

April 2017 Council Report

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, April 18th. Ben gave a brief review of former interim pastor Paul Murphy's recently published book Leading Well. It is a practical guide for church leaders, with a number of helpful tools in the appendices. Brad volunteered to review the book to see if it can be used as a training instrument for the Council. Ben also recommended a book/video series called Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage by Mark Gungor, senior pastor at Celebration Church in Green Bay, WI.

Brad then led us in a review of the spiritual discernment training Council Members attended on March 25th. He began by reviewing the Council Win Statement that was adopted at our Jan. meeting. The Win Statement says, "The (Council) win is to empower the staff and congregation to make disciples by seeking God's will in spiritual direction and church management." We identified a number of highs (excitements) and lows (fears) associated with the church refreshment project under consideration; then identified what God's calling might be for each of the items. While we didn't complete the exercise entirely, it was evident trusting Him for guidance and provision seemed to be a common denominator.

Following approval of the Consent Agenda, we turned to the March Financial Report. We continue to meet all expenses with a cash surplus. The Council with Karl and Amy Peterson's blessing voted to reduce the budget item for the Homework Helper project to \$1000.

Kavan reported that the Nomination Committee membership is essentially complete. Joining Kavan will be Roger Baldwin, Jim Sorensen, Gail Vedder, Butch Woelfel, and possibly Heather Novak. We discussed a number of members considered to be potential candidates for the Council, and developed a communication plan to reach out to those folks specifically.

The contract with Hal Johnson & Associates, our fund raising consultant, was approved confirming an e-mail vote held earlier.

Athele reported that Rachel Lee has volunteered to coordinate the Garage Sale this summer.

Pat noted that he and John Bennett are studying preliminary information from Station 19 to try to identify ways to economize on some of the contemplated work items.

Brad reported that Ryan Nyquist's position has been upgraded from 32 to 40 hours per week due to the addition of some new responsibilities.

Brad then discussed a new team called the Feasibility Study Planning Team whose purpose will be to gather the relevant information and data from previous research, along with new information, to create a comprehensive presentation for congregation members to consider and then share their reactions. The presentation will create a vision and action plan to provide improved/expanded facilities that will support the mission of Faith Covenant Church. A meeting schedule has been developed for the team that will culminate in 3 meetings in May to roll out and solicit feedback on the plan. Members will be invited to attend at least one of these meetings.

Our meeting concluded with a discussion of a request from Nick Madsen for a cash advance to the team that will be going to Romania this summer for the purpose of pre-purchasing airline tickets. Council indicated its support for the request contingent upon answers to a number of

questions about how and when funds will be raised to repay the advance. Brad will forward specific questions to Nick for him to respond to.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm with Pastor Brad offering the closing prayer.