

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES  
FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

April 14, 2020

**Present**

Beth Sekera (President), Chris Bettin (Secretary), Jim Hall (Treasurer), Sandy Becker (Stewardship), Tammy Daugherty (Communications), Phil Hartweg (Safety), Mark Pedersen (Property), Debbie Rohla (Service), Chris and Rachel Sorce (Faith Formation), Deb Twaddle (Worship), Pr. Shelly Satran, Pr. Joe Yucha

**Call to Order**

- The meeting, which was held via Zoom, was called to order by President Beth Sekera at 7:06 p.m.

**Opening Devotions and Prayer**

- President Sekera

**Council Check-in**

- Council members gave a brief update on how they are doing while “sheltering in place” during the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone reported that they are doing well considering the circumstances. Appreciation was expressed to the pastors and others involved with the wonderful church services that have been streamed in place of live worship.

**Approval of Minutes**

- **MOTION** (Sandy/Tammy): To approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020, Church Council meeting. (Carried)

**Consent Agenda**

- **MOTION** (Jim/Sandy): To accept the reports of the Faith Ministries and staff. (Carried)

**Financial Report**

- Treasurer Jim Hall reported that the budget for March was in the black, which is remarkable considering that there are no live church services due to sheltering in place. Jim said members have been mailing in their regular contributions and there has been an uptick in online giving.
- At the time of Jim’s Council report, Easter and Lent special envelope giving equaled approximately \$12,000 with more contributions expected; the budgeted amount is \$15,500.
- Jim reported that the CARES Act application for a \$106,795 loan for Faith and Rainbow place was submitted. If the loan is approved, according to the act between \$90,000-\$95,000 would be forgiven. The loan will be used to cover payroll and utilities.

- **MOTION** (Jim/Chris): Faith Lutheran's application for a loan under the Payroll Protection Program, in an amount not to exceed \$120,000, is approved and Treasurer Jim Hall is authorized to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the church to do so. (Carried)

## **Old Business**

### ***Building Maintenance and Fire Marshall Update***

- Mark Pedersen reported that maintenance to the church building and property continues while the church is closed.
- The shed has been resided. Mark gave a shout out to member Hugh Johnson for his help with that project.
- The ceiling has been torn out in the lower level bathroom in advance of asbestos removal.
- A number of roof leaks have been patched at an approximate cost of \$2,000.
- The south wall of the retention pond may need repair work. Mark and Phil Hartweg (Safety Ministry) are keeping an eye on it. The north wall of the retention pond was rebuilt in 2019.
- May 15-16 have been scheduled as property clean-up days. Social distancing will be practiced.
- Phil reported on the fire door and bathroom access issue on the lower level. The plan is to place the fire doors toward the end of the hallway; however, architecturally it is impossible for the doors to be placed on the Luther Hall side of the bathrooms. Therefore, to prevent Rainbow Place preschoolers from having to exit the secure hallway area to use the bathroom, access to the bathroom will be routed through Room 106. Estimates for this work are being obtained. Concern was expressed by some Council members about whether the changes to 106 might change the number of Rainbow students allowed in the room by DCFS.
- According to Phil, he and Mark are waiting for state Environmental Protection Agency approval so the asbestos removal can commence following removal of the ceilings in the lower level bathroom and 106.

### ***Zoning Issue***

- President Sekera reported that all paperwork related to the lot consolidation has been signed and delivered to Paula Serfling-Nugent of the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry. Once the Village of Glen Ellyn reopens for business, a public meeting of the board will be scheduled to finalize the zoning matter.

### ***Church Reopening, Resumption of Services***

- According to Pastor Shelly Satran, the church is following the lead of Illinois Gov. Pritzker. At this time there is no official reopening date, but the church will remain closed at least through April 30.

### ***Update on Pastor Joe Yucha's Paternity Leave***

- Pr. Joe updated the Council that he continues to work full time and there is no set date for him to resume his paternity leave. He will keep the Council up to date on his plans.

## **New Business**

### ***Faith Phone Calling Tree***

- The recent effort by the Bible Study group Animate and other volunteers to connect with all Faith members during sheltering in place was extremely popular, especially with Faith's young families and retired members. Plans are under way for a second round of calls to be made.

### ***Mission Trips***

- Pr. Joe reported that the mission trips to Israel/Palestine and St. Louis have officially been cancelled.

### ***Mask Giveaway at Faith***

- Sandy Becker informed the Council that she and other Faith members have been sewing protective, decorative face masks and will be conducting a drive-by distribution to Faith members at the church during the week of April 19 (exact date to be determined).

### ***Announcements and Reminders***

- The next meeting of the Exec Council will be Tuesday, May 5, 2020, via Zoom.
- The next meeting of the Church Council will be Tuesday, May 12, 2020, via Zoom.

### ***Closing Prayer***

- President Sekera

### ***Adjournment***

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

### **Respectfully Submitted by:**

Chris Bettin, Secretary