

Bethel Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Minutes
August 14, 2019

Council members in attendance: Pastor David Young (Worship Board Chair) (PD), Traci Shoberg (President), Julie Shanabrook (Vice President), Tom Milburn (Secretary), Mike Asmussen (Learning Ministries), Liz Whitacre (Congregational Life), Beth Garner (Servant), John Frederickson (Ministry Support), Ella Carlson (Youth Ambassador).

Council members absent: Rose Mangold Pierce, Vonda Wilt (Prayer and Care).

Staff in attendance: Kim Williams (Treasurer/Director of Finance).

Opening Devotions – Led by Beth Garner.

Call to Order - 7:10pm by President Shoberg.

Minutes and Reports

1. Reviewed July 10, 2019 Council minutes. Motion by Beth G./Seconded by John F. Unanimously approved.
2. Pastor's Report for July 2019. PD referenced report emailed prior to meeting.
 - a. Noted a lot of preparation time for Sunday School and Confirmation.
 - b. Discussed plans for Youth Group and potential adult leaders.
3. Youth Report - Ella C. discussed upcoming youth planning retreat.
4. Underground Update – PD noted that work was complete and space will be usable after several large rains occur and we can determine whether the work was successful. Traci S. is working with Cliff Crowder on additional work needed by Royston (excavating) to complete prior work performed.
5. Board and Team Reports:
 - a. Learning Ministries Board – Mike A. discussed Sunday School planning including music and a Christmas Pageant. We are still looking for a K-4th grade teacher.
 - b. Servant Board – Beth G. noted success of recent Harvest Sunday (approximately \$2,000 raised for Lutheran World Relief targeted for refugee support). September 8 is "God's Work Our Hands" Sunday with planning under way to provide/serve meal for homeless through CCAP and other activities. Traci S. noted interest from Wild Women to assist with servant projects.
 - c. Worship Board – Noted one service at 9:30am will continue as previously approved. Discussed family situation taking Sue Correll's time away from music ministry. Council noted our desire for Sue to continue as part of our music ministry. PD, John F., and Kim W. will work on hourly compensation package for Sue to replace her salary. This package will be sent to Council for an email vote and then offered to Sue.
 - d. Shepherding Team – Traci S. discussed reenergizing this team and talking to leadership of the team. Discussion about including staff and Pat in process of

contacting/welcoming new members. Council noted the importance of this hospitality and consistent follow up.

- e. Ministry Support Board – John F. noted prior Underground Update. Team is also working on playground clean-up. John noted some other tasks that have been identified around the building. John is working on a Banner article to promote volunteering for repairs and other activities.
 - f. Personnel Committee – John F. reported that staff interviews have gone well with only two remaining to be completed. Committee will have a report to Council at the conclusion of the interview process.
6. Parish Administrator Report – Referenced report sent via email (Pat on vacation).
 7. Congregation Council meeting schedule change is necessary due to planned Wednesday services. Council agreed to move meetings to after Wednesday services at approximately 7:30pm.
 8. Ministry Celebration Update – planning continues with no significant updates.
 9. July Financial Report presented by Kim Williams.
 - a. Line of credit process with Bank of Clarke County continues with plan to complete next week.
 - b. Noted Bank of Clarke County approached Kim to discuss refinancing entire mortgage. Kim will obtain the offer from the bank and present to Council for consideration when received.
 - c. Noted Bethel is currently behind ministry spending plan year-to-date. Our shortage and cash situation has become critical even with reduced salaries in July. Council discussed potential causes and responses. PD noted a \$10,000 outside gift to the operating fund. He also noted his and Heidi's plan to give to alleviating the current deficiency. Council agreed to also respond with additional gifts as able. Traci S. and PD will draft an email/letter/bulletin insert to the Congregation asking for financial response. We will also consider other avenues to communicate. Council will also closely monitor this deficiency as we move out of the summer months.
 - d. Motion by John F./Seconded by Beth G. Approved financial report unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items

10. New Bethel Logo – PD presented three potential logos from Bethel Reforming Team and from conversations with congregation. Motion by Julie S. on two logos to present to congregation for vote. Seconded by John F. Approved unanimously.
11. General discussion of Congregational Concerns and Thank You's.
 - a. Brief discussion of recent ELCA Church Wide Assembly actions. PD will post the detailed information on the Bethel website.
 - b. Various other items of interest discussed briefly about life of Congregation.

Closing

12. Closing prayer by PD.
13. Adjourned at 9:20pm.