

September 2023 Church Council Minutes

On Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 7:50 PM, a meeting of the Church Council was held to review several topics regarding the ongoing efforts at Faith Lutheran Church of McLean. This meeting was held at Union Park and followed a Devotion, which began at 6:30 PM. This is a Summary of the Devotion and Council meeting.

Council members in attendance:

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

Also in attendance:

- Bridget Koester

Council member not in attendance:

- Denise Ludwig

The Unveiling:

Prior to the opening prayer, Brad revealed his outstanding woodworking talents by unveiling the new Faith Lutheran mailbox – complete with a digital lock to hold all incoming mail for Faith Lutheran.

Thank you, Brad, for our beautiful new mailbox!

After the mailbox unveiling, Brian opened our Devotion with a prayer.

- ✓ The Devotion was titled: **Nehemiah and Rest – Sabbath Rest**
- ✓ Brian provided each of us with a sheet listing scripture describing Daily Rest, Weekly Rest, and Annual Rest. This tied into his recent Sabbatical rest.
- ✓ We read scripture and each discussed ways in which we rest: daily, weekly, or annually.

Discussion ended at 7:50 PM, Bridget left.

John opened our Council meeting in prayer.

Brian began discussion of the financial report.

- We have funds available in the budget for Benevolence; do we want to give to church plants?
- He will reach out to our Church Plants to see if they need additional funds and report back to Council on the response.
- Beth will need an itemized list of the Benevolence funds.
- ✓ John continued with the financial discussion asking if Aundrea has access to Breeze to access the online Giving option.
 - John will reach out to Aundrea on this topic.

John moved to approve the consent agenda:

- Beth motioned to approve.
- Brad seconded the motion.

John brought up the LCMC Annual Gathering, October 1st-4th:

- ✓ Right now, Brian is the only one going.
- ✓ Does anyone else want to go?

Discussion moved to the 2024 Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 28, 2024:

- ✓ Purpose is to present the Budget to the congregation to approve.
- ✓ Will need to have the budget ready by the January Council meeting.
- ✓ Beth will get with John Gordon to learn how to create the 2024 Budget.
- ✓ Brad recommended we stream the Annual meeting.
- ✓ We want to be more intentional as a Council to determine where our mission's money will go.

Discussion moved to the Missions team:

- ✓ Brad volunteered to join the Mission team meetings as a liaison Council member.
- ✓ The Mission team need to develop a new “drive” to initiate new Missions > Be empowered to initiate and drive out new missions as opposed to the Council and Mission team implementing.
- ✓ Discussed possibly messaging the congregation for ideas; however, we want to be strategic with messaging before we do that.

Other Items:

Brian wanted to give a special **thank you** to the following individuals for all work they did to help make the Sabbatical Rest a reality:

- ✓ **Chris and Sara**
- ✓ The Sabbatical Team:
 - **Denise Ludwig**
 - **Dan and Julie Lammers**
 - **Colleen Hepner**
- ✓ Brad stated in the October Council meeting, he will present what he has found out from the current UP owners. He will have answers and numbers to many of the questions that have been asked by Council members.

Further Discussion:

The October Council Meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of October - October 17, 2023.

- ✓ Devotion will begin at 6:30 with Council meeting immediately following.
- ✓ September reports will be due by October 15, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at approximately, 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by - Staci Dowell, Church Council Member