



# First Evangelical Lutheran Church Galveston

## November Church Council Meeting Agenda

### **We Gather as God's People**

1. Lighting of the Candle 5:05
2. Sharing of Highs and Lows
3. Devotional: Pastor Rhoades

### **We Gather Needful Information**

1. Roll call for attendance
  - Rick attending via telephone and Norbert was absent.
2. Approval of Minutes from October 2018
  - Kay makes the motion to accept the October minutes. Fred seconds the motion. The motion passes.
3. Pastor's Report
  - In sense of ministry section of report, we need to go beyond status quo. He would like to set a time for us to have a retreat to decide mission and focus of the congregation.
  - He is going to start experimenting with different worship styles to allow for silence and reflection.
  - He is also considering programs like Bible and Brews that could happen. He wants a team of people to lead these programs though, not just him.
  - We have received \$100,000 donation for the staff member.
  - If community team doesn't come together, we should scratch it. The purpose of the team is to connect members of our congregation to the community. Terri asks if we have considered a new team leader.
    - Pastor says a new team leader could happen. Terri suggests asking Brandi Painter.
  - Evangelism Team has organic approach to bringing people into the church.
  - Pastor closes by asking what he is not doing so that we could be successful and wants us to consider this.
4. President's Report
  - He is still doing paper work with FEMA. Also, he asked that we hold up our FEMA representative's family in prayer. His mother has not been well.
  - The Endowment Board and Capital Appeal Team came together to get the bills paid. Both are being very supportive.

## 5. Financial Officer's Report

- Anthony needs a balance of available funds in FIRST account for Sunday report to the congregation.
- October income was down, but November might be making up for it. We are at 55% of our desired income for the month and only halfway into it.
  - Pastor adds that families with kids are busy, many are traveling, and some stopped coming while we were in the parish hall.
- After our last meeting, Rick requested money from the Lyceum and no one responded. He would like to set the expectation that costs for the Lyceum need to be paid.
- We have not received an update from Oktoberfest, but that appears to be normal until December,
  - Pastor adds that Del Papa will make a \$7,000 donation to us for Oktoberfest.

## 6. Action Items from Directors

- Fred Huddleston
  - Community Connections
    1. Their next meeting is in January.
  - Missions
    1. Blanket and coats drive went well.
    2. Canned good drive is going on.
    3. They are developing their 12 month calendar for 2019.
- Kay Fritz Stafford
  - Worship
    1. They are planning for Advent.
  - Faith Formations
    1. Attendance numbers are all over the place.
  - Archives
    1. Jesus statue is being restored to original colors and structure.
    2. The question of where will we permanently put him is asked.
      - a. Fred doesn't know, but will talk to Pastor about it at a later date.
    3. They have translated letters from early pastors and are getting close to finding out what happened to the first pastor.
- Norbert Kurtz - absent
  - Property
    1. Pastor shares that during heavy wind last week the sign fell out. Rust from Ike played a part in it falling. The Property Board thinks they can fix it quickly.

- Stewardship
- Parish Life

## 7. Old Business

- Appointment of LEAD Team.
  - Pastor states we need a team to work on this. He shared a list of people he would like to approach about being on the team. They would directly report to the council, no director needed.
    1. This would be about n 18 month process. They would ask the hard questions and act upon the conversation. Pastor will ask the people he listed.
    2. One question we need to address is how do we fund participate in LEAD at the confrence level. Anthony suggests budgeting this into next fiscal year. We would start payments in January.
    3. Terri makes a motion to approach discussed congregation members to join the LEAD team. Albert seconds the motion. The motion passes.
- Update on Minister of Missional Community
  - Pastor says we've got the first installment of funding needed for the position. The bishop looked at the job description and has someone in mind. There are also a couple of congregation members interested. We need to post the position.

## 8. New Business

- Julie is going to retire in June.
  - She recommends getting a book keeper and a secretary. We will need to start to consider the job description. Anthony asks for a timeline.
    1. Pastor suggests making the job description deadline in February. Anthony asks about going through an agency. Terri asks about hiring a congregation member.
    2. Pastor explains issues he's had in past congregations with congregation members doing clerical church work.

## **We Gather Discerning God's Direction at First Lutheran**

1. Where do we perceive God is nudging us (going well)?

- a. Paying bills, moving forward on LEAD Team, the building is going well - roof will be the next on the list to be fixed. FEMA will replace sheetrock that has been removed.
- b. What might we need to reconsider (not going well)?
  - i. How we will be paying our bills in the future.
- c. What is something new we perceive God is prompting us to consider

### **We Prepare to Depart**

1. What do we need to communicate to the Congregation?
  - a. Church Council voted to form a LEAD team to further grow the mission of our congregation.
  - b. Updates on building status.
  - c. Endowment Board and Capital Appeal Team have worked together to pay all bills.
2. Call for volunteers to relay notes to the Congregation
  - a. Anthony will speak both days.
3. Reminders of items to be followed up on
  - a. FEMA progress.
4. Closing prayer for the Congregation
5. Lord's Prayer

**Next Church Council Meeting is December 10th at 5:00.**

**Anthony will have the devotional.**