

## **Bethel Lutheran Church**

### **Council Minutes**

July 13, 2022

A Called meeting of the Congregational Council of Bethel Lutheran Church was held on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in the council room. Pastor David Young, Council President John Fredericksen, Vice President Vonda Wilt, Treasurer Betty Puffinberger, Secretary Bruce Lothrop, Lee Braithwait, and Dustie Fisher were present in the Council Room. Curt Grymala and David Look attended via Zoom. Jerry Fisher joined to meeting to propose a project on the church grounds as part of his work to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.

#### **Call to order**

President John Fredericksen called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05pm.

#### **Devotion**

Dustie Fisher offered a devotion.

#### **Minutes of the June Meeting**

Secretary Bruce Lothrop emailed minutes of the June Council meeting to all members of Council prior to the meeting. The minutes of the June meeting were approved, as presented by motion.

#### **Financial Report**

Bookkeeper Kim Williams emailed a detailed financial report to all members of Council prior to the meeting. The report showed giving in June was \$8,520 less than expected in the Ministry Spending plan. Additionally, the report reflected an expected \$10,000 in facilities income that Council hoped to raise. Council has not yet found a way to make up the shortfall, so the report showed total income at \$18,520 less than expected. Expenses for June were \$33,429, \$249 more than expected in the Ministry Spending Plan. Expenses for June exceeded income by \$13,317. Year to date expense have exceeded income by \$23,920. In her email, Kim reported that Bethel was in a similar financial position in July 2021. Kim plans to send a report to each family that provided an estimate of giving indicating how their actual giving matched the estimate.

#### **Pastor's report**

Pastor Dave shared a Pastor's report via email prior to the meeting, and provided additional information. Highlights of the report included:

- The addition of an office administrator to the Bethel staff has freed Pastor Dave's time to focus on Pastoral Care and ministry, rather than office and administrative tasks.

- Several new families have been attending worship at Bethel, and are interested in a higher level of participation.
- Sunday School will resume in the fall, after a two-year hiatus.

## **Old Business**

### 1. Renovation Status

Several work days have been scheduled to prepare for renovation of the Sanctuary. Currently, KEE is waiting for drawings of the project to be completed so that the necessary permit applications can be completed.

### 2. Craft fair

Council discussed if it is reasonable to host a Craft Fair in the fall of 2022, or whether the event should be delayed until the fall of 2023. Pastor Dave reported that seven people volunteered to work on a leadership team for the craft fair. Council agreed that three months is a very short time to organize the proposed event. Unless the volunteers are enthusiastic about proceeding with a Fall 2022 date, it would be better to delay until 2023. Curt Grymala agreed to serve as Council liaison to the team.

### 3. Reconciling works Leadership Team

Pastor Dave will begin to gather a team that will follow the process of discernment laid out by “Reconciling Works” leadership to evaluate whether Bethel will become a Reconciling Works Congregation.

## **New Business**

### 1. Jerry Fisher’s Eagle Scout project proposal

Jerry Fisher proposed building a fire pit on Bethel grounds to fulfil the project requirement for his Eagle rank in the Boy Scouts. Jerry will work with Dave Shoberg to select an appropriate location. The fire pit would be built from a kit, and cost roughly \$1,200. Fundraising will be part of Jerry’s project. The leadership of the Boy Scout Troop will need to approve Jerry’s final proposal. At this time, Jerry requested general support for the project, which would allow him to develop a more detailed plan to present to his Troop leaders. A motion to support Jerry’s plan to build a fire pit on Bethel grounds was made and seconded. The motion passed by acclamation.

### 2. August meeting

Pastor Dave will not be available for the August meeting as he will be on sabbatical. After discussion, Council members agreed to meet by Zoom if there are issues that require attention, or skip the meeting if no issues arise.

### 6. Upcoming Events

Council reviewed upcoming events for the Bethel Congregation, including:

- a. Quilt, Guatemala, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday (July 31<sup>st</sup>)
- b. Harvest Sunday (August 14<sup>th</sup>)
- c. God’s Work our Hands (September 11<sup>th</sup>)

- d. Shrimp Boil (September 11<sup>th</sup>)
- e. Rally Sunday (September 18<sup>th</sup>)
- f. Bethel at the Royals (July 21<sup>st</sup> 5pm)

7. Bethel as Wedding Host

Council is considering marketing Bethel as a wedding venue. In order to provide an attractive location for receptions, Bethel would need to allow alcohol to be served. A motion was made to allow beer, wine, and cider to be served at special events. Hosts of the events would be responsible for obtaining event and alcohol permits from the county. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

8. Women's Ministry

Dustie Fisher reported on activity in the Women's Ministries. There will be a meeting for Bethel women at Tracey Shoberg's home on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Energy seems to be building in the group after time off during Covid.

9. Ushers and Greeter.

Some adjustment is needed to the procedure for signing up ushers and greeters. There was discussion as to whether a paper or electronic sign up would be more effective. Vonda will discuss options with Kim, and form a plan to improve the signup procedure.

10. Quilting Team

The Quilting Team is planning a trip to the "Sacred Threads" exhibit in Herndon Va. The trip will be open to all members of the congregation.

11. Water in the Underground

Dustie Fisher reported that water has continued to leak into the Underground in the area in and around the restrooms. David Shoberg investigated, and found drainage from the roof had been blocked, so that water did not move away from the building. That issue has been corrected. No water was found after recent storms.

The meeting was adjourned by motion at approximately 8:15 pm.