

**Bethel Lutheran Church Council**  
**Minutes**  
**Tuesday June 7, 2022**

A monthly meeting of the Congregational Council of Bethel Lutheran Church was held on June 7<sup>th</sup> in Discipleship Hall. Pastor David Young, Council Vice President Vonda Wilt, Treasurer Betty Puffinburger, Secretary Bruce Lothrop, David Look, Curt Grymala, Dustie Fisher, Lee Braithwaite and Church Administrator Kim Williams were present at the meeting. Council President John Fredericksen was unable to attend at the start of the meeting, but arrived while the meeting was in progress. Traci Shoberg and Piers Lamb attended to discuss plans for a possible craft fair in the fall of 2022.

**Call to Order**

Council Vice President Vonda Wilt called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 pm.

**Devotion**

Curt Grymala offered a devotion.

**Presentation by Piers Lamb regarding Crafts Show**

Piers Lamb presented a vision for a craft fair that could be held on the Bethel property during the fall of 2022. He targeted Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, with preparation and setup planned for October 20-21, and cleanup on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Piers laid out a variety of expenses Bethel would need to absorb in preparation for the event. These expenses included security, sanitation, a lawyer for contracts with vendors, event insurance, permits, advertising, and kids' events and attractions (bouncy house, face paint, etc.). In addition, Piers would ask for % 15 of gross income as the event planner. Income would come from vendor fees, local corporate booths, corporate sponsors, Thrivent funds to cover miscellaneous expenses, and other fund-raising opportunities (for example, Piers suggested a pancake breakfast for vendors and early attendees.) Food trucks might be an expense, or neutral, but would not likely bring income. Piers also suggested inviting local brewers, wineries, and cideries to attract visitors.

Piers recommend that the initial event focus less on maximum income than on growing the event for future years. As such, he recommended charging vendors moderate fees, and offering awards which may become attractive if the fair becomes popular in future years.

Volunteers from the congregation would be needed to take on such tasks as setup, take down, on-going clean-up, kids' activities, soliciting sponsorships, and other jobs.

After discussion, council concluded that it would be best to gauge interest from the Congregation before making a commitment. Pastor Dave will share the concept with the Congregation on June 12<sup>th</sup> to prepare for discussion in Bethel Adapting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Minutes**

Betty Puffinberger took minutes for the May meeting of Council in the Secretary's absence. Betty emailed the minutes of the May meeting to all members of Council for review prior the June meeting. The minutes of the May meeting were accepted, as presented, by acclamation.

## **Financial Report**

Church Administrator Kim Williams emailed a detailed Treasurer's Report to all members of council prior to the meeting. The report showed income of \$34,718.47, \$10,099.27 more than anticipated in the Ministry Spending Plan. Expenses were \$36,201.90, exceeded expected spending by \$4,661.53. HVAC maintenance accounted for a large part of unplanned expenses. Total income for May was \$5,763.40. Year to date, expenses have exceeded income by \$10,603.27. The Treasurer's report was approved, as presented, by acclamation.

## **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Dave distributed a written report by email to all members of Council prior to the meeting. Highlights of the report included:

- Nina Davis has been hired as the office manager, and will begin work on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- In person worship attendance in May ranged from 88 to 110. Total in person and virtual attendance ranged from 123 to 143 worshippers.
- Pastor Dave organized the first "Give Back Golf Tournament" to support Caroline Furnace and Shenandoah Valley Lutheran Ministries over the weekend of May 20-21. The event raised \$5,500.
- The 2021-2022 confirmation class was confirmed on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- A Brain-storming session for "Bethel Adapting" will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> and July 17<sup>th</sup>.
- A Luther League Mission week will be held July 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, possibly in Williamsburg.
- Bethel Week at Caroline Furnace will be July 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.

## **Up Team Report**

- The team will ask for people to sign-up as Worship Assistants
- Training will be held for Ushers, Greeters and Acolytes
- Quilts will be presented to high-school graduates on July 31<sup>st</sup>

## **In Team Report**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Gathering was held on May 29<sup>th</sup>
- The Confirmation Reception was held on June 5<sup>th</sup>
- A 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Gathering will be held on July 31<sup>st</sup>. Remaining funds from June 29<sup>th</sup> should cover expenses for July 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **Out Team Report**

- Members of the Out Team John Fredericksen and Bruce Lothrop were unavailable for much of May, so no projects were undertaken.

## **New Member Get-Together**

Pastor Dave would like to invite new members to an event where they will learn about Bethel, and be encouraged to become involved in the aspects of Congregational life that appeal to them. He requested volunteers from Council to assist. John and Vonda offered to help.

### **Staff Pictures and Member Photo Directories**

Both Staff and Council members should have updated photographs on the Bethel website. Additionally, it has been several years since the Congregation has assembled a photo directory. After discussion, Kim Williams and Pastor Dave agreed to research the issue.

### **New Piano**

The piano from the sanctuary has been sold for \$1,500.00. George will use a keyboard during worship in Discipleship Hall during renovations to the Sanctuary. Fundraising is under way for a new piano.

### **June and December offering**

No members of Council had volunteered to deposit offering in the safe after worship for the months of June or December. Vonda and John agreed to divide the Sundays in June. Bruce and John agreed to divide the Sundays in December.

### **Staff Organization**

Kim Williams presented an organizational chart showing lines of communication for Bethel staff. The chart showed that all musicians will communicate directly with Minister of Music George Donovan. The Custodian and Safety and Security Committee will communicate directly with Facilities Manager David Shoberg. The Office Manager, Facilities Manager, Youth Leaders, Nursery Managers, Parish Nurse and Personnel Committee will report to Church Administrator Kim Williams. George Donovan and Kim Williams will communicate with Pastor Dave as needed. This will allow Pastor Dave to concentrate on his pastoral duties, and those issues that require his attention.

Kim suggested that all requests for fund raisers be presented to her early in the process, as she can provide insight into tax and accounting issues. Kim requested that all issues regarding maintenance or cleaning be directed to Dave Shoberg.

### **Giving Campaigns**

Bethel will support three separate giving campaigns in relation to the New Day Initiative:

- Fund raising for a new piano (88 keys)
- Fund raising to pay down loans
- Fund raising for “Phase Two” items, such as the Christiansen Room, prayer room and other renovations projects that could not be included in the first phase of “New Day” due to costs.

Kim Williams suggested using different color envelopes for each of the three items. Council expressed agreement with Kim’s idea

### **Council Email**

Curt Graymala agreed to set up email aliases for each member of Council to allow members of the Congregation to reach out to members of Council with questions, concerns and feedback as simply as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 pm.