

**Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Winchester, Virginia
Annual Report Congregational Meeting
February 7, 2016**

1. The meeting was called to order by Congregation Council President Tom Milburn at approximately 9:50am after a proper quorum was acknowledged.
2. Pastor David Young led the meeting in prayer.
3. Milburn introduced Congregation Council members and officers. Milburn thanked outgoing President Tom Beyer for his faithful service during 2015.
4. Pastor Young introduced Church Staff members and thanked them for their leadership in ministry.
5. Milburn led a discussion of the property known as Bethel's parsonage. Upon proper motion and second, the Congregation voted to authorize Bethel's Trustees to initiate the sale of the parsonage with proceeds to be distributed to the Lutheran Children Home of the South (successor organization to the Lutheran Orphan Home at Salem, Virginia) and The Heritage at Loman (successor organization to the Lutheran Home for the Aged at White Rock, South Carolina) as directed by the deed between Martin S. Glaize and the Trustees of Bethel Lutheran Church dated November 19, 1946.
6. Pastor Young reflected on the 2015 Annual Ministry Reports distributed prior to the meeting.
7. Rex Ritchie provided a Jubilee Campaign update and thanked the Congregation for the continued support.
8. Milburn provided a financial update. The update included a summary of 2015 giving and spending, the mortgage balance and significant principal payments during 2015, Bethel's current operating cash position, a discussion of Bethel's giving trends in terms of operating and non-operating giving, and a reminder of the 2016 Ministry Spending Plan giving estimates. Several comments and questions came from the Congregation.
9. Pastor Young provided a brief look ahead to important things planned for 2016 including the Year of Giving, LIFT small groups, Faith5, Feed the Need, beginning discussions for Bethel's next long-range vision, and initial planning for the Congregation's 200th anniversary.
10. Pastor Young closed the meeting with prayer.
11. Milburn adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:50am.