

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
July 15, 2021
Meeting held in hybrid format due to COVID-19

Called to order by Ann Ciske at 6:35 pm.

Attendance:

Jack Paulson-In Person
Halley Harms-In Person
Ruth Price-In Person
Kory Anderson- In Person
Geoff Gilbert-In Person
Don Bender-Zoom
Ann Ciske-Zoom
Kerry Melby - Absent with notification

Prayer by Ann Ciske

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Kory Anderson, second by Jack Paulson to approve the proposed agenda with the addition of an added new business matter. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE May MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Don Bender, second by Geoff Gilbert to approve the June meeting minutes as submitted. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Financial Update

1. June Revenue \$28,776 / June Expenditures \$18,322. Net profit for the month \$10,590 and net profit for the year is \$15,434.
2. June proved to be a fantastic month with an increase in offering donations and a trust disbursement.
3. Motion to approve financial update John, seconded by Janice.
4. Motion approved.

Old Business

1. Council Update

- a. Council discussed procedures from audit for management of memorial donations. A procedure was written up for review at the next council meeting.

2. Adopt a Bill

- a. Still in progress. We received another donation this week.

- b. Total donated since June 1 is \$365.29

3. Property Expenses: Lawn Mower

- a. John Denhartigh and Del Molden have been looking for new lawn mowers and have two choices at this point.
- b. Used Scag riding lawn mower, 1 year old. The new price on this is ~\$16,000 and it is being sold for \$10,500.
- c. John also found a new Scag lawn mower with all needed features for ~\$14,000, but with a church discount the price would be ~\$9,000.
- d. The finance committee reviewed funds available to pay for a mower and decided:
 - i. \$1500 can come out of Channel Project funds that have not been needed.
 - ii. \$3000 can come from recent trust donations.
 - iii. Remaining ~\$5000 can come from general operating expenses.
- e. Proposal for a new Scag lawn mower will be written up by Janice. John will bring in a mower brochure attached to write up. The proposal will then be forwarded to council for email review because this cannot wait until the next council meeting.

4. Memorial Funds

- a. Memorial funds yearly review being established by the church council.
- b. Each year a council member will review undesignated memorial donations and present a “wish list” of needed items to family members to ask which projects they would like their memorial donation to go to.
- c. The finance committee will assist with formation of a “wish list”, and maintain an updated list of memorial donors and if they are designated or undesignated.

New Business

1. Pastor Payroll closeout

- a. Reviewed the financial impact of Pastor Jen leaving. Her last day is July 31, 2021 and her last payday is August 10, 2021
- b. Jerry reviewing any potential savings we may have by not paying a pastor in August. The Call Committee is interviewing another candidate at this time.

2. Benevolence

- a. Janice suggested that we pay some of our benevolence now. Rather than waiting until the end of the year to make these payments, she suggests we pay half now \$600. We owe \$180 to World Hunger from donations.
- b. Discussing this topic was cut short due to another meeting that was scheduled, so Janice will send out in email with minutes for review.

Megan Jahoda would like approval to hold a “lock-out” for high school youth. They would be camping on the church grounds. Parents would sign a permission slip.

Motion by Halley Harms, second by Geoff Gilbert to approve the “lock-out” for the high school youth. Motion approved.

Worship & Music Committee Report

No report received

Property Committee Report

- Utility reports were completed and forwarded to the council. Electric billing and usage for the reporting period were the highest of the last five years due to the heat wave in June.
- The rooftop units were checked and adjusted as needed. A new signal transmitter for the sanctuary projector will be installed in July.
- A new commercial grade lawn mower has been purchased and will be delivered this week. We will continue to use the old one until the new one is properly broken in by Del and Dennis Benson. Maintenance was completed on the old mower.

Local & Global Committee Report

The Local and Global Committee did not meet this month but we continue to work on mission kits and a power point presentation of church ministries to be used for educating confirmation students, the congregation and a new minister when he/she comes on board.

Stewardship/Evangelism

no report received

COVID-19 Task Force

June 22, 2021. In attendance: Melissa Bradbury, Julie Saalsaa, Del Molden, Janice Petersen, Pr. Jen, Ann Ciske, Dan Pulsfus, Kerry Melby

- Serving food and eating indoors will now be allowed. We recommend that BLC come up with a safe food handling policy for any instances where food is being served.
- Congregational singing will be allowed effective immediately.
- The maximum capacity in the kitchen has been removed. Food handling signs will be posted.
- Sunday school rooms can now be used. It is recommended that the doors stay closed for proper air flow. If the rooms are being used for Sunday school classes and the doors are closed, per our Safe Church policy, two adults that have gone through the Safe Church training need to be present at all
- times.
- Communion: we will begin to offer communion in the normal form at the altar starting July 4th as an option. The congregation will have a choice:
 - Pick up prepackaged communion on way into church, as we are doing now
 - Receive prepackaged communion from pastor or communion assistant at the altar

- Receive normal communion from pastor or communion assistant at the altar
- Nursery will stay closed for now
- Bubblers will still stay closed for use for now
- We will continue to use the building fans to keep air circulated

We decided this would be our last meeting until we are needed again.

Call Committee

The call committee will be conducting a second interview with the current candidate this week. The interview will be done in person on Tuesday evening at the church. I will provide an update at the meeting on Thursday.

Motion by Kory Anderson, second by Geoff Gilbert to approve the committee reports as presented. Motion Carried.

New Business

- Exit Interview Update
- Discipline process for memorial donations (Geoff)
A motion by Don Bender, second by Jack Paulson to approve the discipline process of memorial donations. This will be completed by a designated counsel member. Geoff Gilbert has been appointed for 2021 to follow up with donors. Motion Carried.

- Offering options (Ruth)
 Will revisit this in August after more information is given.

- Council terms
 Don Bender plans to stay on in 2022
 Jack Paulson plans to stay on in 2022
 Ann Ciske plans to stay on in 2022
 Halley Harms plans to stay on in 2022
 Ruth Price plans to stay on in 2022
 Kory Anderson plans to stay on in 2022
 Kerry Melby- will be followed up with

● Congregational Mtg.
A motion by Don Bender, second by Halley Harms that $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members in attendance will be needed to vote yes, for a motion to approve. Motion Carried.

Motion by Halley Harms second by Kory Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 . Motion Carried.

