

**Bethel Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting
February 14, 2018**

Council members in attendance:

Pastor David Young, Worship Board Chair (herein, PD)
Tom Milburn, President
Traci Shoberg, Vice President
Rose Mangold Pierce, Treasurer
Julie Shanabrook, Secretary
Beth Garner, Servant Board Chair
Dave Griffin, Congregational Life Board Chair
Mike Asmussen, Ministry Support Board Chair

Devotions – Ash Wednesday Service prior to meeting

Call to Order (8 pm)

New Business involving guests to Council

1. Cliff Crowder and Clarke Jackson reported following their attendance at a church security presentation by the Frederick City sheriff which was attended by 300+ persons. A PowerPoint of the presentation had previously been sent to Council. Although risk is low, we should be vigilant and communicate concerns or observations. Recommend using the word “safety” vs “security” as the latter connotes “unsafe” or “threatened”. While chances of an active shooter are low, we should be alert and be responsible for one another, especially for any fellow congregants who may have extreme stresses or problems. Most important is for all to be aware of our surroundings, alert, vigilant, know one another, recognize possible threats. (observe, orient, decide, act)

Discussion about what our plan would be in an incident. In state of VA it is against the law to bring weapons onto church property except for pastor and police officers.

Motion to create a Safety Team to look in to ways to increase security and safety of congregation and staff made by Julie Shanabrook, seconded by Traci Shoberg. All were in favor. Mike as Ministry Support Chair will work with PD to form the team.

2. Bethel Reforming (BR): Guest Pat Shields spoke; he is concerned with compiling and summarizing the comments and results of the BR meetings. He recalls the chaos of the Bethel Becoming congregational meeting where post it notes were our only record. Pat recommended both Post It notes during the meetings but also first person reports from each person present. To the latter end, Pat suggested a questionnaire and submitted an example, and presented ideas on the format of a cottage meeting.

The desire is to keep the cottage meetings structured in format but open as far as the direction of discussion. Council reviewed that the 12 cottage meetings, 1 youth meeting, 1-2 mtgs at Bethel will have a format of

- a. prayer
- b. purpose (our constitution)
- c. principles (core values, stories when God was really present for you in a moment at Bethel)
- d. possibilities (brainstorming and questionnaire)
- e. priorities (To be drawn from part d by council and staff after the cottage visits, and presented in a congregational. Utilizing Pat's thoughts, Council discussed limiting the Priorities to four maximum with subtopics under each.)

Business and Reports

1. Approval of January Council Minutes/ February Congregational Meeting Minutes/ Financial Reports (1st- Dave Griffin ; 2nd- Beth Garner; all in favor)
2. Coffee with Council 1/28. 4 Council members and 5 church members were present and discussion focused on Sunday School and youth. PD shared that he has met with concerned individuals and is managing Sunday School through May. High school and middle school classes will be separated. Donna/Bryan/Stephanie will teach high school; Sean/Trevor/PD will teach middle school. During Lent, Bryan will lead the cross-generational time together. A meeting of all involved in Sunday School will be scheduled for late May.
3. Hostettler bequest – Money other than the \$66,000 has been dispersed by Kim Williams. The \$66,000 is in savings. Executive Committee will nominate Task Group (Trustees Gary Nichols, Sara Smith, Ron Lauck have already agreed to serve; 3-5 more needed) As an aside, one congregant has expressed a willingness to match up to \$10,000 toward Jubilee.
4. Bethel Reforming planning: By the end of this week, council members in pairs are to choose 2 dates between March 18 and early May and send to PD. Already scheduled meetings include:
 - a. 3/18 Brazelton 1 pm
 - b. 3/20 Griffin 7 pm
 - c. 3/22 Griffin 7 pm
 - d. 4/8 Jaster 1 pmMarch 3 1-3 pm Facilitator training at Bethel

PD will forward his work on Bethel Reforming for our review and continued work as a team.

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: March 14, 2018