

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, October 9, 2023 (prepared by Wanda Bock)

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

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

STAFF MEMBERS:Pastor Arthur

PREPARATION:

Sharing Joys and Concerns.

Pastor Arthur offered an opening prayer.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve agenda. TH/JB. Motion passes.

Approval of Council Minutes : Motion to approve minutes from September. ES/DM Motion passes.

Financial Reports: We continue to be behind on budget. A committee has been formed to look at giving and reasons why we are so behind and ways to address this. Members of the committee are Ted, Bill, Audrey from council and Marla Koob, Dan Ellefson, and Dennis Zahrback as congregational members. They met last week for the first time. It has been determined that approximately \$20,000 in pledges won't be received due to illness, death and members who have left. Actual giving is about the same as last year at this time. About 40 families have stopped giving this year who were active last year. More info to come. Motion to approve financials. BH/DM Motion passes.

ACTION ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

Employee Handbook: Motion to approve the updated employee handbook. This includes an updated vacation policy. It clarifies how vacation will be paid out upon separation of employment and an increase in vacation hours for employees. TH/JB Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit: Wanda reports that Eric Pelle and Dan Ellefson have agreed to do an internal audit. Mike Bock is willing to do an audit of the Trust Fund. Eric cannot work on that since he is employed by Business and Estate Advisors who manage our Trust Fund. Motion to approve Eric, Dan and Mike to work on internal audits of Bethany. DM/TL Motion passes.

Newly confirmed members: Pastor Arthur presents a list of the students to be confirmed on October 29th. Motion to receive them into our membership. JB/BH Motion passes.

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|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Petra Christofferson | Marin Donze | Brady Doporcyk |
| Ella Hudson | Halle Husak | Ethan Kretzschmar |
| Nicholas Lehman | Jack Larson | Eva Sevals |
| Maxon Tomesh | Lauren Weimert | Avery Weinstock |

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

Hail damage: Audrey reports on hail damage. The original estimate of \$160,000 of damage is low. The adjuster missed many things. Contractors looking at the roofs project the cost of repair to be between \$250,000-300,000. Audrey will be contacting the adjuster/insurance company to come out and reevaluate. Dave suggests that maybe we could find someone else to do the work on the garage and french fry booth since they are simpler jobs. Possibly get volunteers. We have a \$5,000 deductible.

Capital Campaign: Needs to be done to fix stain glass and heating/cooling issues.

Stewardship Campaign: There have been temple talks and the letter is going out to our membership very soon. Our theme this year is Grow 10%. We also have to urge people to remember our Building Fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Worship Schedule: There has been some discussion within our congregation about moving to one service on Sunday mornings. It would probably be held at 9:00. Sunday school and Crosstalk would be at 10:15. Sue Barta is available if we would move to 9:00. The service would be a blend of contemporary and traditional. It is suggested to have another congregational meeting at the end of a service in November to start a conversation and get member feedback.

Lay Leadership Needs: We are in need of bus drivers for the Martin Looper. Kevin Drew may be interested. We would also like to see the Library committee revived. Tammy Lundquist is interested in being on it when her term on council ends. Mission Outreach has been without a chair and needs leadership and to define their purpose and goals. Lastly, we need some Saturday night technicians to help with sound/power point. It could even include high school students.

Endowment Fund: Pastor Arthur would like everyone to start thinking about this. It is a great way for people to leave a lasting legacy. It would be a great way to supplement our budget. The principal would never be touched. Timing needs to be right. Ted would like it to be called Legacy Fund.

REPORTS: See other staff and committee reports included with your council packet.

Other comments/suggestions: Audrey asks if the council would be willing to help serve a meal for a family event being planned on November 29th. She is thinking of soup, bread, and mac and cheese. There was consensus to do this.

Pastor Arthur asks for prayers for Jennifer as she is traveling a lot in the coming weeks.

Dave brings up that the bids are in for the AC condenser unit that is needed for Main Office, Conference Room and Back Offices. See the Property Committee Report for details. There are two options. One is to replace it where it is on the roof. The other is to replace it on the ground. Roof bid is around \$33,500. Ground bid is about \$75,000. The Property Committee is recommending roof location. Work would probably be done next spring. Motion to approve bid. BH/TL Motion passed. This will be funded by the Building fund but would pretty much empty that account. We need to urge giving to this account. Ted suggests maybe we need to consider a loan. That would need congregational approval. Dave also reminds us the stained glass windows need to be fixed. We cannot keep putting this off.

Meeting Adjourned.

NEXT MEETINGS: Executive committee meeting- Monday, November 6, 2023

November Council Meeting- Monday, November 13, 2023 5:30 p.m.

Assignments: November devotions- Ed Skaw November Offering/Lock Up: 8 am.- Bun Hanson

10:00 -Need Volunteers

