

November 2024 Church Council Minutes

On Tuesday, November 19, 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 (arrived at 7:26 pm)
- Brian Goke
- Bridget Koester
- Denise Ludwig
- Brad Morris
- Brian Otto
- Jeff Pitzer

Helen Haggarty – Attended as a guest. Helen will be joining Church Council in 2025

At approximately 6:34 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 October and tell us about your God Sightings.

Members that were present shared. At 7:22 PM, our reflection and sharing time ended.

At 7:24 PM, Bridget Koester and Jeff Pitzer left the meeting.

At 7:32 PM, Brad Morris led an opening prayer for our Church Council meeting.

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

- October Meeting Minutes
- October Dashboard
- October Financial Report
- October Facility Report
- October Ministry Team Reports include the Worship Team Report, Youth Discipleship Report and Mission Team Report.
- October Pastoral Update
- October Interim Council President Update

Items Discussed:

- ✓ Building Fund Fundraiser: Randy and Robin Pearson addressed the Church Council. Robin presented an idea regarding a Show Me the Dough Fundraiser. Robin volunteered to organize this fundraiser. Orders would be taken through Dec. 8, 2024, with a pickup delivery at Union Park on Dec. 17, 2024. The profits from the fundraiser would be received from Robin in the form of a check written to Faith Lutheran Church of McLean County. The Church Council appreciated Robin and Randy's suggestion and agreed to proceed with the fundraiser. A message in the Thursday Tidings and an announcement at worship to inform Partners about the fundraiser will take place.
- ✓ Post Discipleship Workshop: A discussion was held to seek all positive and or negative feedback regarding the Discipleship Workshop that was held on October 20, 2024. It was shared that all positive comments had been received. It was noted that the workshop presents opportunities for more people to attend upcoming conferences.
- ✓ Christmas Nativity Pageant: December 13, 2024, 5:30 – 7:30 will be the evening for children to attend a fun engaging night of pageant preparation, games, crafts, and food. The Children's Pageant will be held on December 15, 2024, with a worship time of 10:00 AM. It was noted that there was still a need for someone to alter costumes. Brad Morris was going to talk to his mother-in-law about helping with the costume alterations.
- ✓ Facility Taskforce Update: Brad Morris shared that the taskforce has continued to look at various properties. Brad shared that there is a possible potential property that the taskforce is investigating more deeply. Next possible steps were discussed. Beth Feit suggested researching and/or seeking a church financial organization to discuss our current finances and the placement our finances would put us in to make a possible purchase.
- ✓ Onboarding of Partners of Faith: There was continued discussion regarding onboarding of new members and new attendees of Faith Lutheran Church. Brian Goke is happy to continue to gather with new people. Brian Goke proposed that Church Council Members gather with new people over coffee, lunch, dinner, etc. Possible conversation starters would include questions about the new people's journey to Faith Lutheran.
- ✓ 2025 Proposed Budget: Beth Feith provided an updated rough draft of the proposed 2025 budget. It was decided that the 2025 budget would be presented to the members of Church Council on or before December 17, 2024. It was decided that the 2025 budget would be available to Partners of Faith by January 12, 2025. January 26, 2025, will be the annual meeting for Faith Lutheran Church of McLean County.

- ✓ Thank You: Each Church Council Member was responsible for sending out thank you notes to the Partners who pledged so generously.
- ✓ Kingdom Gym Boxing: Conversation about a representative from the Mission Team talking to Sid, developer and organizer of Kingdom Gym Boxing. Sid has expressed an interest in bringing some of his boxing students to worship and having them share their faith journey. This is an item that is pending and will be planned for some time in the first of the year. Brad Morris made a motion to donate \$2,000 to Kingdom Gym Boxing. Brian Goke seconded the motion and there was a unanimous vote to approve.
- ✓ Life Groups: Continued discussion regarding the size of the Life Groups. Life Groups have large numbers, and everyone is brainstorming ways to split groups and include new people.
- ✓ Transition of old and new Church Council Members: It was agreed that Denise will remain in Church Council through the January 2025 Annual Meeting. The January 2025 Church Council Meeting will be her last meeting to attend. Helen Haggarty will officially join as a Church Council Member in January 2025.

Further Discussion:

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at Bandanas Restaurant.

- The fellowship and dinner will begin at 6:00 PM with a brief Council meeting immediately following.
- November reports will be due by Sunday, December 15, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at approximately 9:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Ludwig, Church Council Secretary