

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 21th, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:12 PM

PRESENT: Al Thompson, Pastor Kidd, Lloyd Murray, Val DeMartino, Jeff Kulow, Elaine Morlan, Helen Pelton and Bill Conkey

ABSENT: Stacey Wollet, Beth Lowe, JJ Losasso

DEVOTION: “God is in the Manager” from Bonhoffer

*Motion to accept minutes from November 28, 2017 by Al Thompson and 2nd by Bill Conkey.
Motion was carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

***CHRISTIAN ED:**

- Council reviewed prior to the meeting
- Coat drive was a great success.
- Family movie night set, will show animated “Arthur” movie. Will use the new projector donated by Judy Sommerlad.
- Planning a family bowling night at Boardman Lanes. Still working on a date.
- Family Game night in the planning. Date to still be determined.

***COMMUNICATION:**

- Minutes reviewed prior to the meeting
- Lloyd and Bill met with a representative from Armstrong Cable to see about combining our phone and internet. It will save us about \$50.00 per month and there will be no charge to run the cable line to the church. They may look at getting new phones as well.
- Shelia Kidd has completed upgrades to the website and brochure. She also found a company that can run the website for \$10.00 less per month. It is called “WICKS” and is easy to operate and maintain. A suggestion was made to leave out the names of the staff in the brochures in case of changes. Also meeting minutes can be uploaded into a template.

***FINANCE:**

- Council reviewed meeting minutes prior to tonight’s meeting.
- As of November 30th our expenses have exceeded our income by \$2,695.00. We are hoping to balance out by the end of the year.
- Our bookkeeper has resigned. Sandy Huddlston has found a potential replacement. Sandy will transfer some of her duties to the new person and will not take a salary anymore.

- Finance is watching the balance in the Capital Improvement fund. When it reaches \$25,000 we will start paperwork to reduce it back to the \$1019 per month.

***PARISH LIFE (Formerly MEMBERSHIP):**

- Position has been filled by Helen Pelton. We welcomed her and offered our support.

***PROPERTY:**

- Stan completed the front door canopy drain issue.
- Dave needs to strip the floor in Fellowship hall. This along with the painting of the hall will make it look much more appealing. They will also paint behind the coffee urns in the kitchen.
- Dishwasher in small kitchen is broken. Dishes must be washed by hand for now. Memorial fund is going to donate \$580 towards a new one.
- Stan fixed the de-icing apparatus for the gutters.
- Leak in the pipe in the big kitchen was fixed.

***OUTREACH (Formerly WELCOME):**

- There was no meeting this month

***WORSHIP:**

- Council reviewed meeting minutes prior to tonight's meeting.
- Went over the holiday services. 10 am will be readings of the prophecies and Advent carols. 4 pm will be the "ABC's of Christmas". The children's choir will sing. Theresa Lavarock will play flute for one song and Gianna DeNiro will sing a solo with Shelia on piano. The 7 pm service will have the choir and special music from Shelia. Also the bells will be played.
- Planning to honor long term choir members who are no longer able to sing with the choir. Will take place January 21st at the 11:00 am service.
- After Christmas we will return to liturgy with kyrie and the hymn of praise.

***PASTORS REPORT:**

- Made 35 calls and visits again this month.
- Vacation from December 27th to January 5th.
- Pastor also delivered cookies to the shut-ins.

***OLD BUSINESS:**

- Time and Talent sheets, Bill received 20 more. He is entering these into the spread sheet and then we can contact people to help with different activities. Bill will have Helen from parish life help him with this.

***NEW BUSINESS:**

- Someone wandered into the church during office hours and begged for money. This of course brought up security concerns. There was a seminar in Stowe Ohio to address the

recent mass shooting events. There was a robbery locally at St. Christine's church in Youngstown. Some of the larger churches in the area are using members who can carry a concealed weapon as security. Lloyd is going to contact an Austintown police officer to come and talk to us about church security.

***CLOSING:** Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:52PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Valerie DeMartino