

**Faith Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 17, 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 |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Patrick Butler | President | x | |
| Bill Goergen | 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 | |
| Chuck Bies | Social Outreach | x | |
| Travis Dreier | 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 Patrick Butler at 6:37 p.m.

- **Opening Devotions** –Bill Goergen
- **Reading of Faith’s Mission & Vision Statement** – Bill Goergen
- **Get to Know the Staff** – none
- **Get to Know the Ministries** – Faith Formation, Sarah Wilson
 - Fall programing starting up need lots of volunteers – if anyone knows of anyone – give names to Shannon &/or Shane – and they will reach out.
 - Masks are encouraged at all church activities
 - Summer Highlights include – 2 VBS sessions, 50 kids at summer stretch, Family Fun nights, Youth Bonfires
 - Shannon & Shane went to Shore of St. Andrew when we had kids in attendance – which was their first time and a comfort to the kids/families
 - Emails have been going out looking for volunteers from both Shane and Shannon

Standing Monthly Reports

- **Pastors' Reports**

- Pastor Katie Escalante
 - Pastor Dale sent an update that he, Sarah and Grace are having a great time in Italy.
 - Worship – Started new series - Get back series - Back to Whole, as normal didn't work for everyone
 - Preparing for Maternity leave
 - Working with Shane & Shannon – getting ready for fall & what a “normal” Wednesday may look like – as neither has had that yet
 - Shane - What does 9th grade confirmation look like – and how is it different than 7th/8th grade
 - Contingency plans are in place if baby comes early – & if Pastor Dale is on vacation during maternity leave.
 - Staff
 - Reviews happened with Bill Goergen – it is nice to have a real team in place that work well with each other
 - Peggy Phillipy has accepted a full-time job at the hospital – her last day is August 30th –
 - Mike making pie for her
 - Job Description needs updating
 - Figuring out a plan to cover in the interim
 - Communications
 - Groups & Offering guide is looking great & will be ready for the connections fair, had the deadline earlier – so it was easier to chase down items and offering and not as much last-minute stress
 - Ads in the Patriot to help get more people in the door.
 - Stewardship Committee – met in person last week- new three-year campaign – Jesse Bergstrom and Tara Koosman are co-chairing the next campaign & will be a good team
 - Continuing Education – took a virtual class – Stepping up to Supervision – with Susan Bowman
 - Celebration for Pastor Dale – December 18th – one service @ 9:00 and then moves to Steiner Hall – planning is going well.
- Pastor Dale Peterson – on vacation – gave update to Pastor Katie – enjoying his vacation.

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

- Kristin made a motion to approve the July council minutes. Bill seconded. Motion carried.

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

- Monthly Financial Review is now attached to the email with minutes and agenda
- Breakdown of attendance should be coming on next month's report with reports for – Wed, Sun & on-line
- Taken from the report the executive update section

| |
|--|
| • YTD Net Operating Income is (5.4K). This is being driven by a shortfall in revenue in July. MTD Net Operating Income is (26K). |
| • YTD actuals compared to budget - Revenue is unfavorable by (32K) and Expense is favorable by 60K. |
| • MTD actuals compared to budget - Revenue is unfavorable by (31.5K) and Expense is favorable by 8K. |
| • Attendance for July averaged 91 people per week. |
- Jim Karstens commented that August is about \$3k down for the first three weeks compared to August 2020
- Hope & Assurance that once attendance picks pack up in September that revenue will also increase again and correct our revenue path by both Mary & Jim
- Chuck made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Kristin seconded. Motion carried.

- **New Business & Key Topic Discussions**

- Project update –
 - Parking lot work is done – at least the filling and sweeping – Carl is painting and doing some minor repairs.
 - Wish list items – Refrigerator in Community Room kitchen – but no pricing yet – so tabled until next month

- **Call Committee & Approval of Ministry Site Profile**
 - Call committee met with Pastor Peterson from the Synod in person.
 - 4 candidates were received and one has been released
 - Scheduling interviews to meet with the other three
 - May have one more candidate – but then will close out the listing.

- **Covid Update** – Pastor Katie
 - Delta variant – dominant variant – in the area and Carver County had 27 new cases today. Carver county does have high vaccination rate. Hoping that the variant will burn out quickly – and prior to fall activities.
 - Faith is strongly encouraging wearing masks to all indoor activities, has extra masks available, as well as hand Sanitizer.
 - Socially distance guideline has been decreased to 3ft – so trying to figure out classrooms and where activities groups fit for fall

- **Ministry Updates**
 - Kristin – Worship & Music – Choirs setting to resume in September, discontinuing drive through communion, Worship Assistants training being held on September 8th, Prime Time– Wednesday services to being on Sept 22nd, special music for Rally Day, author Jacqueline Bussie visit, and Lori Line to come back in November.
 - Sue – Connections – Pictorial Directory pushed to spring, Rally Day Sept 12 – Connections Fair, Christmas time programs, meet once more before Pastor Katie goes on maternity leave
 - Travis – IT & Communications –not present – no report
 - Chuck – Social Outreach – working with Shane for service opportunities for the confirmation group, working with Brooke and Christy to get a calendar for social outreach events for the year, Redeemer Virtual Gala – September 25th – look for more communication and they will have asks (both small and larger ticket items) for the silent auction
 - Jim – Stewardship – As Pastor Katie said, met in person last week. Mentioned that we owe Paul Peterson a lot of appreciation, gratitude & praise for a job well done in running the campaign the last three years. The new team has big job coming up with new ideas and generating more revenue.
 - Sarah – Faith Formation – no additional comments from opening
 - Rob – Building & Maintenance – Rob was not present

- **Other Business**
 - Tabled conversation – to be discussed with executive committee about managing donations from congregation for Pastor Dale’s celebration
 - Next month’s meeting will be held in person at the church, room TBD – 6:30 central time – hybrid option will hopefully be available

- Closing Prayer –Bill Goergen

- Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Sarah Wilson (subbing for Jessica Hartmann)