

**BETHLEHEM CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**January 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 5:30pm**  
**(Amended at the February 14, 2017 meeting)**

Judy Bradow, Sally Nelson, David Nycklemoe, Jeanne Schetnan, Marc Sikkink, Laura Skogen, Kim Langbehn, Keith Olson, Donavan Rasmusson, Brad Russell, Stefanie Gerhardson, Val Johnson, Darcy Koeckertiz, Glen Noyes, Tom Rasmusson

**Call to Order:** Marc Sikkink

**Devotions** led by Pastor Tom

**Open Forum time** - nothing brought forward at this time

**Secretary's report** – no minutes to approve from December, there was not a quorum

**Treasurer's Report** – offerings were lower for the month of December, about \$18,000 less. The year to date was still more than last year. End of the year giving was down, however the building fund is doing very well and has over \$119,000.

- **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 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor and motion carried.**

Comments from the Pastors - Pastor Tom talked about the week of Prayer and Christian Unity coming up. Our church will be hosting the first service on Monday from 12:10 to 12:30. it is a great distribution of the different Christian faith traditionalist in this community.

Pastor Jake is excited for a new chapter and to work with the Deacon's fund and helping out in many different areas.

- A. Leon Keller was present in the meeting and updated the council on the call committee process. He commented that it was a very extensive process and the committee was very thorough. There recommendation was to call Pastor Jacob Anderson as an associate pastor for our parish.
- B. In speaking with a contract with Pastor Jake it is also written that there be a \$5,000 self directed sum that is contingent on health insurance and if a need would arise that he would need full insurance for his family it would not be above that amount. Donvan made a motion to approve and Kim 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor and motion carried. The call and compensation guidelines package will follow with the synod guidelines compensation package and the additional \$5,000 self directed.
- C. Update from the Nominating Committee as they will look and find replacements for the current council positions. Update will be after the Annual meeting.
- D. Looking over the 2017 budget, we started the 2016 year with a deficit of \$39,000. Some recommendations are to ask committee to cut expenses by ten percent, educational programs, office supplies, and to cut benevolences by ten percent. We have a lot of positives moving forward, the building fund is doing very well and welcoming Pastor Jake. David made a motion to support the budget as written with the challenge to commodities to make cuts and decrease the deficit. Decided not to cut benevolences and pass the budget and still try to cut other expenses but the leave the benevolences the same. Motion made by Donavan 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darcy and all in favor.  
The budget will also be discussed in the Open Forum on Sunday after both the first and second services.

**Announcements:**

1. 2017 Budget Open Forum, Sunday January 22 at 9:30am and 11:30am. Please plan to attend
2. Week of Prayer and Christian Unity. Bethlehem hosting the first service on Monday January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12:10 to 12:30 with lunch to follow.
3. Joint Worship service and Annual Meeting Sunday January 29 at 9:30am, Chili feed to follow worship.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, February 14 at 5:30pm

Adjournment

Prayers for our congregation as our ministry unfolds in 2017

Lord's Prayer