

**Bethel Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Minutes
February 13, 2019**

Council members in attendance:

Pastor David Young, Worship Board Chair (PD)
Traci Shoberg, President
Julie Shanabrook, Vice President
Tom Milburn, Secretary
Rose Mangold Pierce, Treasurer
Beth Garner, Servant Board Chair
Dave Griffin, Congregational Life Board Chair
Vonda Wilt, Prayer and Care
Mike Asmussen, Learning Ministries
John Frederickson, Ministry Support
Bryan Jaster, Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation (joined meeting at 7:30pm)

Opening Devotions – led by Traci Shoberg based on book being read by Council – *Canoeing the Mountains*. Prayer by PD including some congregational concerns.

Call to Order 7:14pm by President Shoberg.

Minutes and Reports

1. Approved January 9, 2019 and January 12, 2019 Council minutes and February 3, 2019 Annual Congregational meeting. Motion – Vonda Wilt. Second – John Frederickson. Unanimously approved.
2. Approved January 13, 2019 Council Minutes. Motion – Dave Griffin. Second – Beth Garner. Unanimously approved.
3. Financial Report presented by Rose Pierce based on various reports emailed to Council prior to meeting. Motion - PD. Second – John Frederickson. Unanimously approved.
4. Pastor's Report for January 2019. PD referenced report emailed prior to meeting. Highlighted several items:
 - a. Significant portion of month spent on Ministry Spending Plan, Bethel Reforming discussions, and Council meetings/retreat.
 - b. Bethel Reforming Task Group on logo meeting with positive progress.
 - c. New Discipleship class started.
 - d. Local pastors are planning "round robin" preaching schedule during Lent where each pastor in area will preach at other Lutheran churches.
 - e. Discussed leading First Call Pastors retreat in Richmond for Virginia Synod.
5. Youth and Family Faith Formation. Council reviewed written report provided by Bryan Jaster.
6. Board Reports:
 - a. Worship – PD noted meetings and planning with worship leaders. Discussed visitation team planning.

- b. Servant – Beth Garner noted planning for WATTS week at Bethel the week of February 17.
 - c. Congregational Life (Dave Griffin reported) –
 - 1. Various teams/ministries are very active and planning ahead of schedule.
 - 2. Men’s Ministry is planning various events and inviting other area Lutheran churches.
 - 3. Receptions has changed name to “Hospitality Team.”
 - 4. Due to low interest, decision made to delay Kure Beach to later year.
 - d. Prayer and Care – Vonda Wilt reported on various activity and planning for Intercessory Prayer service.
 - e. Ministry Support – John Frederickson reported on lots of activity by team in terms of financial reporting, repair/disposal of chairs and tables, and storage/shelf repair in light of departure of Our Family.
 - f. Learning – Mike Asmussen reported on Sunday School and monthly service projects by classes that are exciting, e.g. letters to North Korea and making centerpieces for WATTS.
7. Underground update – noted that work is waiting on bank financing to be completed. PD expects that Kim Williams will submit materials to the bank next week. Traci Shoberg will work with Kim on process and update Council.
8. Council discussed Annual Congregational Meeting from February 3. General items from Council members as discussed with Congregation members:
- a. Confusion from members that they did not feel well informed about the agenda items and that the vote was rushed.
 - b. Some members do not understand the Ministry Spending Plan process or presentation.
 - c. Discussion of how to use Bethel’s space to generate income.
 - d. Other general discussion.

Business

9. PD presented request from Hannah McKiernan (member) to be able to serve alcohol (cider and champagne) at her wedding at Bethel (in October). Hannah has agreed to be responsible for licensing, insurance, and control of dispensing.
- a. Council discussed the stipulations of serving alcohol at events using Bethel facilities – member of Congregation who will be in control of licensing, insurance and dispensing (beer, cider, wine, or champagne but no liquor) for a one-day event. Motion to approve Hannah McKiernan’s one time request to serve alcohol at her wedding reception in October 2019 based on the above stipulations - Dave Griffin. Second – John Frederickson. Unanimously approved.
 - b. Council agreed that decisions about alcohol at future events will be decided by Council on a case-by-case basis.
10. Request from Rex and Helen Ritchie to begin a Senior Ministry Program.
- a. Program to organize events focused on seniors – financial, recreation, living, assisted living arrangements, travel/tours, historical presentations, etc.

- b. Ritchies will lead and finance this new ministry team.
- c. Program will fall under Congregational Life Board.

Motion – Dave Griffin. Second – Julie Shanabrook. Unanimously approved.

11. Skills Assessment Survey of members/friends. Pat Shields will work on survey to obtain information about members/friends about common interests/hobbies as well as skills that could support the Congregation. Consensus to have Pat proceed with survey.
12. President's Take 7 Challenge. Traci Shoberg passed out member/friend listing. Challenging Council to reach out to everyone on list by May Council meeting. Each Council member was assigned letters of alphabet and timeline to communicate – call, email, card, or however moved.
13. PD presented proposal for Music Ministry positions.
 - a. Reviewed proposed job descriptions for Director of Music Ministry (Part Time) and Associate Director of Music Ministry (Part Time). PD discussed the positions in general and expected duties as well as development of salaries from various sources of information on church musicians.
 - b. Proposed salaries for two positions would be combined \$30,000 per year (\$9,000 increase over current annual music salaries) but based on church music salary information, the cost is affordable and reasonable.
 - c. Proposal included George Donovan as Director and Sue Correll as Associate Director with increased cost and change in positions to begin July 1, 2019.

Discussion held on proposal that was generally very positive about having two talented musicians with widely varied skills. Some concern voiced about ability at this time to pay for the positions.

Motion – John Frederickson to table vote until next Council meeting. Second – Vonda Wilt. Approved – vote tabled.

14. Discussion of potential youth representative(s) on Council. Topics mentioned:
 - a. Youth representative(s) being a voice for youth at Council.
 - b. Logistics for youth attendance at Council meetings with general support for agenda to begin with reporting and youth report to Council with youth representative(s) being able to leave the meeting early.
 - c. Youth mentioned were Sophie Garner, Ella Carlson and Katie Behr.
 - d. Bryan will talk to youth about interest and potential attendance for March meeting.

Closing

15. General discussion of Congregational Concerns and Thank You's.
16. Closing prayer by PD.
17. Adjourned at 8:57pm.