

**Minutes of the McFarland Lutheran Church Council**  
**Monday, March 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    **Guests:** Rick Petzke

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. **Devotion**

Bob Kalhagen shared thoughts about enduring difficulty in our life and the role trusting in God has.

4. **Approval of February Minutes**

Moved by Jerry Hrovat; seconded by Linda Langel to approve the minutes of January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting as recorded. Motion Carried.

5. **Reports**

- **Karen Emerson** reported that the education committee is in the process of reviewing the Sunday School Handbook.
- **Dennis Knutson** reported that the finance committee is working on a recommendation on the establishment and management of an endowment fund.
- **Menghort Thikim** reported that the Global Missions committee is beginning work on planning events for October.
- **Pastor Tews**
  - Pastor Jerry Pribbenow will return to work within the next two weeks.
  - Pastor Finney will focus on contacting volunteers for hospital and other befriender activities. (as Pastor Tews commented)
  - Personal histories / memories from members of McFarland Lutheran Church are being received and are providing Pastor Tews with an understanding of our church's past.

6. **Old Business**

a. **Space needs/sanctuary remodeling**

Dennis Knutson presented a draft work plan for the ad hoc group that will be meeting to discuss recommendations on building and space needs, including the renovation of the worship space. Council discussed the importance of providing opportunities for comment early in the process. This will be discussed again at the April council meeting.

7. **New Business**

a. **Organist**

Moved by Kris Bell; seconded by Sarah Schutt to establish a committee to hire a replacement for Terry Peterson, with the members of the committee appointed by the congregational president and the interim senior pastor. Motion Carried.

**b. Establishing a church investment policy**

Moved by Dennis Knutson; seconded by Marilyn Vandeberg to approve the investment policy as drafted by the finance committee. Motion Carried

**c. Resolution setting a pastoral housing allowance**

Moved by Dennis Knutson; seconded by Kris Bell to establish that 35 % of Pastor Tews salary be designated for housing costs. Motion Carried.

**d. Establishment of a Youth Board**

Moved by Karen Emerson; seconded by Linda Langel that the education committee consider establishment of a Youth Board to provide guidance and oversight to the youth ministry and to report their recommendation at the next meeting of the church council. Motion Carried

**e. Summer Worship Schedule**

Moved by Kris Bell; seconded by Marilyn Vandeberg that the worship schedule remain unchanged during the 2010 summer. Motion Carried

**f. Planning**

**i. Spring mini-retreat**

Members of the church council agreed to meet on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>; 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM with Pastor Tews to consider their leadership role(s) and the future priorities of our church.

**ii. Budget forums**

Members of the council and finance committee will be available to present and discuss the proposed budget for the next fiscal year Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of these forums will be to present the proposed 2010 - 2011 budget, answer questions and receive input from members before the final budget is presented at the annual meeting.

**iii. Nominations Committee**

➤ The committee who will contact and nominate individuals to serve as members of the church council at the 2010 annual meeting will consist of Pastor Tews, the four council members whose term ended July 2009 and one member from the current council.

**8. Executive Session**

Moved by Kris Bell; seconded by Dennis Knutson to adjourn into executive session. Motion Carried.

➤ Recommendations from the Personnel Committee were reviewed.

**9. Announcements**

⇒ The Synod Assembly will be June 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> in Wisconsin Dells. Pastor Tews is planning on attending, along with Sandy Chalmers and possibly Kris Bell. Others are encouraged to join them. More information about this assembly is available from Sandy.

⇒ **Council members will NOT conduct a Question & Answer session in April.**

⇒ Next council meeting will be *Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>*.

**10. Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Moved by Sarah Schutt; seconded by Kris Bell to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Sandy Chalmers adjourned the meeting at 9:25 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Tom Scharine, Secretary**

In an effort to keep you informed about what's happening at McFarland Lutheran Church, highlights of council meetings will now be published as "Minutes In Seconds". The Official Minutes will be approved at the next month's meeting and will be posted on our web site and in the church newsletter. Please contact any member of the church council for more details or answers to your questions.

## **"Minutes In Seconds"**

### **Church Council – Monday, March 22**

- ✦ Summer Worship Schedule will remain unchanged from the current winter schedule.
- ✦ Sunday school Handbook is being up-dated.
- ✦ Research will soon begin on the process through which the remodeling of our Worship Center will take place.
- ✦ Establishment of an endowment fund is being discussed by the Finance Committee.
- ✦ Global Missions is planning activities throughout the month of October.
- ✦ Pastor Pribbenow is expected to return to part-time employment within the next 2 weeks.
- ✦ Pastor Finney will be connecting with individuals who have been trained as Hospital Visitors and Befrienders.
- ✦ Council members will participate in a mini-retreat with Pastor Tews to discuss the mission of our congregation.
- ✦ Investment policies have been up-dated and approved.
- ✦ A Youth Board to advise the youth ministry is in development
- ✦ A nomination committee to contact individuals to serve on the council has been established. Interested individuals should contact any council member for more information.