

**McFarland Lutheran Church Council**  
**Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order**

By Sharon Mylrea at 7:02 p.m.

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

Members not present: Renee Rodeck, Steve Schoch

- 1. Welcome – What is positive about this dark and cold time of year?**
- 2. Agenda review and changes** – Sharon reviewed the agenda, and added council decision on keyboardist.
- 3. Devotion** – Pastor Tim discussed Advent and Mary's prayer, the Magnificat.
- 4. Treasurer/Finance Committee report** – Notes provided by Brent Odell

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER 2018**

**Cash Balances**

Checking Account balance is \$47,596

Total Savings Account balance is \$491,898

**Mortgage**

Additional Capital Building fund contributions totaling \$2,334 that go to reducing the principal of the church mortgage were received. For FY 2018-19 the total additional amount received for the building fund is \$9,902

Mortgage balance is \$1,225,459 (*reduced \$5,674 from previous month*).

**Church Giving / Income and Expenses**

Offerings received this month were approximately \$42K bringing YTD total offering to \$167,854.

YTD church income is \$376,218, an increase of approx. \$109K from last month, which is less than the budgeted YTD amount, and slightly ahead of the total income received last year at this time.

Expenses for the month were \$106K bringing the YTD expense total to \$405,717. While expenses exceeded YTD income by approx. \$30K, they are below the budgeted YTD amount. Committees and programs are operating consistent with or below budgeted amounts.

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

Current 4K expenses of \$19,021 are below income to date.

#### **Pass Thru Summary – Page 4**

Designated and undesignated giving totaled \$9,498.

#### **Memorials**

YTD memorial amounts received are \$1,540.

### **5. Pastor's Reports –**

#### **Pastor Tim:**

- Advent starts Sunday – mid-week services Wednesdays at 11:00 and 6:30. The theme is “Filling the Hungry with Good Things,” and will include highlighting Advent resources from the ELCA World Hunger ministry.
- Christmas Eve services will be at 3:00, 5:00, and 9:00, with the Adult Choir at 5:00 and 9:00 pm. The Bell Choir will play at the 3 and 5 services.
- Christmas Day Service at 10:00 a.m.
- On Dec. 9, we will have our annual Advent Lessons & Carols at the 10:00 am service.
- We had a great celebration lunch with Hector Colón on Nov. 4.
- Pledge letters have been sent out. Pledges may be returned during services Dec 1-2.
- Joe D’Amato will teach a Financial Peace University course starting in January and continuing for nine weeks.

#### **Pastor Kelli:**

- Oct 28 – gave out Bibles to 16 third graders.
- 20s-30-40s book club went well. Spartan Bowl event, possibly in January 2019.
- Chris Landerud and Pastor Kelli are doing worship assistant training for confirmation students for the Advent mid-week services.
- December 9<sup>th</sup> - Global Mission bake sale.
- Health and Wellness Committee put Giving Tree tags in the Great Hallway along with sign-up sheets. Gifts due in 12/9. We gave presents to 145 families last year.
- Christmas Sunday School program 12/16
- Pastor Kelli’s continuing education includes reading materials on infertility and miscarriage and related pastoral care issues.

## **6. Personnel**

- Pastor Tim reported that the Personnel Committee is recommending Noah Bossert for the keyboardist position. He is a UW undergrad in music who was recommended by his organ professor. He has experience playing at two Lutheran and one Catholic church.
- Jeff Gehrke moved to approve. Cheryl Brown seconded. Motion passed.
- Sharon will send thanks to those who filled in while position was vacant.

## **7. Mortgage Reduction -- Brent Odell**

- Brent handed out a background sheet.
- Sharon noted we need a plan by end of the fiscal year.
- We discussed how the Capital Campaign funds were used. Some costs not included in total cost of remodel were fundraising, architecture, survey fees, non-construction costs, other construction costs (lower level kitchen and youth room).
- The mortgage reduction effort will try to raise \$500k to reduce the 3.8/% mortgage by April 2021. This means a two-year time frame for donations.
- Message includes building on success for the future.
- Council looking to Finance Committee to create a plan for a mortgage reduction appeal.
- Council to review Finance Committee plan at the January retreat.

## **8. Safety & Security – Rick Hall**

- Rick has been recruiting members for the Security Preparedness Task Force. The following people have agreed to serve: Brian Rodeck, Jim Ellestad, Kristen Hildebrandt, Deb Hettrick, Brent Pilsch and Diane Wells. Officer John Miller is the McFarland Police liaison.
- Rick drafted a charter for the task force (attached). Motion to approve with minor change.
- Rick will provide an update at the retreat.

## **9. CLM Planning – Todd Bolstad**

- Todd shared the Parent, Staff and Congregation Survey combined report and reviewed the highlights.
- Council will formulate action steps at retreat – what, who and when.
- Todd noted that we need to understand CLM's financial impact to address concerns about budget as well as rate-setting for programs. Financial data can be found in the annual report.

## **10. Adjourn and Closing Prayer**

Meeting adjourned at 9:07, and Pastor Kelli led us in a closing prayer.

## **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**

**Council Retreat**

**Saturday, January 26, 2019**

**8:30 am – 3:30 p.m.**

**Skaalen Village Clubhouse, 6055 Perrot Place, McFarland**