

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes
March 8 2016, 5:30pm

Members: Judy Bradow, Sally Nelson, Jeanne Schetnan, Marc Sikkink, Laura Skogen, Kim Langbehn, Keith Olson, Donovan Rasmusson, Brad Russell, Stefanie Gerhardson, Val Johnson, Darcy Koeckertiz, Tom Rasmusson **Not present:** Glen Noyes, David Nycklemoe

Call to Order: Marc called the meeting to order

Devotions: Pastor Tom led devotions.

Open Forum Time: Tom Rasmusson addressed the issue of the dire need for more volunteers to help with the sound board.

Secretary's report from February was approved. Motion by Steph, 2nd by Keith. All approved motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Alex, January was a good month, report was put on file.

Pastor's Comments

Pastor Tom

- * We are in the season of lent. The round-robin preaching format between 5 ELCA churches in this area has worked well. Sunday services theme has been "Journeying in the wilderness." Wednesday services theme has been "Holden Evening Prayer."
- * Pastor Tom asked permission to attend the Fergus Falls High School boys basketball ball game on Wednesday. Pastor Jake is scheduled to represent Bethlehem in this round robin. The council approved Pastor Tom's request.
- * In Pastor Tom's had requested that as part of his Vacation/Continuing Education for 2016 he would like to attend a worship service in Denver at Nadia Bolz-Weber's congregation in June. A motion was made by Kim and 2nd by Judy. All approved and the motion passed.

Pastor Jake

- * No notes written. Pastor Jake enjoyed a vacation with his family as they traveled to California last month.
- * Beer and Hymns are to continue in the month of April at Union pizza.

Items of Business:

A. Capital Improvements Project – Glen Noyes spoke with the company about the stained glass windows and they will be sending out a contract. The windows could take up to three months to complete. Marc entertained a motion for Keith Olson and Nathan Johnson to take lead in the funding campaign for this project. Motion made by Darcy 2nd by Donovan. All approved, motion carried.

B. Call Committee - There are still spots that need to be filled. It is an ongoing process and calls will be continued to be made and will be ready to present to the congregation in April.

C. Date set for Congregation Meeting – the church council approved having a congregation meeting on Sunday April 24th at 9:30 am to vote and formalize the call committee and the Building Campaign Project.

D. Date set for listening Forum – April 10th at 11:30am, all council members are to attend. Church council member installation will also be Sunday April 10th at both worship services.

E. Delegates for the Northwest MN Synod Assembly May 20 – 21 at Concordia in Moorhead are:

- 1) Brad Russell
- 2) Marc Sikkink
- 3) Carrie Sikkink
- 4) Darcy Koeckeritz

Jenny Johnson will go as a non-voting member and alternate.

Correspondence - Anna Monke presented a letter to the council requesting funds to support her on an upcoming Mission Trip this May to Panama. She is reaching out in hopes to help raise her goal of \$1,650 by April 15. Her fundraising page is www.focusonline.org/goto/annamonke. Keith made a motion to offer \$100 from the undesignated memorials to Anna. Darcy 2nd. All approved, motion carried.

Jenny presented an Update to Initiative 7, Goal 1-A. Their goal is to carry out ministry to children, youth, and families. Their first objective goal is to create a relevant and compelling space on Sunday mornings for faith formation experience for children birth through 5th grade. They have done their research and would like to create a children's space in the sanctuary in the front left by removing two pews, adding a colorful rug, kids table and chairs, quiet toys, and chairs for parents.

They would like to utilize \$750 from the Parish Education 800.400.02 line, which is a gift from the Uggerud family. Donovan made a motion, Keith 2nd. All approved, motion carried.

Announcements:

1. Holy Week Schedule

- Palm Sunday March 20, breakfast will be served by the youth between services and after the 10:15 am service
 - Maundy Thursday Worship Services at 12:10 and 6:30pm
 - Good Friday Worship Services at 12:10pm and Good Friday Tenebre, “Lenten Sketches” by the Jubilee Choir at 6:30pm
 - Easter Sunday Worship Services at 6:30am, 8:30am, and 10:15am
- Easter Breakfasts served from 7-10

2. Church Council Retreat Tuesday, April 12th from 5:30 to 9pm.

3. First Communion Sunday April 17th at the 10:15am worship service.

Motion to Adjourn