

Minutes of the McFarland Lutheran Church Council
Monday, February 22, 2010

Members Present: Sandy Chalmers; Kristine Bell; Karen Emerson; Bob Kalhagen; Dennis Knutson; Jerry Hrovat; Linda Langel; Dick Moen; Tom Scharine; Sarah Schutt; Marilyn Vandeberg; Menghort Thikim

Staff Present: Pastor Tews

1. Call to Order – Sandy Chalmers called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

2. Opening Prayer and Welcome

Pastor Tews offered an opening prayer and Sandy welcomed everyone to our meeting.

3. Devotions

Dick Moen shared the importance of positive attitudes on life and the choices we make every day.

4. Approval of January Minutes

Moved by Marilyn Vandeberg and seconded by Linda Langel to approve the minutes of January 22nd meeting as recorded. Motion Carried.

5. Reports

• **Karen Emerson** –

- Education Vision Team is working on their budget for the next fiscal year. The recent CLM / MLC open house was well attended.
- 6th grade students will begin preparing for confirmation during their Sunday morning classes.
- Vacation bible school has been scheduled for the first week in August.

- **Menghort Thikim** reported that the global missions committee has received a number of “Thank-You” responses from individuals who received donations this past month.

• **Dennis Knutson**

- Distributed and answered questions about the January financial report.
- Bill Langel has accepted the responsibility to chair the task force that will prepare a comprehensive assessment of space needs with specific recommendations on worship space.
- CLM has been making payments toward their loan and it should be re-paid soon.
- The proposed investment policy will be sent to council members for their review and will be acted upon at the March meeting.

- **Sarah Schutt** reported that the CLM van has been retired. CLM is currently renting a van from the Ginger Bread House on a weekly basis. Meetings continue to discuss program changes to increase revenue, and transportation is an essential component of program changes being considered (such as before school care). Budgeting will continue at the March meeting. There were several enrollments resulting from the open house. Sandy added some additional information about the van that Amy Lawrence sent: Because of insurance, the van remains titled to McFarland Lutheran Church and replacement will be the responsibility of the church. The CLM board is considering options and will have a recommendation for action at the March meeting.

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- **Jerry Hrovat** reviewed the stewardship committee’s temple talk and monthly schedule. Additional information will be included in the printed bulletin and newsletter in an effort to lessen the time needed for temple talks.
- **Marilyn Vandeberg** announced that the Ministry Fair has been scheduled Sunday, May 16th. Letters have been sent to committees, requesting them to reserve a place and plan their display.
- **Bob Kalhagen** reported that the personnel committee will be finalizing job descriptions in the near future and they continue to up-date the personnel handbook.
- **Tom Scharine** reported that the Health & Wellness committee has planned a variety of exhibits for the ministry fair.

- **Sandy Chalmers**

- A listing of 397 households who are not attending services and have not donated to McFarland Lutheran Church in the past two years has been created. In an effort to up-date our membership records, these members have been divided into two groups: those families who have moved from McFarland and those families who remain in our community. A letter will be sent to each group to either confirm their re-location, or invite them to re-discover McFarland Lutheran Church and the many opportunities we have to offer them.
- The 2010 budget is being developed; Dennis handed out the letter sent to committees asking for their program needs.
- Members received **e-mails from Meg Nielsen and Bonnie Duerst** highlighting their activities.

Pastor Tews

- Emphasized that temple talks should be directed at BOTH members and guests.
- Shared his e-mail address and would like to be added to the council distribution list. He reminded everyone that facts, meeting announcements and documents should always be shared through e-mail; any decision making that might involve emotions and a personal relationship should always be dealt with in face-to-face meetings.
- He is meeting with staff on a weekly basis and confirmed that they will always be welcomed to attend council meetings. In the future, there will be one person assigned to attend council meetings each month. He will usually be in attendance.
- Pastor Sara Yotter, Assistant to the Bishop will be preaching Sunday, February 28th.
- He has observed and complemented council members on their positive outlook of our church and encouraged members to continue to share their vision of the future.
- In the next newsletter, he will be inviting members to submit a personal story about McFarland Lutheran Church. He will use these stories and select members to meet and share their stories in an effort to write an emotional history of our congregation.
- Presented a video depicting relationships and decision making in a church. Our challenge will be to become leaders who will create a church that is focused on worshiping, learning and caring for the community we live in.
- He would like to meet with council members in the spring to present a seminar on effective leadership skills in a church. This opportunity will be discussed at the March meeting.

6. New Business

a. Investments

Dennis Knutson moved; seconded by Linda Langel to sell all shares of Google stock in the near future. Motion Carried

This is stock that was donated to the church a number of years ago, and is now above the original value. As requested, proceeds from this gift will be divided between purchasing improvements in the sound system / PA equipment and by CLM.

7. Announcements

- ⇒ Synod Leadership Conference is March 13. Interested members should contact Sandy for reservation information.
- ⇒ The Synod Assembly will be June 5th & 6th in Wisconsin Dells. Pastor Tews is planning on attending and others are encouraged to join him. More information about this assembly is available from Sandy.
- ⇒ Council members will be available Sunday morning, March 7th for their Question & Answer session with members.
- ⇒ Next council meeting will be Monday, March 22nd.

8. Closing Prayer and Adjournment;

Moved by Linda Langel; seconded by Kris Bell to adjourn. Motion Carried.
Sandy Chalmers adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Tom Scharine, Secretary