

McFarland Lutheran Church Council

Tuesday, August 21, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

By Sharon Mylrea at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Pastor Tim, Pastor Kelli, Diane Wells (V.P.), Mary Grell, Cheryl Brown, Sharon Mylrea (Pres.), Todd Bolstad, Steve Schoch, Ruth Poutanen, Kevin Strattan, Renee Rodeck

Members not present: Pete Ellestad, Jeff Gehrke, Rick Hall (Sec.), Brent Odell (Treasurer)

1. **Welcome** – The Council started with an ice breaker on where we lived and what we would say to ourselves before we started our senior year in High School.
2. **Agenda review and changes** – Sharon reviewed the agenda.
3. **Devotion, Bible Study** – “Called into Leadership” was the focus of tonight’s devotion led by Pastor Tim. We have a variety of gifts, but we have the same Spirit. We engage in a variety of activities, but we serve the same God. Council members pledged to serve in their roles as elected Council members with our variety of gifts with God’s guidance and while serving God and our common faith community at McFarland Lutheran Church.
4. **Working Together as a Council** – This portion of the meeting was a review for current members and instructive to new members on how the Council operates. We went over the following:
 - a. **Meeting Ground Rules** – Led by Sharon, All of Council agreed to operate under the current Ground rules with no changes.
 - b. **The 2018 – 2019 Council Meeting Schedule**
 - c. **Council Devotion** – Pastor Kelli came up with a wonderful idea to have Council volunteer to each give a devotion sometime during the Meeting Schedule for the year. A signup sheet was passed around and filled out by the Council members who were present.
 - d. **Council Committee Assignments** – Sharon led the discussion and the standard operating procedure where each Council member is on at least one Committee. There were two positions highlighted for need at this meeting,

namely a second Council member for CLM and a first year member on the Personnel committee. New assignments for 2018-2019 include:

- i. **Kevin Strattan** – Second Council member on CLM. Also considering Health and Social Wellness, and rejoining Finance but waiting to see what Rick Hall takes.
 - ii. **Renee Rodeck** – First year Council member on Personnel.
 - iii. **Ruth Poutanen** – Adult Faith Formation as well as Worship and Music
- e. **Long Range Plan** – Council has previously discussed 2 topics for the Long Range plan:
- i. **CLM** – A task force, led by Todd Bolstad, is developing some listening sessions to get ideas about how to strengthen CLM over the next couple years.
 - ii. **Congregational Time Engagement** – A look at how the Church handles the process of Time and Talents and Gifts and see if there is a way to develop a better process.

5. Time & Talents, Member Interest and Gifts – Presented by Cheryl Brown and Huldah Ellestad. The intent today is to learn the current processes the Church employs as well as what tools are used.

- a. **Time & Talents Tool** – This is an established sheet that is handed out in two instances. First, in the Fall as a part of the Church program as well as in the Bulletin. Second, during New Member Classes. The process for this is:
- i. Huldah collects the Sheets
 - ii. The sheets are bundled and handed off to Carrie Kruzan the Administrative Assistant
 - iii. Carrie enters the content of the sheet into Shepherd's Staff (The Church's Database)
 - iv. Huldah reports on the Database when she is asked "Who can ..."
 - v. Huldah is also the contact person if this system is not working.
 - vi. Huldah typically sees a response of anywhere from 70 – 130 a year.
- b. **Opportunities to Participate Tool** – This tool elaborates further on all the committees and activities that are available for the congregation to volunteer for. There is a stack of these available on a table in the Upper Hallway of the Church.
- c. **Huldah's suggestions** – Sharon asked Huldah what she thought were potential ideas for improvement on this process. Her response was:
- i. Communication – It would be nice to know when someone is no longer working on their activity. It would also be nice to know when there are problems or issues with the process or activity.

- ii. Participation – Obviously it would be nice if more Congregational members would fill this form out.

6. Treasurer/Finance Committee report – Notes provided by Brent Odell to Sharon before the meeting.

a. Cash Balances

- i. Checking Account balance was \$42,593.
- ii. Total Savings Account balance was \$499,171.

b. Mortgage

- i. Additional Capital Building fund contributions totaling \$4,999 that go to reducing the principal of the church mortgage were received.
- ii. Mortgage balance is \$1,240,036 which reflects a reduction of \$8,181 from the previous month.

c. Church Giving / Income and Expenses

- i. Offerings received were \$41,337.
- ii. Total church income was \$92,218 which is approximately \$3K less than what our income was last year at this time.
- iii. Expenses for the month were \$92,290 which, while below budget, exceeded income by \$72.
- iv. Committees and programs are operating consistent with budgeted amounts.

d. 4K Income and Expenses

- i. 4K expenses were \$41.

e. Pass Thru Summary

- i. Designated and undesignated giving totaled \$7,579 (\$4,999 of which are additional Capital building fund contributions).

f. Memorials

- i. Memorials received totaled \$745.

7. Pastor's Reports –

Pastor Tim:

- September 9th – Rally Day is scheduled for 9:15 am
- September 16th – The next Adult Faith Formation topic will be “Mark as a Story.” There is a wonderful presentation of the Gospel of Mark laid out in story format that Pastor Tim found and will be presenting.
- September 23rd – There will be a CLM teacher blessing during services. There will also be recognition for 4 milestones that teachers have achieved from 5 years to a 20 year milestone for CLM Administrator Sara Phelan.
- September – New member classes will start up.
- Keyboardist Jeff Rowley resigned due to health issues. The Church is now looking for a new keyboardist and the position is being advertised on several websites.
- Reverend Viviane E. Thomas-Breitfeld was installed on August 18th as the new bishop in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA. Wednesday August 29, she will be at

Covenant Lutheran Church in Stoughton for a Synod Meet and Greet. This will take place in their Fellowship Hall from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- Pastor Tim gave a handout on “Work Money Can’t Buy” – Eight ideas for engaging volunteers.

Pastor Kelli:

- The 20's to 40's Adult Group attended a Mallards game and had a lot of fun! The next initiative for this group is a Book Club.
- This Sunday August 26, is the Sunday School Leadership Breakfast. 9:00 am in Room 210.
- September 15th and 16th – Tom Eggum, the founder of Hope 4 Kids will preach at services in the lead up to the Walk 4 Water event.
- September 16th – Pastor Kelli will have a brief meeting with the 3 year olds and handing out their bibles.
- September 22nd – This is when the Walk 4 Water 3 mile walk will occur to honor the mothers and young children who have to walk miles each day to a contaminated open pond for their water. It is set at McDaniel Park and runs from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The cost is \$30 (adults) and \$15 (18 and under) the money raised will be used to drill a deep water well in the rural Ugandan village of Nyakesi. There will be T-Shirts handed out for this event. For those who do not want to participate in the walk there is a definite need for Volunteers. There is also a Silent Auction portion of this event.

- 8. Safety & Security** – The Dane County Sheriff’s Office will be conducting a workshop, “Preparedness for Active Shooter and Violence within the Community”, here at McFarland Lutheran Church on Wednesday, October 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, in the church sanctuary. Announcements of the event will be made to the congregation and staff in early September.

- 9. Adjourn and Closing Prayer** – Pastor Tim

Motion to adjourn at 9:00 by Cheryl Brown, seconded by Mary Grell, approved by all.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

- **Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**