

## **Council Meeting March 17, 2019**

### **Faith Lutheran Church, Meadow Vista, CA**

#### **I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER by Jennifer at 11:35am**

In attendance: Pastor Lines, Jennifer Wood, Casey Mills, Rick Brown, Tony Freitas, Franca Jones, Michelle Hamil, Bruce Broadwell

Absent: Melia Borruso, Mark Achen

Total members present: 7

Total members absent: 2

Quorum present: Yes

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

#### **III. APPROVAL OF February, 2019 MINUTES**

Motion made by Casey to approve February, 2019 minutes with addition of Congregational Reporter. Seconded by Rick.

Pass: Unanimous

#### **IV. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

a. Pastor: Report as emailed.

b. Treasurer, Tony: Report as emailed. Just a note that the \$8,000 expense paid in 2019 that is throwing the bottom line off significantly is for repair/maintenance of the Sanctuary restroom which was covered by insurance paid in 2018. Electronic giving was just over \$12,000 in February. Although we missed one Sunday offering in February due to the canceled service we are doing amazingly well.

#### **V. PROGRAM REPORTS**

a. Adult Education, Scott Stonestreet: None

b. Hospitality/Witness, Cam Bennett: None

c. Service, Colleen Hogan: None

d. Worship, Leah Cole: None

e. Prayer/Healing, Ann Linkugel: as emailed.

f. Music, Janine Dexter: None

g. Men's Group, Tony Freitas: as emailed.

h. Labor of Love, Barbara Cowen: None

i. Youth Committee, Stacy Hogsett: as emailed. Council suggests that the Youth Committee Director offers written proof of participation in community service projects to participating children who can take it to school for community service credit.

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Sabbatical Policy, Jennifer: Funding from Lilly Grants which was previously discussed as a possible sabbatical funding opportunity is reportedly very hard to get and aren't for people pursuing higher education. Pastor has asked for a 3 months sabbatical to be taken in spring of 2021 which would potentially include Easter. Today, however, Council efforts should be focused on creating a generic sabbatical policy. A policy should include a stipulation to continue service in current call, post-sabbatical, for at least 1 to 2 years. Sabbaticals are generally offered following 6 or 7 years of continuous service with 5 of those years in current call position and are generally 3-to-6 months in duration. Salary and benefits are continued in full throughout the sabbatical. Auxiliary pastor costs would amount to at least \$275 week which does not include pastoral service during week. Council discussed offering a 3-months sabbatical with a 3-months maximum extension possible with Council approval. Council agreed to require 2 years of service post sabbatical.

b. Construction Update, Pastor/Rick: Two bathrooms are now working downstairs. Kudos to Rick for project management of this project. The work on the Sanctuary bathroom is close to needing a call for inspection of the framing,

electrical, and plumbing. The flooring contractor for the upstairs work is scheduled to come to speak to Pastor about flooring options. The flooring downstairs was installed last week but some additional work needs to be completed. The contractor has been asked to have the work completed by Easter.

c. Treasurer Apprentice, Tony: Having trouble finding someone to step up for apprentice position. Please approach possible nominees at your earliest convenience.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

a. April Meeting, April 14th?, Jennifer: The next Council meeting is on April 14<sup>th</sup> which is also the beginning of Spring Break and is Palm Sunday. Council decided to keep the meeting on April 14th.

b. Synod Assembly, May 11, Pastor: This year Assembly will be held only 1 day and is in Lodi. Pastor is co-chair of the planning team. Jennifer has volunteered to represent FLC. Two voting members of the congregation, usually one male and one female, are needed so a male voting member is still needed. The Assembly volunteers are also needed. Next year a multi-day Assembly will be held because a new Bishop will be elected. Congregations are invited to send a monetary donation which is offered during the Assembly service which will be divided between CA Rural Legal Assistance Organization (for the benefit of migrant workers), Northern CA Lutheran Social Services Fire Relief, and the Synod Candidacy Program (which trains new pastors). A bandana project will be done during the Assembly to bring attention to violence committed against the migrant workers; the level of violence towards migrant workers is horrific, especially now given the immigration situation in our county. Perhaps the Council would consider sending a donation above and beyond what we normally send each month. \$500 to \$1000 would be generous donation for a church of our size. Rick suggests that we consider donating \$750 and vote on it at our April meeting.

c. Sign at corner of Placer Hills and Combie, Pastor: It has been suggested by Cam Bennett that our sign at the corner of Placer Hills and Combie needs to be replaced and that perhaps we could approach the Methodist church about having a permanent sign made for both churches. Pastor has reached out to the Methodist pastor and is waiting to hear back. Even if the Methodist church does not want to participate in a combined sign, our sign needs replacement. Michelle and Jennifer will work with Pastor after we know if the Methodists are interested.

d. Meadow Vista church outreach, Rick: A suggestion is made to make a welcoming overture to the new Celebration Church in Meadow Vista.

## **VIII. CONGREGATIONAL REPORTER**

**Action:** Casey; March 31st

Motion made by Tony to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Rick.

Pass: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 12:50pm