ensemble. There have been a lot of volunteers to be cantors and song leaders.
 - Jim – Stewardship – Report provided earlier.
 - Quentin – Social Outreach – Quentin was not present – no update.
 - Aaron – IT & Communications – Working with Shane to get him oriented to Faith’s technology. Livestreaming continues to improve.
 - Sue – Connections – There will be drive through donuts and communion this coming weekend.
 - Sarah – Faith Formation – Shane is being onboarded and the confirmation retreat is coming up soon. Confirmation kids are writing their I Believe statements. Working on getting summer activities going.

- Closing Prayer – Jim Karstens

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Jessica Hartmann, Secretary