

## January 2024 Church Council Minutes

On Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 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 via ZOOM, due to inclement weather. The following is a summary of the main topics discussed at the Council meeting. The Council members present included:

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

Also in attendance:

- Bridget Koester
- Jeff Pitzer

Absent from the meeting:

- John Petrillo

At approximately 6:30 PM, Brian Goke led our group in prayer before our time to reflect and share. Brian posed several questions for each of the members present to reflect on and share with the group. The questions were as follows: 1. How was your day? 2. How was your week? 3. How have things been since we last met? 4. Tell us about your God Sightings.

Each member present shared. Jeff Pitzer left the meeting at approximately 7:15 PM. At approximately 7:22 PM, our reflection and sharing time ended and we closed this time in prayer. Bridget Koester left the group at 7:24 PM.

At 7:24 PM, Brad Morris opened the Church Council Meeting with prayer.

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

- December Meeting Minutes
- December Dashboard
- December Financial Report
- December Facility Report
- December Ministry Team Reports including Youth Discipleship, Worship & Mission Teams (A December Youth Discipleship update was not available.)
- December Pastoral Update
- December Council President Update

- **Items Discussed:**

- ✓ Let it be documented that per email conversation in December 2023, a unanimous agreement was made by all Church Council Members that a five percent pay increase for all Faith Lutheran staff would be put in place effective January 2024.
- ✓ The 2024 Proposed Budget was reviewed, discussed, and finalized. A vote of all Church Council Members was taken, and all Members unanimously approved the budget that was proposed by the Church Council Treasurer, Beth Feit.
- ✓ Brief conversation about the addition of a new member to serve on Church Council.  
Pending
- ✓ Expectations: It was discussed and decided that job descriptions for senior pastor, council members, Bridget, and Aundrea Kinas be created and reviewed. It was asked that each Church Council Member attend the February Council Meeting prepared to come up with ideas and thoughts for responsibilities regarding the job descriptions for each of the above-mentioned areas. What are the overall responsibilities for all of us to serve on the Council – a list of expectations.
- ✓ Vice-President Brad Morris will preside over the upcoming Church Council Meetings.
- ✓ Facility Task Force Update was given by Brad Morris – a meeting with the Union Park Board and the Task Force is scheduled for January 11, 2024.
- ✓ Financial: credit card and checkbook co-signers has been taken care of.
- ✓ January 28, 2024, will be the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Faith Lutheran Church Annual Meeting. There will be a potluck brunch after worship with the meeting to follow. Barb Anderson is organizing, and Staci Dowell will provide the cake.
- ✓ Physical Church Directory: Brad will check into this possibility and provide feedback.  
Pending
- ✓ Church Plants – Shepherd Reform Baptist Church is a church plant. This church is an offspring from our church plant, Covenant Reformed Baptist Church, Decatur, Illinois.
- ✓ National Disciple Making Forum May 1 – May 2: This forum will be held in Indiana. Let Brian know if you will be able to attend.
- ✓ January 28 – Feb. 4: Brian will be gone during this week. Jim Pitzer will deliver the message on Sunday, Feb. 4 and Brad Morris will preside over the communion.
- ✓ Ushers: Ushers need to be reminded to let Bridget know the number of people in attendance for worship on any given Sunday.

**Further Discussion:**

The next Council meeting will be on February 13, 2024, at Union Park.

- Bible Study Devotions will begin at 6:30 PM with the Council meeting immediately following.
- January reports will be due by February 11, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at approximately 8:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Ludwig, Church Council Secretary