

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
November 12, 2017**

The November Stewardship Sunday Congregation meeting of the Congregation of Bethel Lutheran Church was held on Sunday November 12, 2017 in the Christian Learning Center at the church.

The following Bethel Council members were in attendance along with the congregation:

Pastor David Young, Pastor, Worship Board
Tom Milburn, President
Traci Shoberg, Treasurer
Rose Mangold Pierce, Secretary
Pat Blevins, Prayer and Care Board Chair
Tom Beyer, Congregational Life Board Chair (Outgoing Chair)
Bryan Jaster, Youth and Family Leader
Julie Shanabrook, Servant Board Chair
Dave Griffin, New Board Chair (2017)
Trevor Brazelton

Devotion

Pastor David Young opened the meeting with prayer.

Call to Order

Tom Milburn called the meeting to order at 11:41 a.m.

Tom opening the meeting stating the purpose of the meeting:

- 1) Elect 3 new council members
 - 2) Approve the 2018 Ministry Spending Plan (MSP) 3) Approve the Bethel Lutheran Church Sabbatical Policy.
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- 1) Election of the new council members: After introductions of Julie Shanabrook, Beth Garner, and Michael Asmussen, Tom Milburn called for approval for the election of the three new Council Members for the 2018 Bethel Lutheran Council with Mack Cain motioning first and Bob Demott motioning second with all in approval. The three new Council Members for election are approved and will begin their term in January 2018.
 - 2) Approval of the 2018 Ministry Spending Plan
Tom Milburn provided a review of the options presented for the 2018 MSP answering questions from the congregations and commenting on comments by congregational members.

The Congregation asked questions regarding Benevolence, the funding of salaries, youth programs, as well as where Bethel's mortgage stands at this date. Kim Williams responded that the mortgage is now at 241,159.74, noting that we have re-amortized it when necessary. In addition, Dave Shoberg asked about Bethel's Emergency Fund. Tom Milburn responded that we have had to dip into the Emergency Fund, but that \$17,000 indicated on the 2018 MSP can be used to replenish the fund.

After wonderful discussion, questions, answers and comments, including the asking for an amendment to ensure appropriate funding for the Synod is reviewed and applied to the MSP, by Jim Shipp, Tom Milburn called for a voice approval from the congregation. With a majority of the congregation in favor, with only a few Na's, the 2018 MSP is approved. The 2018 Council will continually review monies received, and apply them appropriately to those items needed funding, including Synod funding.

3) Approval of Bethel's Sabbatical Policy

Tom Milburn explained at present time, Bethel does not have a Sabbatical policy in place and that this policy is to ensure that in the future, Bethel has one on the books, should the need arise. Discussion ensued regarding full funding for Bethel would be available should a pastor take a sabbatical, with Tom Milburn and other congregational members who worked to develop this policy explaining that yes, full funding would be available from various sources. Dana Francis called for a motion to amend to the policy to ensure that Full Funding be added before it is approved. After discussion, Tom Milburn called for approval of the Sabbatical Policy with the additional full funding amendment, with ballots handed out to the congregation present and counted by Dave Griffin and verified by Bob Hollingsworth. The Sabbatical Policy is approved by a vote of 45 in favor, with 25 not in favor, with the addition of a Full Funding amendment added to the policy. It is noted that Pastor Dave Young abstained from voting.

Closing Prayer

Tom Milburn asked if there were any other items for discussion and as there were none, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m. Pastor David Young lead us in closing prayer.