

Council Meeting June 27, 2020
Faith Lutheran Church, Meadow Vista, CA

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER by Franca Jones at 7:05pm

In attendance: Pastor Lines, Rick Brown, Tony Freitas, Franca Jones, Jack Harris, Melia Borruso, Mark Achen, Cassie Call, Julie Hettig, Bruce Broadwell
Absent: Michelle Hamil

Total members present: 10
Total members absent: 1
Quorum present: Yes

II. DEVOTIONS/MISSION, VISION AND VALUES, Pastor – prayer. M/V/V read by Rick.

III. APPROVAL OF May, 2020 MINUTES

Motion made by Tony to approve May 2020 minutes, as edited. Seconded by Jack.
Pass: Unanimous

IV. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a. Pastor: Report as emailed. Under Continuing Education, DMin project referred to in report is research project being conducted for degree program. Expect to take a week in fall to focus on writing paper.

b. Treasurer, Tony: Report as emailed. Donations are holding steady and for the year the gain is approximately \$10,000 ahead of budgeted. Pledges are coming in as expected with some giving a little more and some giving a little less. Working with bookkeeper on Paycheck Protection Program to ensure proper categorization of expenses; bookkeeper is very knowledgeable about PPP requirements. Expectation is for total forgiveness on all monies received. Money received through CARE Act is not reflected on reports sent to Council as it is recorded as a loan which resides on balance sheet; it is not shown as gain or loss. CARE Act funds not used are returned. Expenses are about \$9,000 under budget because only one payroll period rather than the regular two is shown on report sent. Suggestion to send thank you notes to people who are fulfilling pledge.

Action: Council members volunteer to write thank you notes on behalf of the Council to about 75 congregational members. Franca, Mark, Melia, Tony, Cassie and Jack.

V. PROGRAM REPORTS

- a. Service, Colleen Hogan: None
- b. Music, Janine Dexter: None
- c. Adult Education, Scott Stonestreet: None
- d. Labor of Love, Barbara Cowen: None
- e. Men's Group, Tony Freitas: None
- f. Worship, Leah Cole: None
- g. Prayer/Healing, Pastor: None
- h. Youth, Franca: report as emailed. Council continues to be very impressed about how Youth Director keeps our youth engaged, especially in this difficult time of physical distancing.
- i. Hospitality/Witness, Pastor: None

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Re-gathering recommendations from sub-committee, Jack/Melia/Cassie/Pastor: Melia built online survey for congregation which showed that the majority is ready come together physically depending on

the circumstances (protective clothing, etc.). County's website gives guidance requiring detailed risk assessment, site-specific protection plan to limit spread of virus, screenings, implement control measures, implement disinfecting protocols, and a plan was created using these guidelines. Proposing July 19 as our first congregational meeting following posting of signs, and staff and usher COVID-specific training; we can have outside seating where families/couples will sit together in outside seating and individuals will sit 6ft apart; masks will be mandatory; people should self-check for symptoms before leaving home; everyone must be notified of the plan. Small groups are defined per CDC definitions, i.e., FLC men's group, bible study, etc. Inside meetings can have as many as 10 people with ventilation (doors and windows open). For worship, the number of participants is limited according to space; maybe as many as 35-40 people per outdoor service; masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies and cleaning procedures will be provided by FLC.

Call for motion to accept guidelines to allow small groups to begin meeting

Discussion: Clarification as to conditions for opening campus to groups external to FLC activities, i.e., AA, Boy Scouts. Proposed procedure includes clean up before and after each event using disinfecting spray supplied by FLC done by each group, and disinfecting spray used again by FLC before the next group uses facilities. Insurance liability requires waiver but will be clarified.

Action: Wait to open campus to external groups until insurance requirement regarding COVID are understood.

Motion made by Melia to allow opening of campus to FLC small groups using guidelines as presented (see handout) starting next week. Seconded by Tony.

Pass: Unanimous

Action: Pastor to verify insurance requirements for member services which could delay opening of campus to FLC small groups.

Discussion regarding opening of campus: open on July 19 for Sunday services contingent on trend of infections in Placer County; need to be cognizant of Placer County trends and Placer Health Department recommendations in light of the average age of our congregants. Ushers and office staff will undergo training; ushers will disinfect before and between services, and will have supplies ready for those who need it; system to register for services put in place, and will also encourage congregants to go to same service going forward to create same small community each Sunday to limit possibility of exposure. Service will also be offered online. Idea to purchase FM radio transmitter for those who want to attend service but stay in their cars in their parking lot. Idea to designate service especially for families, and/or a second one for general population, etc. Time of service(s) also discussed.

Action: Julie to check into purchasing a hand-held thermometer.

Motion made by Jack to offer services at 8:30am and 10:00am with families encouraged to attend 8:30am service. Cassie seconded.

Pass: Unanimous

Action: Subcommittee to convene to determine next steps.

Motion made by Rick open campus on July 19. Seconded by Mark.

Pass: Unanimous

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Synod Meeting-We are all one in mission, Tony: Meeting was of executive committees of all the churches including presidents, vice presidents, treasurers, secretaries, and a few others including office

managers and led by Synod Vice President. See report, as emailed. Intention of meeting was to gage needs of churches within Synod and how Synod could help, if possible. Most churches in attendance seem to be feeling pretty good about their situations. Lots of information is available on the Synod website. Will not apply for loan to buy streaming equipment. Given FLC financial situation at present, no desire nor need to ask congregants to pay planned pledges or tithing now rather than in the future.

b. Live streaming worship costs, etc., Pastor: Currently using open source (free) live-streaming platforms. Camera equipment is approximately \$400. Recommendation by technical source to continue to use iPhone; YouTube unique users so far between 60-70. No streaming costs at this point.

c. Music Director's internet costs, Pastor: Janine doing all church work from home and runs out of internet minutes (regular costs are only for time used). Would like Council to consider reimbursing Janine for cost of internet services at her home for as long as COVID distancing mandate requires her to work from home.

Motion made by Jack to reimburse Janine at \$100, or reasonable amount as determined by Pastor, per month for internet costs. Seconded by Melia.

Discussion: costs assumed to be less than \$100 per month. If expense greater than \$100 will bring topic back to Council for consideration.

Pass: Unanimous

d. God's Work Our Hands Grant, Pastor: Meal put on by FLC and Methodist Church at Meadow Vista park last year on second weekend in September (September 13th this year) which was a great success although it cost was considerable. Applied for grant through the Lutheran Development Society of Sacramento to help pay for it this year. Were awarded \$1,000 grant to hold it but decided to defer grant until 2021 since we might not be able to hold meal this year. Colleen Hogan (who chaired the event last year) and Pastor will look at what can be done this year given the COVID shut-down mandates and perhaps put on something significantly smaller and less expensive if possible.

e. Synod Assembly Voting Members, Pastor: Synod assembly will happen in September if it occurs this year, and will be disbursed around Synod at various sites. Tabling topic until future notice.

f. Office building arrangements, Pastor: Would like to move Pastor's office to area adjacent to kitchen which would require structural changes. Would take out stove top, island and oven, and replace it with sound-proof wall. Current office would become storage area. Kitchen would still have sink, refrigerator and desk. Would remove dishwasher. Costs would be minimal. Can charge costs to Capital Campaign which currently has \$43,000. Future meetings could be held in Ed Building where Sunday school is held, Fireside Room, room off of Fireside Room, and/or area adjacent to office manager's desk.

Motion made by Tony to use Capital Campaign funds to pay for renovations as discussed. Seconded by Jack.

VIII. CONGREGATIONAL REPORTER

Action: Melia.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.