

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes
October 13, 2015 5:30 pm

Members: Alex Schwarzhoff, ~~Laura Pearson~~, Stefanie Gerhardson, Jill DeBrito, Judy Bradow, ~~Sally Nelson~~, David Nycklemoe, ~~Jeanne Schetnan~~, Marc Sikkink, Laura Skogen, Kim Langbehn, ~~Keith Olson~~, ~~Donavan Rasmusson~~, Brad Russell

Call to order: Steph called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Pastor Tom led devotions.

Secretary's report from September was approved. Motion by Kim, 2nd by Marc.

Treasurer's Report was discussed and put on file for examination. The first draft of the 2016 budget will be available next month.

Pastor's Comments

Pastor Tom

- We have received approximately 120 estimate of giving cards so far, and are expecting more in the next few weeks.
 - Last year we received about 190.

Pastor Jake

- Confirmation is going well

Chair Comments

Presentation and Discussion

Synod Presentation

Representatives from the Synod, JoEllen Thacker and Gail from First Lutheran in Battle Lake, came to the Council to briefly discuss the mission and ministries of the Synod, to thank Bethlehem for its support and to remind us to please remember the Synod in the budget for next year.

The Synod Assembly will be held on May 15 & 16.

Update on Strategic Plan

Pastor Nancy updated the council on the status of the strategic plan.

- Nancy met with the initiative groups to work on making goals more concrete and simple.
 - The goals will be put into “smart plans”, which will help turn the goals into actions.
- Nancy will be meeting with program staff to sort out job descriptions
 - An organizational chart will be created in order to clarify accountability, organization and supervision issues.
- A staff member will be assigned to assist with each initiative group
- Explained process to council on how initiative groups/ministry teams will communicate with them. Groups will submit goal request forms to the council for their approval
- Suggestion for council to keep a binder of all the goal sheets ministry/initiative groups will be submitting to the council for approval
- Continuing to meet and help initiative groups merge with current committees

Action Requests from Committees

- A. Thrivent Funds Request from the Youth Team and Bethlehem WELCA, each requesting \$1,500
 - a. **Motion made, seconded and carried to approve \$1,500 to WELCA and \$1,500 to the Youth from Thrivent funds.**

New Business:

- A. Executive Council Elect
 - a. We are in need of new Executive Committee members next year, which includes a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary

Old Business:

- A. Call Committee
 - a. Still trying to put together a 7 person call committee. So far we have 3 committed.
- B. Update on Building Project - Capital Campaign
 - a. Marc reviewed the building project scope. He received three bids: Stained glass windows \$250,000, Furnace/Boiler and air handling systems for the entire building \$90,000, Block window and tilt window repairs and replacement \$126,000
 - b. Would like to see building in a cushion as costs of projects will go up over a 2-3 year range that they will be completed so have to account for that.
 - c. Would like to see a project scope of \$600,000
 - d. No other maintenance items were included, but would like to be able to consider some depending on how fundraising efforts go.
 - e. Need to put together a group to handle just the fundraising of this project.

- i. A lot of discussion again on if we should hire an outside company to help us do this or try and do it on our own.
- ii. Decided either way we would need to recruit a team, as an outside company would tell us this. So would like to get started on this and then assess within that group in they feel they can run a fundraising campaign on their own of if they need help. Marc Sikkink and David Nycklemoe will head up putting a team together. They will meet Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 5:30pm with prospective people for the team.

Announcements

1. Confirmation Banquet Sunday, Oct. 18 at 6:00pm
2. Confirmation Worship Service Sunday, Oct. 25 at 10:15am
3. Next Meeting November 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. location at the Church

******Committee chairs please remember to send your committee minutes to Amy by the last day of each month.**