



Faith Lutheran Church Council 2023

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 5:00PM in Person/Zoom

Attendees: Council: Pastor Eric Olsen, Scott Rice-President, Ann Greenwood-Vice President, Peggy Ragan-Secretary, Jane Sanks-Asst. Treasurer, Joan Searles, Jerry Cooper, Lauren Wardach (zoom), Gail Lidinsky (zoom). Absent/Excused: Anita Wooton, Mark Nelson.

Mission – "Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and all others."

**Values – Mutual Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Service, Forgiveness, Commitment
Perseverance, Faithfulness, Compassion, Flexibility**

The meeting was called to order at 5:10PM by Scott Rice-President.

Peggy opened the meeting with prayer, asking God to protect and restore those in need; and guidance for Council in doing God's work.

A quorum of Council Members was established.

Minutes of September 26, 2023 meeting were approved and posted to Friday Update.

Consent Agenda

- Endowment Committee – no report
[The Endowment Luncheon will be held at Ruth's Chris Steak House on December 5th at 11:30AM.]
- Evangelism & Outreach Committee – no report
- Hospitality Committee – no report
- Property Committee – report received & distributed
- Stewardship Committee – report received & distributed
- Worship & Music Committee – no report

ACTION: A motion was made by Ann and seconded by Jerry to accept the consent agenda items which required no further discussion or action; motion passed unanimously.

Standing Monthly Reports

- Finance Committee Report
 - A Finance Report to Council was distributed (copy attached to these minutes).
 - The current Financial Report to FLC congregation will be posted in the Friday Update.

Jane provided additional comments:

- ✓ We are trending in a positive direction.
- ✓ A \$10,000 Payment from NovusWay and \$16,000 yearly bequest has been received.
- ✓ Donations to Pastor's Discretionary Fund are up.
- ✓ The June electrical inspection was missed; John Thomsen will schedule it with "EPS" – Electronic Protective Systems ASAP. This is a requirement for insurance.
- ✓ Zoom meeting with FEMA was positive; disaster funds for fence are still possible.

Pastor's Report

- "Worship-to-Go" with residents at Elancé will take place on the first Tuesdays in November and December, 10:45-11:30AM. Pastor(s) and leaders will share God's word, music and communion. It is hoped this ministry will continue.

- Confirmation class is meeting via zoom. The students are watching “The Chosen” videos followed by discussion and teaching. Three confirmands are finishing their final year of study; one confirmand is fast-tracking via intensive independent study. All are expected to be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday 2024.
- Men’s bible study will resume in November; Pastor plans to use “The Chosen” as a method of study and discussion for this group as well. Men’s Prayer Breakfast will continue on the first and last Tuesdays of the month.
- New members – approximately 26 new members will be affirmed on Sunday, November 5th.
- Insurance follow-up – With no wind coverage, action to provide protection of particularly vulnerable windows and doors around the building is taking place; 2 quotes are expected this week.
- Advent – There will be 3 mid-week Advent services at noon, followed by lunch at 12:30PM. Lunch will be open to the community; Karen Naulty will head up the lunch team.
- Pastor Eric attended the FL-Bahamas Ministerial Assn. mid-week meeting this month.
- Pastor would like Council to begin a short book study at our monthly meetings. The topic of *faith and adaptive change* will be discussed, looking at new ways to be “church” in the world.
- The FL-Bahamas Synod Grant awards have not yet been announced. If FLC’s submission “Here I Stand Up...” is chosen, it will allow us to create a sound studio to support this ministry. It will also provide the means to share ministry through taped interviews, testimonials, etc.
- The “VIMEO” contract is being renewed. Discussion of website maintenance/development is underway; improvements and streamlining processes are needed. It is important to note: Online worship is no longer an add-on option but is an integral part of congregational participation and growth.

Old Business

- CPR classes – Jane will continue to research the best option for a class here at FLC. **Core SRQ** and the **American Red Cross** are being considered.

New Business

- Pastor’s Compensation
[Closed Session: 6:13PM

It was moved by Ann and seconded by Joan to move into closed session; passed unanimously. At this time Pastor Eric was excused from the meeting. At the recommendation of Executive Council, an increase in Pastor’s salary was discussed. Affirmation of pastor’s exemplary performance was shared by Council members. Finance Committee supports the proposed budget increase for 2024.

ACTION: A motion was made by Joan and seconded by Jane to recommend a \$15,000 compensation increase effective November 1, 2023; passed unanimously.

It was moved by Peggy and seconded by Lauren to end Closed Session.; passed unanimously.

Closed session ended at 6:21PM. Pastor Eric was welcomed back into the meeting.]

- The development of a Safety Committee is a condition of insurance coverage. Therefore, an invitation will be placed in the Friday Update to build this committee.
- The Council was asked to consider ideas for a Christmas gathering -- to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM by Scott Rice-President.

The meeting closed with recitation of The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Ragan, Council Secretary

**Faith Lutheran Church
Finance Report to Council
September 22, 2023**

September 2023 Financial Statements

See attached PDF with Summary and Statements. The attached PDF will continue to be a link in the Friday update so the congregation can review the monthly financial statements. I received no comments on July or August Statements from anyone.

- September statements. New format for Statement of Financial Position and Cash Flow. These statements will now be provided in the same format as the Statement of Activity with month to month activity and year to date financial information. This format adds to transparency in reporting and provides a good financial picture for the Church.
- Income remains steady. We received a special bequest for \$16,000 that we receive annually to be used as needed. We also received a donation of \$6,000 from a visitor. Expenses are consistent as projected.
- Lots of activity with assets that are work in progress. The Carillon Bells were capitalized, this cost was covered by a donor and the donation is reflected in Special Giving. The painting is almost complete and will be capitalized in October.
- Net operating revenue was (\$1,851) for the month of September and net revenue was \$3,871 which is due to the special bequest of \$16,000.

Insurance

Casualty, umbrella and workers compensation insurance was bound on 9/28/23. We never received any wind quotes from a pool of 30 companies.

- We have no cyber coverage. This is needed because of the change in how business is conducted; email, constant contact communications, website etc. Traditional insurance coverage never evolved to cover this liability. Finance recommended and Executive approved obtaining a new Cyber Liability policy that provides coverage \$1 million in coverage concurrent with current general liability at a cost of approximately \$2,000. The final cost and coverages will be known after the application is completed and submitted.

Safety Committee: Our new workers comp policy requires the Church to have a safety committee. This committee's function is to look for potential trip hazards, wet floors that someone could slip on, uneven sidewalks, etc. Pastor is familiar having a committee like this.

Copiers

No resolution as of yet. We are using as little color as possible to help mitigate the expensive overage charges.

FEMA Claim

We have been assigned a new PDGM who is requesting more information.

Respectfully Submitted
Anita Wooton
Treasurer