

Congregational Council Meeting
February 19, 2024
Minutes
Faith Lutheran Church

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02, Lorelee Daily, Council President.

Attendance: Lorelee Daily, Pastor Jean, Tom Peyton, Lori Ashenfelter, Kim Kennedy, Em Antal, Darryl Anderson, Joseph Antal, Nicole Vincent, Wendy Gajarsky

Devotions: Pastor Jean

Review of Minutes

Nicole motioned to accept the January 20, 2024 Business/Retreat minutes; Lori seconded the motion. Darryl motioned to accept the Executive Meeting minutes: Kim seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motions passed.

Staff Reports

Treasurer

January 2024 revenues were above budget by \$38,139 due to a large preschool grant/donation. Otherwise, we were behind budget for general operations with expenses being about \$4000 over budget. Overall, we show a \$34,203 surplus for the month. Revenue is up \$20,998 from last year at this time. Joseph motioned to accept the treasurer's report for review; Tom seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Pastor Jean Hansen

Report submitted. Interfaith Justice Series begins on Wednesday, February 21 at FLC with four subsequent meetings. There is an additional church this year, Prince of Peace Baptist. The theme is Uniting for Public Safety. Pastor will be taking February 29, 2024 as vacation day.

Eric Jezewski

Report submitted.

David Simpson

Report submitted. Em announced that Dineen has set up a Green Dot Bystander Training on April 27, 2024. An electronic sign-up for this event is being set up.

President's Report

Report submitted.

Old Business

Report on Security Grant from the State of Ohio

At the end of January we were notified that we did not receive the grant, but can reapply again next year. At a future meeting, the Council will further discuss security needs.

Report on conversation with HTLC

We were contacted by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Akron, about combining some aspects of our ministries (staffing, programming). The discussion is in the beginning stages; there is another meeting scheduled on February 26, 2024.

New Business

Report on Sewer Back-up Expenses

Plumbing Repair and Clean-up expenses for January/February were submitted. Service Master clean-up was \$24,953.35 which was reduced from \$27,000. An insurance settlement from Church Mutual of \$60,000 was received on January 31, 2024. The Finance Committee recommended accepting the full settlement. Tom motioned to accept the proposed settlement; Lori seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed. The Finance Committee asked for approval of, and to the extent necessary, ratification of the Service Master Clean-Up bill (\$24,953.35) and five plumbing repair items (see attachment). Tom motioned to accept this recommendation; Lori seconded the motion. All in favor, Motion passed. Since the total cost of the project, estimated at \$58,060, exceeds 5% of the approved operating budget there is a need for a Congregational Meeting to approve the expenditures. It will be held on March 17 between the services.

Service Master Re-build Contract Negotiation

There is an estimate of \$22,764 for the rebuild. The contract was reviewed by John Reyes. Service Master was asked to revise the contract and the attorneys will review it. Lorelee motioned to give John Reyes formal authority to represent FLC in the Service Master contract negotiation and be compensated a \$250 flat fee; Joseph seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Stripping of the Altar, Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

Pastor asked for volunteers to help strip: Wendy, Kim, Lorelee, Darryl, Tom, Lori, Joe, Em volunteered.

Executive Session

A motion was made to enter Executive Session and was approved by the Council.

Ministry Area Reports

Care and Nurture: Wendy Gajarsky

FFF met February 8, 2024 and minutes were received. Due to doing Game Night and the Lenten Dinner, there is no event for March, but members are encouraged to "Bring a Friend to Church" on March 10, 2024. Daughters of Faith Banquet is May 9, 2024. July 28, 2024 is set for the Church Picnic.

Communications: Lorelee Daily

Pastor Nevergall submitted a report from the Digital Task Force concerning digital solutions for ministry areas.

Celebration and Memorial Courtyard: Nicole Vincent

The team would like to make some contract changes; Nicole will prepare documents with those changes for the next meeting.

Faith Endowment: Lorelee Daily

Report submitted. They received two grant requests which will be considered on March 4, 2024.

Growth and Learning: Em Antal

Em reported on Scout Sunday, 3 bible studies currently happening, and Pastor Nevergall's online zoom Small Catechism class. First Communion Class will be in March.

Ministry Development: Kim Kennedy
No report

Operations: Darryl Anderson

Darryl stated that on the church's insurance policy the \$2,500 deductible for water damage has been increased to \$50,000. The deductible has been increased to \$5000 on property and crimes claims. There are concerns about the number of claims that have been made recently so the Finance Committee will give guidelines on when to submit claims. There are concerns about being dropped by our carrier. We are covered through March, 2025. No updates from Property Team, but they plan to review a proposal for security including motion detectors and glass breaking sensors.

Outreach: Tom Peyton

Safe Space training went well. Next phase is Green Dot Training. Loads of Faith is almost finished doing a video. The Team is reviewing a database with possible sources of grants and will decide which ones to pursue to fund Loads of Faith in 2025; it is funded for 2024. The City of Akron did a similar laundry-providing outreach. Faith is a member of the Akron Area Interfaith Council and may have two representatives on the Council; they are David Simpson and Tom Peyton.

Preschool Board: Lori Ashenfelter

Report was submitted. The Board met February 6, 2024. They are looking for an early drop-off assistant. The 4th round of Stabilization Grant was received (48K) in January. Church Mutual will not insure the preschool as an LLC, so we cannot proceed with the LLC process until Church Mutual agrees to insure or there is another insurance carrier.

Worship: Joseph Antal
No report

Adjournment/The Lord's Prayer/Next Meeting

Joseph motioned to adjourn; Tom seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Next Meeting March 18, 2024

Submitted by Wendy Gajarsky, Council Secretary