

Faith Lutheran Church Council Report

By: James Synatzske, Congregation President

October 26, 2016

Your church council met on Monday October 17th in its regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- Pastor Tom reported that he has been meeting with the call committee for Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Arlington as part of his Circuit Counselor position duties.
- Faith School reported that they have been very busy with:
 - ✓ Guest observers from Tarleton State University with university students from the Education, Human Sciences, and Psychology Departments visiting classrooms on a daily basis. The Nursing Department at TSU has expressed an interest in working with Faith School as part of the university's pediatric nursing rotations—Faith School administration and the Board will study this more before pursuing this nursing rotation option.
 - ✓ The Board has been studying their Aggressive Student policy to help keep all students and teachers safe when aggressive behavior issues arise
 - ✓ The School is working on getting Accredited and working on submitting their application to the Texas District LCMS in Austin
 - ✓ They are studying the possibility of becoming a nut-free facility but there are challenges since the Faith Family Center is utilized by so many other individuals and groups
 - ✓ **[President's note:** Faith School Board and administration are firmly committed and focused on continuing to cultivate a meaningful and fruitful relationship with our Congregation to make us all aware of our partnership in serving Him and furthering His Kingdom.]
- The Board of Evangelism reported that the **Secret Prayer Pal Ministry** between our church members and our Faith School staff is off to a good start but more church member volunteers/pals are needed to meet the great response of 40 Faith School staff members wishing to participate in the program.
- The Board of Education reported that plans are underway for the Christmas program set for December 11th.
- The Stewardship Board reported that our congregation's response to the Sowing Seeds stewardship focus was a bit weaker than anticipated. The Board will be working the next several weeks on the FLC budget for 2017 to be presented to the voters for consideration on December 11th. **[President's note: Please join me in praying for the Stewardship Board's work efforts and the challenges they face in coming up with a budget that all of us can get behind and fully support in the coming year—all to the Glory of God Our Father, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.]**
- The LWML reported that the Advent By Candlelight event is set for November 20th and the theme is: **Night of the Father's Love**
- The SAIL group continues to be active and reported that in November, Jeanette Quade will assume the leadership role for SAIL.
- Emily Lansmon reported that she attended Fields of Faith hosted by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on Tarleton's football field. FLY (Faith Lutheran

Youth) has been working hard on the carnival set for October 26th and LSF (Lutheran Student Fellowship—college age) are meeting every Thursday for lunch.

- **The FAITH SCHOOL EXPANSION EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE** reported that they have completed their mission and they brought to your council a positive but guarded recommendation. Here is a quote from the committee's final report: ***"...yes we do support the expansion of Faith School. This is not meant to imply that we have a particular timeline in mind. Certainly it will be God's timing whether it is two years or ten, but we believe expansion is something that should happen at some point."*** The committee also stated that ***"...the congregation should be committed to the idea. The committee agreed that this is even more important than the financial aspects of this project"***
 - ✓ Your council then voted unanimously to approve the following motion: ***"That the Church Council accepts the findings of the Faith School Expansion Exploratory Committee and recommends its acceptance to the voters' assembly of Faith Lutheran Church."***
- Treasurer's Financial Report: [***President's note: We spent time reviewing church attendance and per-attendee giving for the first 9 months of 2015 vs. the first 9 months of this year. It appears that the attendance—though a bit erratic—has been generally about the same for both years on average hovering in the range of 100 to 150 worshipers each Sunday for the combined two services. The average giving per attendee (including children) each Sunday is slightly better this year than it was last year.***]