

BETHLEHEM CHURCH COUNCIL

February 14, 2017 - 5:30pm

Kim Langbehn, Donavan Rasmusson, Jill Fazio, Stefanie Gerhardson, Val Johnson, Glen Noyes, Tom Rasmusson, Marian Barry, Don Fick, Adrienne Miller

Call to Order: Kim Langbehn

Welcome to our new council members!

Devotions: led by Pastor Tom

Open Forum Time: nothing brought forward at this time

Secretary's Report: Pastor Tom has requested a change in his housing allowance to be \$27,000 instead of what was previously reported. Darcy made a motion to approve the amended report and Donavan 2nd. All in favor and motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: We are \$3,000 behind where we were last year at this point. We will be holding January benevolence until February for cash-flow purposes.

Welcome and congratulations to Pastor Jake on being called as our new Associate Pastor!

Comments from Pastors: Pastor Tom has given an interview with the Progressive regarding the lighting of the Bethlehem steeples. He is looking forward to the Installation services for Pastor Jake on March 19th. Pastor Jake presented information regarding a church council training on February 25th at Calvary in Perham. Now that Pastor Jake has accepted the call as our Associate Pastor he very much looks forward to working on three ministries he is very passionate about: Parallel Ministry, Public Ministry and Partner Ministry.

Items for Business:

- **Election of church council officers:** A motion from Tom Rasmusson 2nd from Stephanie to elect the following slate of officers for 2017, all approved motion carried.
President/Chair: Darcy Koeckeritz
Vice President/Vice Chair: Glen Noyes
Secretary: Val Johnson
Treasurer: Kim Langbehn

The elected officers; the President of the council Darcy Koeckeritz, Vice President Glen Noyes, and Treasurer Kim Langbehn and the following staff members: Thomas Peterson, Jacob Anderson and Amy Fronning, are authorized to sign on the following accounts at Bank of the West, 972-002331 and 972-005623 and the account at Security State Bank 9311014460.

- **Building Project Update:** A bid from Bjorn's Heating and Air Conditioning was presented for the Boiler System. The bid does not include stack demolition and electrical. A bid from Ottertail Glass was presented for replacement windows. Both bids are within the budgeted amounts for these projects. Tom Rasmusson made a motion to accept both bids with spending of up to \$150,000 (heating) and \$100,000 (windows), 2nd Donavan. All in favor and motion carried.
- **Membership Update:** The Bethlehem Constitution, as well as the ELCA Constitution, defines active church members as ones that have communed or financially contributed in the past two years. We are currently working on updating our church records to accurately reflect our membership. Pastors Tom and Jake are currently in conversation regarding how to provide Pastoral Care to those that are currently inactive.

Announcements:

- Ash Wednesday is March 1, worship services at 12:10pm and 6:30pm. Baked potato bar provided by the Youth to follow noon service and supper at 5:30pm
- Lent round-robin preaching series with other ELCA churches, Wednesdays March 8-April 5. Worship at both 12:10 and 6:30pm - Lunch to follow noon service and soup supper at 5:30pm. **Theme: "This is Most Certainly True" teachings found in Luther's Small Catechism**
- New Member Sunday and Breakfast at Bethlehem - Sunday, March 12th

- Installation of Pastor Jake Anderson - Sunday, March 19th - welcome breakfast will be served between services
- Easter Sunday is April 16th
- Retirement Celebration for Gary Preston - Sunday, April 23rd between services in fellowship hall, breakfast will be served

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, March 14th at 5:30pm

Adjournment

Prayers for our congregation as our ministry unfolds in 2017

Lord's Prayer