

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
October 24, 2019

Called to order by President Tania Anderson.

Attendance:

Don Bender
Jack Paulson
Tim Kratz
Ann Ciske
Angie Chappell
Halley Harms
Robin Kvalo
Tania Anderson
Pastor Jen Johnson

Motion by Don Bender, second by Ann Ciske to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

Motion by Don Bender, second by Jack Paulson to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Motion Carried.

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The council received a nomination for Barb Rothwell.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Renewal:

The Team has completed meeting with established groups in the congregation. Findings and analysis will be included in the November Chimes.

Stewardship:

The pledge cards are available. About 40 have been returned. A leaf has been added to the banner for each card returned. Next step is to look at spiritual gifts.

Christian Education and Faith Formation:

Confirmation is using digital materials in conjunction with student books. Group opening with snacks, video, introduction, and prayer; then break into grade units. Ken Manthey brought Pocket Testaments ("Tiny Bibles") for each student on 10/23.

Adult Bible/book study continues on Tuesday mornings at 11:00.

Wider Church:

I continue to lead Synod chapel once a month in Madison.

Professional Education:

I will be attending the second of three years of First Call Theological Education next month.

In January and June, I will be attending training at Luther Seminary as part of the Synod Renewal Pastors group.

New member classes will be in December, and there will be a reception of new members on January 5th or January 8th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE:

In attendance: Barb Rothwell, Pr. Jen, Janice Petersen, John Denhartigh & Tania Anderson

1. Call to Order: 6:00pm, Barb Rothwell

2. Updates:

a. Insurance (As discussed at our May 4, 2019 & July 2, 2019 meeting) has been awarded to Brotherhood Mutual

b. Status of 3rd Quarter Quarterly Reports - Janice
3rd quarter offering/giving reports should be prepared and sent to the members in October

d. Offering Envelops - Status PJ
Pr. Jen said they are labeled are ready to go out

e. Designated Funds - Barb
Cloe had purchased batting for quilting/shut-ins; looking for reimbursement through the designated fund. She will submit the receipt.

f. Current financial projections - Janice
-There has been money available to pay our bills consistently
-2020 Budget planning to begin; meeting coming up soon. Draft of the budget will be distributed
to each committee group by November 1st for review. Revisions will be collected at All Committee night meeting on November 18th. Council to approve in December.

g. Mortgage Refinance 2020 - Tania
We will need to develop a process to call people with loan certificates in order to find out the status of what they are thinking about (will they be drawing in out, gift to the church, etc.). Begin the conversations with Thrivent and ELCA Mission Investment Fund about refinancing, and find out if we can roll \$130-\$140,000 of the loan certificate liability into the refinancing.

h. Stewardship Campaign
20 pledge cards received so far; 20 leaves will be added to the stewardship tree. Over half of the cards have marked their cards as an increase to their giving. Also, as the finances are stable right now, Julie has suggested that when possible, her hours could increase to the 28 hours per week as there is plenty of work to do.

ACTION ITEM: Finance committee would like to recommend that council approve the increase in Julie's hours as the Parish Secretary to 28 per week, as needed.

Motion by Angie Chappell, second by Robin Kvalo to approve up to 28 hours per week for the Parish Secretary. Motion Carried.

Motion by Halley Harms, second by Robin Kvalo to approve the office hours for Monday through Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m and Thursday and Friday be 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Motion Carried.

- i. Disaster Recovery Plan - Has been revised to include data storage/data recovery.
- j. Copier Lease contract has run out; we are now only under a monthly maintenance contract in the amount of \$173 per month plus the cost of color copies.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School

- 18 Children and 11 families are registered for Sunday School
- New families/parents are willing to help

Confirmation

- We have approximately 45 students this year in grades 6-8. We kicked off the start of the year on September 11th with a potluck and informational meeting.

Youth Group

- Family Trunk or Treat on October 26th or 27th (thoughts on which day would be best)?
- Trivia Night-November 9th at the Masonic Lodge

Other

Ann Ciske has graciously helped with updating the safe church policy, liability form for the mission trip and researching travel insurance for those traveling to the D.R.

No Action Items

PROPERTY:

This week marks the winterization process scheduled for Wednesday. Hoses will be put away, water lines blown out and rooftop maintenance performed on the HVAC units.

Monitoring of utility bills continues and usage and billing seems to meet expectations.

LOCAL & GLOBAL

God's Work our Hands had a good turn out from the congregation, but not from Tivoli. Ann will be taking badges to global health.

Motion by Robin Kvalo, second by Ann Ciske to approve the Committee Reports. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sign for Bob & Cloe

Motion by Angie Chappell, second by Robin Kvalo to approve a sign to be put in the Fellowship Hall in honor of Bob and Cloe Rehdantz. Motion Carried.

2. Blue Christmas Service- A service for those struggling during the holidays.
3. Dawn Bachmann made a significant donation to the church this past summer and it was not acknowledged. Tim Kratz will make up thank you cards to be distributed to people who donate outside of regular giving.

Motion by Robin Kvalo, second by Don Bender to adjourned at 7:20 PM. Motion Carried.

Approved Via Email:

1. Kaylin Brandsma Concert- Friday, November 15th

Next Council will meet on November 21, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

All Committee night is November 18, 2019.