

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2017
3:00 PM

FLC Vision: Every generation experiencing the freedom of Christ.

FLC Mission: We faithfully honor Jesus by developing disciples to reach others with the light of God's hope and love.

1. Call to order
President Larry Patterson called the meeting to order at 3:12 pm.
Present: President Larry Patterson, Pastor Rusty, Treasurer Matt Engelmann, Vice President Anna Geleske, Secretary Alyssa Jacobs, Richard Hinojosa, and Cynthia Murphy.
Also present: Brian Weaver.
Absent: Myra Haugene, and Maury Tiller.
2. Devotion – Larry Patterson
3. Approve minutes from previous meeting
 - Regular meeting December 11, 2016
 - Coordination meeting (finalize Pledge Process communication plan) Jan.14, 2017
Motion to approve minutes by Matt, motion carries.
4. Receive reports with discussion as warranted on regular agenda items:
 - Finance Report
 - i. Receive December 31, 2016 report: Income for December was \$113.2K. Total income was up by \$27K vs. November and was \$17.7K below the ministry plan for December. As a reminder, we had an \$18K one time gift in November, and December was a 4 Sunday month. Total income averaged \$28.3K per week in December. This was a significant improvement to the overall income in November, and significantly higher than our YTD weekly income. Expenses paid in December were \$99.8K. This is \$6.3K above the ministry plan. Missional expenses were \$5.6K above the ministry plan for the month mainly driven by Christmas decorations, special music performances, and Christmas youth events. December was a good month and continued the good results in November.
 - ii. Branching Out: Will get in contact with Jerry Gray to do a follow up on status of pledges
 - Pastor's Report
 - i. Not a lot to report as has been on medical leave. Today is first day back and goes to surgeon to be officially cleared tomorrow. Gloria to Council and church leaders for stepping in and carrying on while Pastor was on leave. Will meet with staff at staff meeting tomorrow to get caught up. Pastor is glad to be back.
5. Strategic Action Items
 - Financial sustainability
 - i. Pledge Process update & planning for Commitment Sunday – Brian & Maury:

1. We had 7 attendees at today's meeting 1 through invitation, 6 through advertisement.
 2. Now we need to follow up with a phone call – approximately 65 families to call/follow up with personal contact.
 3. Pastor Rusty is starting a 5-week sermon series about living into discipleship. Move commitment Sunday to March 5 to sync with sermon series and give another week to reach people.
 4. Move letter to pledgers date by a week as well - that way all communication will be pointing to Commitment Sunday at once.
 5. Letter – emailing draft again for final edits by council.
 6. Face to face meetings – Bob is going to organize this week. Have targeted 19 families to talk to. Would like for 2 council members, one that is familiar with the family, one that is not to meet. It will be council member's responsibility to schedule meeting.
 7. Today's meetings went well and had great conversation – sign up for additional face to face meetings
- ii. Update regarding sale of surplus North 3.5 acres – Larry
 1. Extended contract for 9 months, but no action.
 2. Larry is setting up a meeting with another realtor he has done work with to just run it by them.
- Creating a culture of discipleship – Discussion led by Pastor Rusty
 - i. ELCA updates / discussions
 1. ELCA and MIF is asking where are you with your “Branching Out Strategy?”
 2. Answer was we have done what we said we would do...
 - a. Modified Agreement with MIF
 - b. Put adjacent property on market
 - c. Launched a capitol campaign
 - d. Remodeled worship space
 - e. Actively looking for an Associate Pastor and Contemporary Worship Leader.
 3. Before we can “Branch Out”...We have to “Build Up”
 - a. Operationally/Logistically
 - i. Staffing infrastructure – Associate Pastor and Contemporary Worship Leader. As well as other empty positions: Connections Coordinator, Care Coordinator, Video Director and Audio Tech. We will need to organize these positions for success.
 - ii. Technology – Camera and lighting in Sanctuary. Need to do this sooner than later because we are missing out on web presence. We need to complete AV system in Love to the Max.
 - iii. Culturally – Double our Mission Partnership. Need to have a mission growth mentality. Council needs to define what it means to be a Mission Partner and establish a baseline number of current Mission Partners. We need to launch an initiative to double and increase Mission Partner participation. Also need to look at ways to measure participation. Train

missionaries for Branching Our and for filling-in where the missionaries vacate

4. What do we need to do next/now?
 - a. Staffing.
 - b. Begin study for technology and upgrades. (Staff to Council)
 - c. Define Mission Partnership. (Council)
 - d. Design and implement process for baseline data. (Staff to Council)
 - ii. Associate Pastor call process update –we haven't received anything.
 - iii. Production technology and lighting improvement needs – Will start studies now.
6. Discussion of sanctuary furnishings – Pastor Rusty / Larry
- Taskforce of Richard, Anna, Austin, Larry and Pastor will meet prior to next Council meeting and come up with a recommendation.
7. Active projects and future agenda items
- Council installation date - tentatively set February 12, 2017
 - i. Email your picture to Kristin.
 - Synod Assembly delegate selection process - April 28 – 30, 2017
 - i. We have 4 delegates: 2 males and 2 females, Pastor Rusty PLUS an under 30 delegate.
 - ii. Location: Abilene
 - iii. Historically, Faith has paid registration, meals and travel when out of Metroplex.
 - Retreat date – Larry will talk to Pastor and give some dates to Council at February meeting.
 - **Next Council Meeting – February 12, 2017 beginning at 3:00 PM**
 - Add ministry plan to website
 - Questions from Small Group Meetings – Matt
8. Adjournment at 4:51.