

Council Meeting February 10, 2018 Faith Lutheran Church, Meadow Vista, CA

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER by Amy at 10:47am

In attendance: Amy Dieter, Tony Freitas, Pastor Lines, Ann Linkugel, Casey Mills, Mark Duarte, Mark Achen, Jennifer Wood, Michelle Hamil, Kathy Van Zuuk
Absent: None

Total members present: 9
Total members absent: 0
Quorum present: Yes

II. DEVOTIONS/MISSION, VISION AND VALUES, Pastor – lectio divina. M/V/V read by Casey.

III. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER, 2018 MINUTES

Motion made by Casey to approve December minutes as amended. Seconded by Kathy.
Pass: Unanimous

V. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a. Pastor: Report as emailed. Applied to doctoral program, waiting to hear of acceptance. 3-5 year program starting in fall. Will use continuing education time and finances for this. Will be on Claremont campus 1 week a year.

b. Treasurer, Tony: Report as emailed. Regarding changes to budget that were sent, change is addition of \$8,000 to expense line item which means percentage given to ELCA has to go up. Overall budget went up but is still within the \$251,000 expected based on pledges. Jan giving was \$18,653, expenses were less, net gain of \$450 for month. There are a number of void checks in monthly reports caused by several payroll issues causing voiding and reissuing of checks. No rental income shown but will be showing on next report. Narrative explains anything unusual. One positive thing is electronic giving is over \$10,000 a month. Not sure if more people are giving electronically or same people are giving more. Designated fund report was almost totally correct, off by only \$60. Nursery workers expense going up because they are spending more time at church on Sunday and there are more events going on at church requiring them. For events needing child care sponsored by groups like Men's Group, the group pays for the child care. Question: Is net gain of \$450, indicated in line with increased giving pledged? Answer: Hard to answer because some people give a lump sum. Last year giving averaged \$16,300 per month, if we stay \$18,000 per month we'll be okay. Method used for reviewing reports includes looking for unusual expenses and then following up for discover reason. Also, look for trends. Question: Is there a way to tell how effective stewardship campaign was? Should we do it again, potentially? Answer: Pledged giving was 22% higher than historical. At end of quarter a list of contributions will be run to see how it matches with pledges with the understanding that some people give in lump sums. Giving in December was \$24,000 or \$8,000 more than our average monthly for the year.

VI. PROGRAM REPORTS

a. Education, Scott Stonestreet/Becky Stonestreet: None
b. Hospitality/Witness, Cam Bennett: None
c. Service, Colleen Hogan: None

- d. Worship, Leah Cole: None
- e. Prayer/Healing, Ann Linkugel: None
- f. Site Improvement, Carlos Del Pozo: None
- g. Music, Janine Dexter: see handout
- h. Men's Group, Tony Freitas: None
- i. Labor of Love, Connie Elmore: None
- f. Youth Education:

VI. OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

Motion made by Amy to amend agenda to add 'f. Capital Projects' under New Business. Seconded by Tony.

Pass: Unanimous

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Vice President election, Amy: Want to encourage council to consider having council member in the 2nd year of their term on council move into vice president role with intention that they move to president in 3rd year of their term rather than have someone coming onto the council learn how to be president without some experience. The vice president facilitates meetings in the president's absence, would also like them to be more involved in process of staff evaluations, take part of conversations with staff members, and pay closer attention to running congregational meeting. Vice president role is part of executive committee and is sometimes required to sign documents on behalf of the church or be involved in some things that require only executive committee attention. Current executive committee includes president, Amy; treasurer, Tony; secretary, Michelle; and vice president, open.

Motion by Casey to elect Jennifer as Vice President. Seconded by Tony.

Pass: Unanimous

b. Staff evaluations, Amy: Practice is that in November each staff member receives formal written evaluations. Request by staff for ongoing feedback with one formal evaluation yearly. Could be quarterly council check-ins with congregation (see 'c' below) to see how things are going within church for council to consider or provide opportunities for feedback from congregation. Looking for feedback on programs, want ongoing to learn if the congregation likes/enjoys what they are doing or don't. Would like to learn likes and dislikes regarding music being presented. Want to encourage council to report any comments shared by congregational member to them. In an effort to understand what feedback is sought, council would like to know if there are any specific questions wanted answered.

c. Council and Congregation Round-Table Discussions, Amy: Topics for round-table discussions could include questions about music, service or programs having questions specific to answers we are looking for. These discussions are an opportunity to build community. Suggest doing round-tables before council meeting so council can address comments given. Maybe have them quarterly or monthly? Perhaps at next council meeting we can brainstorm a topic for an April round-table to be held during coffee hour. Maybe have 3 to 5 council members each month and switch for following month for no more than 5 tables. Bigger the group the less people will talk. One council member per table. Will need some setup. **Action:** more thorough discussion on this next council meeting: who, how, what.

d. Membership, Amy/Pastor: Would like to have documentation indicating the of types of congregational membership for voting purposes, for example, when major decisions are voted on, one must be voting member. Membership is not assumed, not required to do affirmation of faith. Some

have transferred from other Lutheran churches and are voting members. Levels of membership include: baptized members (186), confirmed members, voting member (103; have been baptized, have been received into congregation through confirmation or affirmation of faith or transfer, and within past year have communed and given a donation of record to church and have participated in life of the congregation), associate members (members of other ELCA congregations but don't want to transfer membership), seasonal members. More thorough definition of members in constitution.

e. Auburn Interfaith Food Closet Participation, Pastor: Churches can be either a participating member (allowed 3 members on the board) or an associate member. Stacey Hogset, Jim Parish and Colleen Hogan have represented FLC on the board. There are some issues with governing board at Food Closet for which our representatives have serious concerns and they do not want to continue on the board. Would like council's permission to change our membership to associate membership. Letter to AIFFC read (see attachment). Kudos to Jim, Stacy, Colleen for participation on IFFC.

Action: Council to send thank you notes to Jim, Stacy and Colleen.

Motion by Kathy to change FCL membership status at the Auburn Interface Food Closet from participating to associate. Seconded by Mark.

f. Capital Projects, Amy/Pastor: Contrary to what was determined in the November council meeting, it has been decided to continue CC for this final year. Steve Bennett received only 1 more bid for ADA compliance project. Bid was \$90,000+. There remains one additional contractor who has not yet submitted a bid. \$37,000 (parking and new ramp and sidewalk system) was lowest so far. There is about \$40,000 more expected to fulfill pledges in 2018. Work will not be planned before money is in hand. Looking at remaining projects, Steve feels very strongly that plumbing in fireside room needs to be fixed. Since the plumbing requires tearing up the concrete, this project would also include renovations to the fireside room and patio area with new patio, new plumbing, new acoustics, remodel kitchen, etc. (this project would require more than what remains to be pledged, requiring architect and phasing, plus). Fixing the plumbing would resolve low water pressure in kitchen, toilets that don't flush properly, etc. Wait to get other bid, and to see how much money is coming in. Table decision until later.

Action: table conversation regarding the fireside room/patio renovation until ADA project is complete then see where we are.

VIII. CONGREGATIONAL REPORTER

Action: Kathy on Feb 18

Motion made by Jennifer to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Ann.

Pass: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 1:28pm