

Minutes of McFarland Lutheran Church Council

December 19, 2011

Members Present: Eileen Brost, Dennis Knutson, Jon Landen, Amy Lawrence, Scott Potts, Sarah Schutt, Brady Showalter, Betty Showers, Marilyn Vandeberg, Dave Waller, Pastor Tim Dean

Absent: Ernie Thieding, Debbie Wellman

Call to Order - Sarah called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Community Time / Prayer Requests – Members shared their events and concerns for others. Pastor Dean offered a prayer.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of November 28, 2011 were approved.

Old Business

- **CLM / 4K contract** - Sarah Schutt reported that the final contract from the McFarland School District was received just before Personnel Committee met. They reviewed it and made a few recommendations for changes to the school district. The school district will review the contract with lawyers and hope to have it finished by the end of 2011. We should get the final copy about a week before the January 17, 2012 Council meeting and will vote on the contract then.
- **Nursery proposal** - Betty Showers reported that the Nursery Task Force is awaiting bids on the planned remodel. When the task force makes a recommendation, it will be taken to Finance Committee and Council.
- **Council Retreat** - Saturday, February 11, 2012 at Skaalen Village. Executive Committee is working on the content

Committee Liaison Reports

- **Stewardship / Capital Campaign** - Dennis Knutson and Pastor Tim reported. Three telephone interviews were completed. The Capital Campaign Committee believes that Kairos and Blair Anderson will be a good fit with our needs. He is a pastor who will focus on stewardship and integrate that with the capital campaign. He will be here six times in six months and make follow up visits over three years. This will cost \$40,000 and will come out of the proceeds of the capital campaign. A formal proposal to hire Pastor Anderson and Kairos will be a good fit with our needs.
- **Sanctuary Building Team** – Dennis Knutson and Marilyn Vandeberg reported. The committee reviewed the architect contract and requested changes.
- **Properties** – Scott Potts reported that a new lawn mower was purchased as recommended by Properties and approved at the November Council meeting.
- **Global Missions** – Jon Landen reported that \$2000 was raised from the Flamingo Fandango for the Puerto Rico Mission Trip.
- **Finance** – Dennis Knutson reported that \$12,000 was moved from the operating reserve to the checking account as anticipated. CLM is doing well. Church attendance is going up. Thrivent Choice

dollars comes as a lump sum from 22 number of people. The church does not get an accounting of how much comes through each individual so it is difficult for individuals to designate a specific use of their individual choice dollars. Currently 10% goes to benevolences, 45% to the Lutheran college fund and 45% to the special needs fund. Finance Committee will review this allocation at a future meeting. Input from congregation members is welcome.

- **CLM** – Amy Lawrence reported that a new teacher was hired for the School Age program and she has already started. More hours were added to the cleaning service time so teachers will be doing less cleaning and have more time for classroom prep.
- **Pastor's Report** - Pastor Tim reported that he is looking forward to his first Christmas here. The first "Get to Know Pastor Tim" was held at Skaalen Village with eight women. He continues to meet with staff to assess the needs of the staff and congregation. The Call Committee has become his Mutual Ministry committee and will function as a support and advisory group. It will probably meet quarterly.

New Business

Community Meal Proposal – Eileen Brost presented the Community Meal proposal. The community group requests the use the Family Life Center and kitchen for weekly meals staffed by volunteers from many local organizations and also a McFarland Lutheran Church member volunteer coordinator. Space, appliances, tables, chairs, dishes, glassware and utensils would be used Thursdays from 4 pm to 7 pm. Set up and clean up would be the responsibility of volunteers and the MLC member/coordinator. Health and Social Wellness Committee recommends a six month trial. All fees would be waived because this would be considered a ministry of MLC and will have a MLC member/coordinator. Discussion followed. Questions concerned the group's legal status, what our insurance allows, public health questions and wear and tear on our facility. Dennis will check our insurance. Eileen will take our questions back to the community group for further work. A recommendation was made to have a memorandum of agreement or similar document with the community group that will address specific responsibilities of the weekly volunteers and MLC. We support the concept of the community meal but need details before a motion can be considered. This will be discussed again at the January 17 Council meeting.

Council Open Forum - Sunday, January 8 at 9:15 and 10:30 a.m. Congregation members will be encouraged to bring their questions and thoughts.

Synod Assembly - May 5 and 6, Kalahari Resort

Communication Points / Minutes in Seconds – These will be put in the News You Can Use and the next newsletter.

Adjournment – Scott Potts moved to adjourn the meeting; Amy Lawrence seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm with closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Vandenberg