

**McFarland Lutheran Church Council
Tuesday, September 25, 2018
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

By Sharon Mylrea at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Pastor Tim, Pastor Kelli, Todd Bolstad, Cheryl Brown, Pete Ellestad, Rick Hall (Sec.), Jeff Gehrke, Mary Grell, Sharon Mylrea (Pres.), Brent Odell (Treasurer), Ruth Poutanen, Renee Rodeck, Steve Schoch, Kevin Strattan, Diane Wells (V.P.).

1. Welcome by Sharon Mylrea.

2. Agenda review and changes

Sharon passed out the committee assignment list – add Rick to Health & Wellness. We celebrated Pastor Tim’s birthday with cake provided by Renee (it included a musical candelabra).

3. Devotion–Renee Rodeck

Renee cited Travis Jeffers discussion of Matthew 10. Advice to the apostles was “travel light”.

4. Treasurer/Finance Committee report – Notes from Brent Odell

Cash Balances

Checking Account balance is \$7,933

Total Savings Account balance is \$495,256.

Mortgage

Additional Capital Building fund contributions totaling \$1,230 that goes to reducing the principal of the church mortgage were received. Mortgage reserve is \$30k (three months of mortgage payments). For FY 2018-19 to date, the total additional amount received for the building fund is \$6,229.

Mortgage balance is \$1,235,597 (*reduced \$4,439 from previous month*). Consists of two 30 yr notes with Thrivent. Note 1 4.95% 2 3.8%

Church Giving / Income and Expenses

Offerings received this month were approximately \$40K bringing YTD total offering to \$81,068.

YTD church income is \$175,261, an increase of approximately \$83K from last month, which is less than the budgeted YTD amount and the total income received last year at this time by approximately \$11K.

Expenses for the month were \$116K bringing the YTD expense total to \$208,818. While expenses exceeded YTD income by approx. \$33K, they are below the budgeted YTD amount. We donate 10% of income to ELCA.

Committees and programs are operating consistent with or below budgeted amounts.

4K Income and Expenses – Page 3

Current 4K expenses are \$2,756.

Pass Thru Summary – Page 4

Designated and undesignated giving totaled \$7,718. This includes Capital Campaign gifts - \$1,230 to designated building fund. Credit card survey results will be reviewed by Finance and reported back to Council.

Memorials

YTD memorial amounts received are \$735.

5. Properties Committee Report

Diane reported that the Properties Committee continues to seek bids to update the CLM bathrooms, with one bid expecting to come in next week. The leaky roof in the Gathering Space may be due to lack of insulation. Waiting for second bid on that next week also.

6. Pastors' reports –

Pastor Tim:

- The Stewardship Committee is hosting a Celebration Lunch November 4, 11:15 a.m. –with a keynote talk by president and CEO of LSS - Hector Colón.
- New member reception will be October 7, 10 a.m.
- Polka services will be held on October 13-14.
- Confirmation for 9th graders will be October 21, 10 a.m.– Chris Landerud to preach.
- Adult Faith Formation will start a series on Social Ministries/Social Justice, starting with Bob Lindmeier addressing climate change on Oct. 28
- Pastor Tim is going to the Bishop's convocation 10/7-8

Pastor Kelli:

- Baby group started – gave out survey – positive response to continue.
- 91 kids registered for Sunday School
- Did "intensive" bible study with 3 yr olds
- Tom Eggum from Hope for Kids preached an inspiring sermon Sept. 16.
- Walk for Water event last Saturday - about 120 walked with maybe 20 from the wider community. We earned well over \$12K goal.
- 20's, 30's & 40's Ministry Book Club is meeting 10/1 at Palenque Mexican restaurant. Book: Where God hides holiness. Another book and meeting are scheduled for November.
- Baptism Class – have been meeting with families 1:1. Now we will do quarterly classes starting 10/16 6:30 pm in room 210.

- Pumpkin fest will be 10/27 noon to three
- 3rd grade bible class 10/23 3:30 pm or 10/27 at 10 am
 - Students will receive Bibles on 10/28 at 10am
- Sunday School students will sing on 10/28 at 10 am.
- Pastor Kelli is also going to the Bishop's Convocation 10/8-9 and a continuing education event about preaching in northern Illinois on 10/16

7. Future Directions Review

Sharon went through the Future Directions document which was developed at the January council meeting. It is posted at:

<http://www.mcfarlandlutheran.org/files/Future%20Directions%202018-2019.pdf>

8. CLM Planning –Todd Bolstad

Todd handed out copies of the Teacher Survey - responses are due Friday. The congregation survey responses will be due 10/21. Listening sessions to be held 10/14. The task force will meet 11/1, then report to Council at the November meeting. The task force will look at the survey response, and then report to council. This will be on our retreat agenda in January, and Todd recommended we involve Sara and Deb from CLM and Willi Sindermann from the CLM Committee in discussions at the retreat.

9. Involving Members – Cheryl Brown

Cheryl is part of a group (with Norma Kohl and Linda Ellestad) following up on previous council discussion about how to promote more church member interactions around common interests. They will be looking at Time & Talent data and are looking for council feedback. They are looking at interest areas such as hiking, canoeing, going to plays. They plan to use a survey board. Pete Ellestad suggested using an app called Meet Up.

Sharon urged all council members to **review the Time & Talent Forms.**

10. Safety & Security – We will have a workshop on active shooter preparedness for the congregation on Wednesday 10/10 6:30-8:30 p.m.

11. Adjourn and Closing Prayer

Pastor Tim led the closing prayer.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Devotion – Mary Grell

Include debrief on active shooter preparedness event.