

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregational Council Minutes
Caroline Furnace Retreat Center, Caroline Furnace, Virginia
January 10, 2020

The January 2020 meeting of the Congregational Council of Bethel Lutheran Church was held on Friday and Saturday, January 10-11, 2020, at Caroline Furnace, VA.

The following Bethel Council members were in attendance:

Pastor David Young
Traci Shoberg, President
Julie Shanabrook, Vice President
Rose Mangold Pierce, Secretary
Mike Asmussen, Learning Ministries
Beth Garner, Servant Care
Vonda Wilt, Prayer and Care

Devotion

Pastor David Young lead us in opening devotions.

Call to Order

Traci Shoberg called the meeting to order at 7:57 p.m.

New Business

Approval of the December 2019 Minutes. Traci asked if there were any other changes to the December 2019 minutes and as there were none, she called for a motion to approve the minutes with Beth Garner motioning first and Julie Shanabrook motioning second, with all in approval. the December 2019 minutes are approved.

Reports

1. Pastor's Report

Pastor Dave provided us with a quick overview of his December 2019 Pastor's report. He added that Christmas in the Barn was a beautiful success noting that there were about 475 in attendance. There were about 200 at the Christmas Eve service.

He said that the first Wednesday evening service was well received with about 20 people.

Additional discussions included maybe in the future having two Christmas In the Barns services.

We also discussed on inquiring if someone would be interested in buying the hay we use; and if, they would come and take it away.

2. Treasurer's Report

Pastor Dave updated Council on Bethel's financial status stating that all designated accounts were covered in December 2019. Discussion of the upcoming financial months ensued noting that if we run short on giving, Kim may have to do financial work arounds. He further added that while we were positive for the last four months of 2019, we were in the negative for the year.

Equity Line of Credit: Traci stated that we were still working on getting the ELOC finalized. Right now, it appears that Bethel has two liens against the property. However, this is incorrect. The first loan was paid off, but not properly recorded. Gary Nichols is working to locate the paperwork, and have it properly recorded. With this done, the ELOC should proceed.

With no other discussion, Traci called for a motion to approve the December 2019 Treasurer's Report with Beth Garner motioning first and Vonda Wilt motioning second, with all in approval. The December 2019 Treasurer's Report is approved.

3. Youth & Family Ministry Report

Mike Asmussen updated council saying that Susan continues to look for service projects for this upcoming Lent. A suggestion was made to have our youth to do different projects that need done around the church. If there are other possible projects, please let Susan or Mike know. Planning work has already started for Vacation Bible School with meetings with Kitty and Sherri Newman. Pastor Dave added that Julie Shanabrook needs to be part of these discussions, as the animal pierce was so successful.

4. Board Reports

There were no other board reports.

Congregation Feedback

All agreed that there were no Congregation Feedback issues to be discussed.

Old business

1. Underground:

Discussion opened regarding the Underground and how we proceed from here. All agreed that we need to come up with a team to determine exactly how to design it now that all repairs have been done and are confirmed. Suggestions included: Ellie Carlson, Youth representative, Dave Shoberg, Diane Milburn, Steve Rosen, Katherine Carpenter, Kristin, Betty Puffinberger, and Jerry Fischer. Traci and Gary would be POC.

2. Insurance:

Pastor Dave reminded council that Gary Nichols would be coming in next week to review our insurance needs.

3. Classical Cottage:

Pat Shields is scheduled to meet with Classical Cottage representative to discuss rental options for next year. After discussion, it was determined due to space confines from the underground

issues, that there should probably not be an increase this year but discuss the possibility of an increase next year. Pastor Dave stated that he would discuss this with Pat Shields.

New Business

1. Sabbatical

Pastor Dave opened discussion regarding his desire to apply for a sabbatical, which would not happen until December 2021-2022. He added that the paperwork must be submitted by April 2020.

2. Pastoral Taxes

Pastor Dave also stated that beginning this March, Bethel will take over responsibility of paying his yearly taxes. Up to this time, he has been responsible for doing this himself.

3. Board Chair Packets

Pastor Dave stated that Pat Shields mailed out packets to all board chairs, however, we need leaders for the different groups.

Other

1. Boy Scouts

Pastor Dave added that the Boy Scouts will begin having their meetings here at Bethel this Tuesday in Discipleship Hall. They will also be storing their equipment here at Bethel. In addition, Bethel will have both a Boy Scout Sunday and a Girl Scout Recognition Sunday.

2. Labyrinth:

Julie Shanabrook added that the Labyrinth needs cleaning up. Pastor Dave added that the John Gavitt is one of the people in charge of this and that we need to ask him what the cleanup plan for this is.

Pastor Dave updated Council on those members who have been hospitalized and are now home.

Closing Prayer

Pastor Dave closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.