

October 2023 Church Council Minutes

On Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 7:30 PM, a meeting of the Church Council was held to review several topics regarding the ongoing efforts at Faith Lutheran Church of McLean County. This meeting was held at Union Park and followed a Bible Study which began at 6:42 PM. The following is a summary of the main topics discussed at the Bible Study and the Council meeting. The Council members present included:

- Brent Carlock
- Staci Dowell
- Beth Feit
- Brian Goke
- Denise Ludwig
- Brad Morris
- John Petrillo

Also in attendance:

- Bridget Koester
- Jeff Pitzer

Brian Goke led our group in prayer before beginning the Bible Study Devotions to quiet our hearts and minds. 1 Corinthians 1:27 was read.

Bible Study Devotions: The group discussed Henri J.M. Nouwen's book, Adam God's Beloved.

- Background information was shared about Henri J.M. Nouwen.
- Everyone was asked the question, "Do you know someone with a disability?"
- Discussion regarding the book and Henri's time in his life that was filled with brokenness and the ways in which Andy disciplined Henri and others who interacted with him.
- Discipleship – how many times do we dismiss people?

Discussion and reflection on the book, Adam God's Beloved, was completed at approximately 7: 27 PM.

- At 7:30 PM, Bridget Koester and Jeff Pitzer left.
- John Petrillo opened the Council Meeting in prayer at 7:32 PM.

Approvals: After making a few revisions to the September Meeting Reports, the submitted reports for the following were approved under a consent agenda format. Brad Morris moved to approve the submitted reports and Brent Carlock seconded. After minimal discussion, all the following were unanimously approved.

- September Meeting Minutes
- September Dashboard

- September Financial Report
- September Facility Report
- September Ministry Team Reports including Youth Discipleship, Worship & Mission Teams
- September Pastoral Update
- September Council President Update
- **Items Discussed:**
 - ✓ Short conversation regarding financials which included income and expenses as well as ministry needs.
 - ✓ Life Groups connection was a strong positive during Pastor Brian's sabbatical. It was noted and discussed that the connections in all the Life Groups kept Faith Lutheran Church moving in a positive forward direction during that time.
 - ✓ Brad Morris shared an update on Union Park. A financial outlook was shared.
 - ✓ Vision – How can we make a big impact in our community?
 - ✓ Mission and Vision – discipleship opportunities. How do we grow disciples? We must be mindful.
 - ✓ Pending: Look at the budget process to begin work on the budget for 2024.

Further Discussion:

The next Council meeting will be on November 6, 2023, at Midwest Food Bank.

- Bible Study Devotions will begin at 6:30 PM with the Council meeting immediately following.
- October reports will be due by Sunday, November 5, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at approximately 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Ludwig, Church Council Secretary