

# Bethany Lutheran Church Council Meeting

**Mission: We INVITE all; We GROW in Faith; We GO to share God's love and grace**

**MINUTES from:** Monday, June 12, 2023 (prepared by Wanda Bock)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** P= Present A=Absent Z=Zoom

Jodi Babineau-P	Jack Berkseth-P	Wanda Bock-P	Pat McCann-P
Bill Evans-P	Ted Hakala-P	Bun Hanson-P	Tammy Lundquist-P
Audrey Kusilek-P	Dave Myre-P	Tammy Roberg-P	
Mike Diercks-P	Mackenzie Narins-A		

**STAFF MEMBERS:**Pastor Arthur and Deb Slagstad (ETC)

## PREPARATION:

**Devotions:** Wanda led devotions with "Just Breathe"

**Sharing Joys and Concerns.**

**Pastor Arthur offered an opening prayer.**

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda. BH/DM. Motion passes.

**Approval of Council Minutes May 8, 2023:** Motion to approve minutes. DM/MD. Discussion. Pat notes that he and Tammy Lundquist were omitted from attendance. Wanda will amend. Motion carries as amended.

**Financial Reports:** Wendy Markgren and Amanda Andrews are working to get reports done. We look to be approximately 65,000 behind budget. There are several reasons for this. Some of this is due to the high cost of snowplowing, unexpected expenses and some is due to pledges not being met. We are planning to hold a congregational meeting in July to let everyone know where we are at. Motion to accept the financials. MD/PM. Motion passes.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Recommendations from ETC:** Deb reports we have no applicants for the Director of Finance (part-time) so we are looking to contract more of the financial work to Amanda Andrews. She is putting together a proposal for that. Even if Amanda does more, we will still need someone in-house to do some administrative jobs that Dawn performed. Deb also reported that work is being done to get up to date on policies and procedures and also to update the employee handbook. Motion made to instruct Pastor Arthur and Audrey to research financial assistance/needs from Amanda Andrews and then take action to contract her services to meet those needs. BH/TL Motion passes.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Parking Lot Sealing/Painting:** Audrey reminded us that Monarch paving will be here soon to repave a strip along the grass. We also have a bid from Superior Sealers LLC to seal, coat, patch and paint lines. The bid is for \$9,465 and they will require a down payment of 25%. This company was recommended by the company that previously did our sealing. He has since retired. Motion to accept bid. DM/BH. Discussion. It is brought up that since we are behind budget maybe we should hold off on this. Dave reminds us that this is coming out of the building fund and not the general budget. It is also noted that we have discussed this for over a year and it is necessary to maintain our property. It was also suggested that keeping the congregation informed of what is happening is important. Audrey volunteered to make an announcement this Sunday so everyone is informed that this will be happening. Call to vote. Motion passes.

**Property Custodian:** A job description for a Property Custodian (handyman) is handed out. It is a part time position to provide building and grounds services. Motion to approve job description. DM/TL. Discussion. Would it be better to have a full time person? Budget may not allow for that. Look for more people to volunteer. Call to vote. Motion passes. 10 yes 2 no.

Motion to extend meeting 15 minutes. WB/TH. Motion passes.

**Women of the Bible:** Mike Diercks recently saw a performance by Anita G. where she portrayed women of the bible. He was so impressed he would like to bring her here to Bethany for two performances in October. His plan is to offer it to Bethany members and open it to the public. The Trust Fund may be willing to provide the \$2,500 fee to bring her here from Maryland. Motion to support Mike's vision of bringing Women of the Bible to Bethany. DM/JB. Motion passes. Mike will follow up with the Trust Fund for approval of funding. He will solidify dates of October 13th and 14th. Bill may have another idea to bring forth for an event under the tent. He will bring it up at a later date.

**Pastor Sue 25th Ordination Celebration:** A celebration on June 25 between services to celebrate Sue's 25th anniversary is being planned. Funding is needed for food and a gift for Sue. Motion to approve \$600 for the celebration (approximately \$200 for food and \$350 for gift). BH/TR. Motion passes.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**Audit:** Bun reached out to Two Rivers Accounting to see if they would be interested/able to do an audit for us. He did not get a reply.

**Council engagement:** Tammy Lundquist has an idea for council engagement after Audrey's request to think about it last month. She suggests adding something onto our name tags to identify us as council members. There was general agreement that this is a good idea. Audrey is working on getting something ordered.

**Informational Meeting:** We are planning informational congregation meetings at all services on a Sunday in July like the ones we had last year. Tammy R, Audrey and Bun volunteered to work with Pastor Arthur to plan the agenda.

**Pastor Arthur Goals:** Pastor went over his goals for the year with the Exec Committee and he is right on track.

**Summer Lock Up:** Just a reminder to lock all doors, turn off lights and make sure money is secure.

**Resignation:** Pastor Arthur announced that Mackenzie has resigned from council. Family/work life has prevented her from engaging as much as she would like. We will consider finding a replacement.

**Church Directory:** Bun asks if we are considering doing another church directory. With all the staffing changes we will wait for now.

**Capitol Appeal:** Dave asks where we are on the capital campaign we talked about last year. That has been put on hold because of staffing.

**REPORTS:** See staff and committee reports.

Motion to adjourn. BE/DM. Motion passes.  
Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

July Exec Meeting: July 3, 2023

July Council Meeting: July 10, 2023 5:30 p.m.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

July Devotions: Tammy Roberg

July Offering/Lock up: 8:00 Audrey Kusilek

10:00 Jack Berkseth