**CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES**

**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

March 21, 2023

**Present**

Jim Hall (President), Sandy Becker Stewardship), Retta Hennessy (Pre-School), Jen Bair (Service),

Beth Sells (Communications), Mark Pedersen (Property), Karen Finerty (Worship),

Senior Pastor Shelly Satran, Joe/Kelly Parratore (Faith Formation),

Gary Nelson (Secretary)

**Absent**

Tim Hohulin (Treasurer)

**Excused**

**Guests**

Kayla Smrt

Zach Zwahlen

Deb Hornell

**Opening Devotions and Prayer**

* Retta

**Call to Order**

* Meeting called to order by President Jim Hall at 7:09pm

**Approval of Minutes**

* **MOTION**: To approve the minutes of the Congregation Council meeting held on

February 13, 2023 (Jen/Sandy) **Carried.**

**Consent Agenda**

* **MOTION** To accept the reports of the Faith ministries and staff. (Kelly/Retta) **Carried.**

**Financial Report**

Presented by Jim Hall:

* Slow month for regular envelopes consistent with prior years
* Last February regular envelopes were $56.1k and prior year through February were $99.7k, so running $17.1k ahead of prior year
* Received an anonymous donation of $12.5k in February
* Salaries over budget due to prior year bonus paid in February instead of December and vacation taken by Pastor Wende in February that was earned in 2022
* Utilities over budget due to higher gas charges in winter months
* Net loss in prior year to date period was $16.7k

**Old Business**

*Council Meeting Schedule*

Schedule revised to accommodate conflicts.

*Call Committee*

Pastor Shelly reported that the Committee had one strong Candidate they wanted to move forward in the process. Unfortunately, the Candidate wanted to continue pursuing other opportunities.

Next steps: the Synod will present a new slate of Candidates. There should be more Candidates available due to seminary graduations.

*VBS*

Kelly proposed bringing in Counselors for Lutherdale to run full day VBS in the Summer of 2024.

**Motion** to utilize Memorial Funds not to exceed $10K. (Retta/Karen) **Carried.**

*Rainbow Place*

Retta reported there will be a Teachers Appreciation Week. Staff is also receiving CPR/AED training.

*CPR Training*

Jen reported that 16 staff and ushers will be receiving CRPR and AED training on April 11.

**New Business**

*Faith Lutheran Funds Rules*

**Motion** to adopt. (Jim/Gary) **Carried**

*Memorial Fund*

Discussion led by Sandy to utilize $69K in funds to address unfinished and new projects including carpeting, Altar Guild (communion trays), and the kitchen. Pastor Shelly called for a list of needs to be addressed in a future meeting. Mark reported that we could replace the kitchen countertops without a permit.

*Strategic Goals Seminar*

Deb Hornell led this seminar for the Council to identify and set goals for this year that align with the Faith Congregation and Staff. Discussion and presentation included Tactical vs Strategic goals, avoiding complacency, and future focused strategies. The assignment for the next Council meeting will be for each small group to report on what they think the Council can do, what each individual can do, and what can Faith be going forward to foster connections, address congregation and community needs and continue to grow.

Deb will return to the April Council meeting.

**Staff Reports**

**Closing Prayer**

Retta

***Adjournment***

* Jim adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

Gary Nelson, Secretary