

Bethel Congregational Meeting
November 11, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Council President Tom Milburn at 10:50 am.

A unanimous vote was received to re-elect Rose Pierce and Traci Shoberg, and to elect John Frederickson to three-year terms on church council. Their service is deeply appreciated. Thank you to outgoing council member Pat Blevins.

The 2019 Ministry Spending Plan as written by council was discussed and a motion was made by Bob DeMott and seconded by Rose Pierce to vote on the proposed MSP for \$485,205. The vote was approved via a verbal vote with 2 dissenting votes. Of note, the total projected 2019 giving is \$463,914, which includes 74 completed Estimate of Giving cards and 107 regular giving units that have not completed a card. This is a shortage of \$21,291 but members were encouraged to complete estimate of giving cards or consider an increase to their giving. (In the past this would have been termed "Faith Giving", although for better transparency of the MSP, we have now done away with this piece of the spending plan.) Bethel's emergency finances account has a balance of \$19,123.02.

Kim Williams encouraged members to consider joining "Simply Giving", an electronic giving used currently by 22% of Bethel members. This method of automatically giving ensures that the church can pay its monthly bills, even if a member is unable to be physically present at services. A member can have offerings withdrawn automatically from a checking account, thus avoiding the deduction of the 3% charged to the church if a credit card is used instead.

Pastor David Young reviewed the progress of 2018's Bethel Reforming initiative. After the congregational input received at the cottage meetings was reviewed, three teams were formed to follow up on broad suggestions raised. All teams have been and continue to be open to any church member who would like to participate, please join in! The three teams are:

1. Implementing God's Mission: examining staffing structure and organizational structure of Bethel. This team has been meeting weekly and will present to council this Wednesday. As always, all church members are invited to attend any council meeting.
2. Supporting God's Mission: While looking at ways to connect Bethel members with one another, this team is developing two plans. First, Pat Shields is creating a database whereby we can share our hobbies, interests, etc with one another. Second, Beth Garner and Dave Griffin are seeking members interested in serving Shepherding Teams to help people stay connected to their church family.
3. Sharing God's Mission: This team is asking members for "3 words that come to mind as you think of Bethel" has placed a link to this survey on the Bethel website. These descriptors will help to guide the creation of a visual representation of our church and mission.

The staff of Bethel Lutheran was thanked for the dedicated service of each of its members. The many Bethel members who are US veterans were acknowledged and thanked for their service.

Information was presented regarding the mold problem in the Underground. With the use of cameras and digging over the last few weeks, problems in the original construction of the building were discovered. The construction company used is now out of business. Grading and drainage problems exacerbated by the large amount of rainfall have resulted in flooding and mold issues. We are still in the investigation phase of this situation, and much work has been accomplished by Terri Hollingsworth and the facility team. Gary Nichols stated that the church's

insurance will not cover the work necessary as the mold has developed over a period of years. Tom Milburn stated that money from two bequests as well as emergency funds will unlikely be enough to cover repairs. The Underground remains closed for health and safety reasons.

Closing Prayers were led by Pastor Dave.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Shanabrook