

## **McFarland Lutheran Church Council**

**Tuesday, April 25, 2017**

**7:00 p.m. Council Meeting**

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Call to Order**

By Joe Schwartz at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Pastor Tim, Joe Schwartz (Pres.), John Berg, Randy Hansen, Norma Kohl, Steve Schoch, Diane Wells, Sharon Mylrea, Dave Nelson, Brent Odell, Lee Thorson. Not Present: Tiffany Kvalheim (Sec.), Pastor Kelli, Carol Munch (V.P.)

#### **2. Agenda review and changes**

Properties Committee – Diane Wells reported that doors have been ordered for CLM and will be installed soon, planning for the CLM bathroom remodeling is underway, and several trip hazards on sidewalks have been addressed.

#### **3. Devotion/Bible Study—Please read the Gospel of Luke, chapter 23 (Pastor Tim)**

Pastor Tim focused on Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23, to discuss “Dying the Way He Lived – Jesus’ Last Words from the Cross.” Three sentences that Jesus speaks from the cross are very powerful messages for us:

- **Forgiveness** -- Verse 34 – Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”
- **Mercy** -- Verses 42-43 –Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”
- **Trust** -- Verse 46 –Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”

#### **4. Treasurer/Finance Committee report -- Brent Odell**

##### **Cash Balances**

Checking Account balance is \$45,035

Total Savings Account balance is \$446,526

### **Mortgage**

Additional Capital Building fund contributions totaling \$1,970, that go to reducing the principal of the church mortgage, were received. For FY 2016-17 an additional \$50,788 has been received for the building fund.

Mortgage balance is \$1,356,693 (*reduced \$4,969 from previous month*)

### **Church Giving / Income and Expenses**

YTD total offerings received is \$435,084 which is less than budgeted YTD amount by approx. \$9K

YTD Total Income is \$855,599, an increase of approx. \$97K from last month, (*does not include 4K revenue, nor bequests or memorials rec'd*) is less than the budgeted amount. However, YTD income is more than income received last year at this time by approx. \$74K.

Expenses for the month were \$120K bringing YTD expense total to \$896,475. Expenses exceeded income by approx. \$41K. However, expenses continue to be lower than the am't budgeted.

All committees and programs are operating consistent with or below budgeted amounts.

### **4K Income and Expenses – Page 3**

Current 4K expenses are lower than income received to date.

### **Pass Thru Summary – Page 4**

Designated and undesignated giving totaled \$11,090.

### **Memorials**

\$50 in memorials were received bringing YTD memorial amounts received to \$4,600.

## **5. Pastors' reports – Pastor Tim**

Holy week events culminated with Easter weekend services attended by over 1,000 people.

Synod Assembly will be held on April 29-30 in Middleton. Steve Schoch, Norma Kohl and Wayne Corey will be attending. The theme of the Assembly is “Now What? The Next 500 Years”, and McFarland Lutheran Church will be recognized for its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the banquet.

New member class begins on Sunday, April 30. New members will be received during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on May 21.

Pastor Tim provided an update on several events/activities related to our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:

- Habitat for Humanity – Our fundraising goal was reached in roughly three weeks. Project work dates are being scheduled; five churches will be involved in the work.
- Luther College Choir – The concert on April 20 was attended by over 170 people. THANK YOU to Ron Larson for all the work he did to bring this group to McFarland Lutheran and for managing all the housing arrangements for the choir’s roughly 100 members.
- “Drawn to the Word” Worship – Artist and Pastor Paul Oman will share his artistic ministry with us on Sunday, May 7, at 9:00 a.m. One worship service only is scheduled for May 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- History Walking Tour – Ron Larson will conduct a walking tour on May 21 beginning at 11:15. The tour will include touring cemeteries and discussing historical events.
- Organ Concert – Jeff Rowley will present an organ concert on Sunday, June 4, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Multi-Church Staff Gathering – McFarland Lutheran staff will be attending a conference on Tuesday, May 16, at Midvale Lutheran Church. The theme is “Sharing Makes Us All Stronger” and will provide an opportunity for staff to meet with others in similar positions in other congregations.

## **6. Helping the Nomination Committee**

Joe reported that he met with the Nomination Committee and shared the list of nominees that was prepared by Council. Sandy Hall is the chair of the committee, and

the committee will develop its nomination list at least two or three weeks before the Annual Meeting on July 23.

## **7. Review the Retreat Goals**

Joe led a discussion and review of the short-term and long-term goals identified by the Council at their retreat on January 28, 2017. Joe noted the importance of using a proactive approach as we move our congregation into the future.

### Strategic Plan Development

- Should we use an outside consultant to facilitate the strategic plan development process?
- How do we define “strategic plan”? What do we need? How will it be used?
- Should a new team be established to work on this?
- Plan for 3 years, 5 years, 10 years?
- Our last strategic plan was developed in about 2010.

### Staffing

- Need a strategic plan, to appropriately address the future staffing question.
- Youth and family ministries, including CLM, will likely be a large future focus.
- CLM expansion, particularly in K4, is anticipated within the next three years.

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### Growth in Numbers

- New housing and developments in McFarland and surrounding communities provides opportunities for growth.
- Can we use data related to past growth for our congregation to predict future growth?
- How do we maintain the connections and relationships among worshipers/members if we have significantly expanded attendance/membership?
- How can we relate to multi-generational groups?

### Continued Tuition Assistance

- For CLM attendance, for youth camps, Summerfest, other activities
- Families want to enroll their children in CLM; opportunity to involve their parents/families in our congregation

Motion to adjourn at 8:55 by Norma Kohl, seconded by Lee Thorson, approved by all.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: May 23, 2017 at 7:00pm**