

# Faith Lutheran Church Congregational Council Meeting

## January 10, 2025

### Attendance (“P” = present)

Kay Brossard – P Leslie Edgerton – P Jamie Estill – A Greg John – P	Linda Mihalov – A Ralph Minor – A Jim Musar – A Jill Richmond – P Mark Strom – P	<i>Ex officio:</i>  Shannyn Fuerst – P Wally Powelson – P  Lisa Chile – <i>excused</i>
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Topic	Discussion and Action Items
Call to Order	Mark Strom @ 7:03
Devotional	Mark led our conversation.
Approval of Minutes	The December meeting minutes were approved.
Finance Committee and Financial Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We had an incredible strong December with \$109k in donations, which ended the year in the black. This reiterates the decision to shift the fiscal year.</li> <li>• Will start with \$9400 in the maintenance reserve.</li> <li>• Parsonage loan interest debt repayment will be another expense. Finance recommends beginning to pay off loans and council approves.</li> <li>• Annual giving statements will go out at the end of January</li> </ul>
Update from Pastor Shannyn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pastor met with David to review the Christmas services and discuss changes for 2025. Goal will be to shorten the service to one hour with focus on carols and all ages interactive approach. Half of the people who attend Christmas Eve are not regulars.</li> <li>• For Lent we are going with the theme “Wandering Heart.” We will have Wednesday night conversation, soup and Holden.</li> <li>• Personnel reviews are in progress.</li> </ul>
Outreach support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ailanga school was not one of the 5 organizations chosen for mission support. Council will follow up with James Tupper to review any prior commitments. Faith does not have a current board representative.</li> <li>• Council discussed the need for a process and communication with organizations that are not selected for ongoing support and how we still want to be connected. Council will have a more robust discussion at an upcoming meeting recognizing the church has different seasons.</li> </ul>
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Nextdoor there was a report of gunshots fired in the neighborhood. Council discussed looking into basic security cameras and/or system for the church and parsonage. In addition, there could be an opportunity to review Church safety protocols and consider an outside speaker.</li> </ul>

Celebrating successes in 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The council recognized the collective work and accomplishments in the previous years: Bridge of Promise, sabbatical, new fiscal year, approved and updated budget, continued support of Oaks, parsonage renovation, constitution updates, new organ, harpsichord acquisition, mission trip, increased attendance, new people at church, being able to have crucial conversations, updated job descriptions, personnel committee work and reviews, strong volunteer support, giving visibility to invisible work happening to the church, strong and varied lay leadership, do the basics well, congregation shows up for one another, support during scary periods, prayer and sitting with one another, and community engagement.</li> </ul>
Prayer/Adjourn	Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:19 with prayer led by Pastor Shannyn.

Submitted by Jill Richmond, 2024-25 secretary

Next meeting dates:

- February 11, 2025
- March 11, 2025
- April 8, 2025