



McFARLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

McFarland Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 1/26/2021 via ZOOM

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

Present (Via Zoom): Pastor Tim, Pastor Kelli, Ruth Bennett, Rick Hall (Sec.), Marcy Konemann, 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.

1. Call to order & Welcome - Gary Toboyek
2. Devotion – Gary Toboyek
3. Agenda review and changes – Gary Toboyek
4. Treasurer/Finance Committee report – Brent Odell

FISCAL YEAR 2020 – 21 FINANCIAL SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECEMBER 2020

Cash Balances

Checking Account balance was \$97,636. Total Savings Account balance was \$685,352 of which \$219,989 was the current balance of our '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 \$1,126,894 (*reduced \$3,467 from previous month*).

Pledges to our MRI total \$193,570 of which \$150,249 have been received. Overall contributions (*pledged and non-pledged dollars, bequests and memorials*) received toward reducing our mortgage total \$233,925.

Church Giving / Income and Expenses

Offerings received totaled \$76,172. Total YTD revenue (*including offerings*) was \$526,920 which is less than our budgeted/projected YTD amount. Expenses for the month totaled \$117,840 bringing YTD expenses to \$539,641. YTD expenses were \$12,721 more than income received. Committees and programs are operating consistent with or below budgeted amounts.

4K Income and Expenses Current 4K expenses exceed income by \$5,543. In February we should receive our second payment from the school district.

Pass Thru Summary Designated and undesignated giving for the month, not including contributions of \$5,323 for reducing the mortgage debt and \$1,030 for the Global mission special appeal was \$2,311.

Memorials received YTD total \$2,020.

The Finance Committee has submitted a request for loan forgiveness of the \$132k Payroll Protection funds received in 2020. They will also apply for 2021 funding.

Kevin moved to approve the finance report. Ruth seconded. Motion passed.

5. Pastors' Reports –

Pastor Tim

- Ash Wednesday is February 17th and we are looking at safe ways to provide ashes. We will have a 7:00 pm Facebook Live service.
- During Lent, we will be joining six other east-side Madison ELCA congregations for Wednesday services. Each congregation will record one service with a theme of Community. MLC will prepare one for 3/10 on Community with Our Neighbor.
- We have re-started drive-up communion at 9:00-9:45 on the first and third Sundays of the month.
- Huldah Ellestad continues the In the Dust of the Rabbi series Tuesdays at 10 a.m. via Zoom.
- Huldah also continues to lead a bible study discussion on Zoom on Thursdays 7 pm, with the pastors providing a bible study for this on Facebook at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays.
- Pastor Tim will participate in a 9 week class from the Nehemiah Center for Urban Community Leadership called “Justified Anger.” This is an African American History series from Feb.1 to Mar. 29 featuring Dr. Rev. Alex Gee along with other speakers. Several other ELCA pastors will be attending.
- Pastor Tim has also signed up for an online seminar with Prof. Luke Powery entitled, “Holy God-Wholly Human”.

Pastor Kelli

- The Family & Children's Team will be distributing another round of books (~20) and activity kits (~40) for the period from Valentine's to Easter (aka “Lent”). There is still no interest in Zoom Sunday School classes to add to the burden of Zoom school and other Zoom events. A drive-through pick-up is scheduled for 2/7 11-noon.
- Health & Social Wellness has weekly COVID information updates via our e-newsletter. There will be a teaser question each week.

6. Task Force Update – Gary Toboyek

- The task force has met twice in January and is breaking into sub-groups to develop metrics for opening, a phased approach for in-person worship, and what logistics are needed for safety, cleaning procedures, handling sign-ups for services, etc.
- They are using a webinar and other information from the Wisconsin Council of Churches. WCC is gaining nationwide recognition for the quality of their work around COVID. The link to the WCC returning to worship document is: <https://www.wichurches.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Holding-Our-Plans-Loosely-Returning-to-Church-2-3.pdf>

- John noted that several metrics will be needed to make decisions to open at various levels.
- The task force is fortunate to have several medical experts in its membership.
- The task force will provide regular updates to the MLC council and the congregation as a whole.

7. Any other business.

8. Adjourn and Closing Prayer

Scott moved and Katherine seconded adjournment at 7:45

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: February 23rd, 2021 – Devotion – Katherine Miller