

McFarland Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 25, 2020  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.



**McFARLAND**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Sharing God's Word      Showing God's Love      Serving God's World**

**Present (Via Zoom):** Pastor Tim, Pastor Kelli, Ruth Bennett, Rick Hall (Sec.), Rex Link (via phone), Katherine Miller, Brent Odell (Treas.), Barb Porter-Quam, Scott Potts (via phone), Carol Quinlan, Renee Rodeck (Vice-Pres.), Kevin Strattan, Gary Toboyek (Pres.), John Zweig. **Excused:** Marcy Konemann

1. Welcome
2. Devotion – Pastor Tim read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 12-13 - There is great variety among Christians, but we are all in one spirit. Pastor Tim read a charge from the council member installation service, and asked council members to accept the calling to be leaders by saying, “I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.”
3. Agenda review and changes – Gary Toboyek
4. Council Meet and Greet - Council members shared their backgrounds.
5. Council Approval of Council minutes of officer selection meeting. Barb moved and Kevin seconded to approve. Motion passed.
6. Devotion List - Each member volunteered to lead the opening devotion for each month.

September - Renee	March - Ruth
October - Rex	April - Barb
November - John	May - Scott
January - Retreat	June - Kevin
February - Katherine	

7. Church Council Committee Assignments - see separate attachment.
8. Treasurer/Finance Committee Report – Brent Odell

## **FISCAL YEAR 2020 – 21**

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS FOR July 2020**

**Cash Balances** Checking Account balance was \$111,714 *{includes \$20K remaining from the \$132,200 'loan' received from the federal Paycheck Protection Programs (PPP) authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which if used to pay employee salaries does not need to be repaid.}* Total Savings Account balance was \$604,703 of which \$150,661 was the current balance of 'Debt Reduction' funds in response to our mortgage reduction initiative and \$117,660 was designated for building maintenance/repair.

**Mortgage** Our current mortgage balance is \$1,144,108. Pledges to our MRI total \$193,370 of which \$125,536 have been received. Overall contributions, including pledged and non-pledged dollars, received toward reducing our mortgage total \$155,814.

**Church Giving / Income and Expenses** Offerings received totaled \$52,929. Non-offering revenue received was \$34,454 bringing YTD revenue to \$84,383. This is approximately \$12K less than our budgeted/projected YTD amount and about \$18K less than income last year at this time.

Expenses totaled \$72,477 which were \$12K less than income received. However, the expenses do not reflect the \$20K paid in staff salaries for the month since these were paid using funding from the PPP. Had PPP dollars not been used, expenses would have exceeded income by \$8K. In addition, expenses do not include those paid using CLM grant monies received. Committees and programs are operating consistent with or below budgeted amounts.

**4K Income and Expenses** Current YTD 4K expenses were \$1,119.

**Pass Thru Summary** Designated and undesignated giving, less PPP, MRI and CLM grant monies received totaled \$1,793.

**Memorials** Memorials received YTD are \$40.

## 9. Pastors' Reports –

### Pastor Tim

- Thanks to our congregation for the continued support of our mission!
- We are continuing our re-opening with three principles: Safety, Slow Steps & Sustainable. This fall will be different, and we are proceeding cautiously with safety of members and guests a top priority. Most of our ministries, activities and meetings will be held remotely.
- We are adding a 9:00 drive-in service starting 9/6. Cars will be ushered into spots in the rear parking lot. The service will be broadcast on FM radio. We will add communion in pre-packaged kits as part of this drive-in worship.
- We will continue with the 10:00 Sanctuary Live service each Sunday. We will be upgrading equipment to take advantage of sound system wiring.
- We will continue with “touchless” baptisms as part of Sanctuary Live.
- The pastors, staff and Worship Committee continue to brainstorm and seek out creative ideas for safe, small group in-person services inside as we enter fall and colder weather.
- Faith Formation will resume online for Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth and Adults.
- Chris Landerud will host Zoom meetings for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Affirmation of Baptism (aka Confirmation) will be on 10/18 as part of Sanctuary Live worship.
- For Adult Faith Formation, we will add a study video and discussion of the upcoming Sunday's texts starting 9/16.
- Various ministry groups (CLM worship, handbell choir, etc.) of less than 15 people will be able to meet in the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary has the best ventilation and space for social distancing.
- CLM staff will begin 4K preschool in-person starting 9/14. They will have AM and PM classes two days a week for groups of 10 or fewer. Groups will meet Monday - Tuesday or Thursday-Friday. The School Age program will be full day, in-person, in response to McFarland public schools beginning on-line. Preschool classes for tots and 3 year olds are suspended for now.
- Staff will expand office hours starting 9/21 to Monday - Thursday 9:00 to 2:00.
- Synod Assembly will be held remotely this Saturday 8:30 - 3:30. The pastors and Wayne Corey will attend. We will elect a new bishop.

### Pastor Kelli

- The Health and Social Wellness committee has put mental health resources on

the Resources tab of our website. It includes links to organizations addressing mental health issues during Covid and for postpartum depression. There will be further updates via the newsletter and the website.

- There will be no Sunday School in-person for the start of the school year. Instead, we will have parents pick up books with bible stories, activities, prayers, etc. Sign-up is 9/13 - 9/20 for pick-up starting 10/11.
- Pastors were pleased with the interest generated by our discussion of racial issues. They are researching material for two more 2-3 week series, one in September, one in October.
- Pastor Kelli will be on vacation “chasing Theo around outside” 9/9-12 and 9/24-28.

#### 10. Committee Meeting Updates

##### Properties:

- Scott Potts reported that we dropped our pest control service, because of a lack of service. Ken Brost will apply spray around the building twice a year.
- We will be repairing our parking lots in three stages to spread out the costs. The north lot repair cost was approximately \$55k.

##### Personnel:

- Sara Phelan’s Administrator position as CLM will now be full-time (40 hours/week). Previously she was 32 hrs / week as Administrator, and 8 hours/week as Lead Teacher. This is due to the complexities of our Covid adjustments.

#### 11. Any other Business

Scott asked about the status of the prayer chain ministry, and raised concerns about the care of families losing loved ones. Cleo Eliason continues to coordinate the email prayer chain ministry. Pastors continue to provide pastoral care for those who are lost loved ones, but are not doing traditional funerals because of Covid restrictions. They are providing expanded burial services. Pastor Tim indicated that sympathy notices for grieving families would start to appear in this week’s email newsletter.

12. Adjourn and Closing Prayer. Scott moved and Kevin seconded to adjourn at 8:39. Motion passed.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** September 22 7:00 PM.