

## August 2024 Church Council Minutes

On Tuesday, August 13, 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 at Union Park and followed a Bible Study which began at 6:30 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
- Bridget Koester
- Greg Koester
- Denise Ludwig
- Brad Morris
- Brian Otto
- Jeff Pitzer

At approximately 6:43 PM, Brian Goke led our group in prayer before our time to reflect and share. Brian posed conversation starters for each of the members present to reflect on and share with the group. The conversation starters were as follows: How was your day? How was your week? How has your life been since we last met in July and tell us about your God Sightings.

Members that were present shared. At 7:39 PM, our reflection and sharing time ended. Pastor Brian Goke led us in a closing prayer.

At 7:40 PM, Jeff Pitzer left the meeting.

Bridget and Greg Koester remained for the beginning portion of the Church Council Meeting to provide a Mission's Report.

At 7:46 PM, Brad Morris led an opening prayer for our Church Council meeting.

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

- July Meeting Minutes
- July Dashboard
- July Financial Report
- July Facility Report

- July Ministry Team Reports include the Worship Team Report, Youth Discipleship Report and Mission Team Report.
- July Pastoral Update
- July Interim Council President Update

**Items Discussed:**

- ✓ Missions of Faith – Greg Koester shared information about his recent trip to Kodiak, Alaska. Greg shared information regarding the culture and needs of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Kodiak, Alaska.
- ✓ Ecuador Church Plant – Greg Koester and Brian Goke had a zoom call with a couple and Dr. Manuel regarding mission work and a new Ecuador Church Plant to reach people in outer areas. The question was posed, “Is this something we would want to support?” Someone from Faith Lutheran would need to run point on communication with this couple. No commitment was made during the zoom call. Pastor Brian has asked us to pray about this and come back to the September Church Council Meeting for further discussion. How should Faith proceed with the next steps? This item of discussion is pending.
- ✓ Global Methodist Church in Bloomington Normal – Faith Lutheran Church has made a \$1,000 donation. Representatives from the Global Methodist Church in Bloomington Normal will attend worship on Sept. 1, 2024, and share about their church and its mission and vision.
- ✓ Pat Turner – “Spiritual Covering” was Pat Turner’s request. Faith Lutheran continues to pray for Pat. Pat has shared that she is fully aligned with Faith Lutheran’s mission and vision. It was requested that Bridget add Pat Turner, Lindsay Douglass, and Hope for Diber to the Ministry Partners on Breeze.
- ✓ Carriage Crossing – Inviting others to participate at Carriage Crossing. Pastor Brian has invited people to participate and is waiting for response. Bridget will put an open invitation in the Thursday Tidings.
- ✓ Kingdom Gym – Brad shared information about this facility and its mission. Brad had a conversation with the owner to learn more about this. Also, is there possible potential for the Global Methodist Church to become involved with Kingdom Gym? It appears that this outreach might possibly fit the culture that the Global Methodist Church is wanting to reach.
- ✓ Faith Lutheran Church LCMC in Moline – Greg shared with the Members of Church Council that the church in Moline is looking for an opportunity to work with our ministry partners in the summer of 2025. They have proposed coming to Bloomington Normal for a week and supporting and helping with a different one of our ministry teams each day. They proposed supporting and helping SOAR, Carriage Crossing, etc. This item of discussion is pending.

- ✓ **8:31 PM Brenda and Greg Koester left the Church Council Meeting.**
- ✓ Ice Cream Social – Staci and Brad are taking on the organization and preparation for this social gathering that will occur Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> after worship. Ice cream will be served inside. There was some discussion on how this could potentially be a springboard for the Christmas Pageant. How can we begin to plant seeds for this upcoming event in December?
- ✓ Backpacks Blessing – Sunday, August 18
- ✓ Baptism for Matilda Walker – Sunday, August 25
- ✓ General Reports – Brad requested someone to take on the responsibility of providing the dashboard report to google drive for Church Council. Brian Otto will talk to Brad about taking on this responsibility.
- ✓ Kid’s Church – Staci reported on the curriculum that she has ordered. Potentially, the first “official” Kid’s Church will be held on September 8, 2024. The “official” start date depends on the timeframe of receiving the curriculum, organizing the lessons, and planning. Staci is hoping for September 8<sup>th</sup>, but it could be September 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, the set-up for Kid’s Church needs to be added to the weekly Sunday morning set-up.
- ✓ Indoor Worship – indoor worship resumes on September 8, 2024.
- ✓ Printer purchase – it was decided that a printer would be purchased for Kid’s Church.
- ✓ New Lease Agreement – Brad updated the Church Council on the newly signed lease agreement. There were two documented changes: 1) We have a 90 day out agreement and 2) Bookings on use of the facility on Sundays – Faith has the facility from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM. If Faith needs the facility after 1:00 PM, we must check and get it on the calendar.
- ✓ Beth Feit requested that the Church Council Members bring preliminary thoughts for the 2025 budget to the September Church Council Meeting.

**Further Discussion:**

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at Union Park.

- Bible Study Devotions will begin at 6:30 PM with the Council meeting immediately following.
- August reports will be due by Sunday, September 8, 2024.
- It was noted that Denise Ludwig, Church Council Secretary, will be absent on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Staci Dowell volunteered to take the Church Council Minutes in Denise’s absence.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at approximately 8:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Ludwig, Church Council Secretary