

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES
BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
November 15, 2017

The November 2017 meeting of the Congregational Council of Bethel Lutheran Church was held on Wednesday 15, 2017, in the Council Room, Bethel Lutheran Church, VA.

The following Bethel Council members were in attendance:

Pastor David Young, Worship Board Chair
Tom Milburn, President
Bob Hollingsworth, Vice President
Traci Shoberg, Treasurer
Rose Mangold Pierce, Secretary
Julie Shanabrook, Servant Board Chair
Trevor Brazelton,
Dave Griffin, Congregational Life Board Chair

Devotion

Rose Mangold Pierce lead devotions by reading from Jesus Calling, which asked us to approach problems with a light touch and trust God to lead.

Call to Order

Bob Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at approximately 7:33 p.m.

New Business

1. Approval of October 2017 minutes

As there were no questions regarding October 2017 minutes, Tom Milburn called for a motion to approved October minutes with Dave Griffin motioning first and Trevor Brazelton seconding and all were in favor. The October 2017 Council Minutes are approved.

Reports

1. Pastor's Report

Pastor David Young stated that during this past month, he has visited the elderly sick and shut-ins. He also informed council that he spoke at two Shenandoah classes about the Lutheran Reformation. He will also be Chaplin for Lost and Found this weekend and that Pastor Heidi will be preaching this Sunday. He stated that the Men had a great retreat this past weekend.

He stated that Bethel's staff had a great meeting planning for the upcoming year this past week.

Pastor Dave also informed council that Rachel Tripp is moving to Jordan to start a ministry program there and will speak at Bethel Sunday, November 26. Discussion ensued regarding providing Ms. Tripp with a gift from Bethel in the amount of \$1,500.

Tom Milburn called for a motion to approve a gift of \$1,500.00 to be given to Rachel Tripp with Pastor Young motioning first and Dave Griffin seconding the motion and all were in favor. The gift of \$1,500.00 is approved. Bryan Jaster will work with Kim Williams to ensure this gift is provided.

2. Treasurer's Report

Traci Shoberg stated that while we are ahead for the month of October, we are still behind year to date. It is through staff oversight of spending that we have been able to keep our spending down.

Traci Shoberg informed council that Bethel has been the recipient of a beautiful gift of \$88,000 from Louise Hosteller, who was a wonderful friend of Pastor Christenson, and which both Pastor Dave Young and Pastor Heidi Young visited.

Pastor Young informed council that because of the amount of this gift, it must be brought before the congregation as to how this gift will be spent. This gift will be placed in our Emergency Fund as a temporary measure. Council will discuss needs of Bethel and ideas/suggestions on the funds uses and these will be placed before the congregation at the February Congregational Meeting.

As there were no other questions, Tom Milburn asked for a motion to approve the October Treasurer's Report with Traci Shoberg motioning first and Bob Hollingsworth seconding and all were in favor. The motion to approve the October Treasurer Report is approved.

a. Benevolence

Tom opened discussion on whether we want to keep our Benevolence at 12,000 as was suggested at the Congregational meeting in lieu of the wonderful gift received. This will be one of the suggestions placed before the congregation.

b. Implementation of the 2018 MSP

Tom Milburn stated that with Congregation's approval, the 2018 MSP will be implemented.

c. Benevolence and Implementation of 2018 MSP

3. Stewardship Sunday/Congregational Meeting

Tom Milburn and Pastor Young as well as other council members stated that they thought the Congregational meeting went very well. Council also decided that having dates for members to meet with council between services was a good idea and should continue. Dates for this will be discussed.

4. Youth & Family Ministry Report

Bryan Jaster stated that the Trunk or Treat was very well done and well received.

He further added that Caroline Furnace has a new Director, Tom Powell, and that he, Bryan Jaster, was also added to their Board of Directors.

Bryan Jaster asked that Council support their efforts for fund raising here at Bethel and after discussion, Dave Griffin motioned first and Tom Milburn motioned second with all in approval. Fundraising efforts for Caroline Furnace are approved.

Bryan also added that the youth here at Bethel have started planning for 2018 to include a Valentine Day's dance and a Mother's Day Cake auction.

5. Board Reports

A motion was made to approve the monthly board reports with Dave Griffin motioning first and Traci Shoberg motioning second with all in approval. Monthly board reports are approved.

Congregation Feedback

All agreed that there were no Congregation Feedback issues to be discussed.

Old business

1. Abuse Prevention Guidelines

There was no specific update provided.

2. Heating System Update

There was no report this month.

3. Music Ministry Status

There was no report this month.

4. Sabbatical Policy Update

The Sabbatical Policy was approved by the congregation. This item will be removed from the discussion list.

5. Bethel Reforming Discussion on Fall Visioning Process

Tom Milburn opened discussion on Bethel Reforming stating that this needs to start as soon as possible with suggested dates of starting February 18 and running through March 24. This would give members five weeks to attend meetings, in groups of maybe 20 per meeting.

Bryan Jaster stated that he felt it important that the youth be included in these discussions as they are the future of Bethel. And maybe there should be a separate youth meeting as well as them attending other meetings as well. It was decided that a task force needed to be formed for this and Pastor Dave, Trevor Brazelton and Dave Griffin volunteered to work together to get things started. Further discussion on this will take place at the December Council meeting.

6. Sound System Update

There was no report this month.

7. **Forwarding Faith Update**

There was no report this month.

8. **Playground Update**

There was no report this month.

New Business

1. **Removal of Old Bethel Members from the Membership Roster**

Pastor Young opened discussion on Bethel's Membership roster stating that periodically it is reviewed and those members who have not attended, nor contributed, are removed and the roster updated. He asked Council to review the list of members who have not attended and approve those for removal. Council review the list, provided those names they believed council be removed and those who should stay on Bethel's roster. After review, Pastor Young asked for a motion to approve the list, with Dave Griffin motioning first and Traci Shoberg motioning second, with all in favor. The list of those old members for removal is approved.

2. **Youth Ministry Intern Policy Discussion**

There was no update on this.

Other

Closing Prayer

Tom Milburn asked if there were any other items for discussion and as there were none, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Pastor Dave lead Council in closing prayer. Our next Council meeting will be November 15, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Please note that this is a week later than our normal meeting date.