

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 20th, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

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

ABSENT: Stacey Wollet, Beth Lowe, Helen Pelton, Brian Klase

DEVOTION: From “Invitational Christian”. It talked about the dwindling attendance of churches everywhere. A prayer was also read.

*Motion to accept minutes from Feb 20, 2018 by Elaine Morlan and 2nd by Jeff Kulow. Motion was carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

***CHRISTIAN ED:**

- Joey and Teddy going on mission trip in July to West Virginia. Bethel Youth Fund is paying half of their fees.
- Fat Tuesday was a success. Many attended the pancake dinner. A 50/50 raffle provided \$50 back to the youth fund.
- No family bowling date as of yet: Beth will try for March.
- We'd like to possibly have a parent meeting in mid-August to facilitate more participation in youth events and volunteering.
- Continue the care bear donations through Lent.
- Both the youth and praise band could use three more wireless mikes for sanctuary presentations. They will see if the technology fund could be used for this.
- Pop machine was taken away at no charge. There is a used one for \$400 that Beth would buy from the Youth Fund if it seems to be in good enough condition. It was a good money maker.
- Perhaps have group discussions on topics of concern to parents after church. Maybe bring a lunch or sandwich and have a round table discussion. Possible discussion topics: bullying and School violence.
- We are into the fifth rotation of Sunday school material, this will last through May 20th.
- We are considering having the kids speak about what they are learning in Sunday School or for example why church is important to them once a month. Hopefully this will bring in more people/family to see the kids.

***COMMUNICATION:**

- The Committee has met several times over the last month with Armstrong Cable regarding phone and internet service. The change was made for a lower rate and better service.

- Bob Wright has also met with Church staff setting up new e-mail and password changes and WiFi. He suggested “Team Office to be our new I.T. support.
- A new computer was purchased for office to replace computer that was not worth repairing. Bill is working to get all of the information backed up in case of future crashes. They are still working to restore everything from the old computer.

***FINANCE:**

- Treasurers report: Total Budgeted Income for January 2018 \$16,921.00. Budgeted monthly income needed to meet yearly budget \$21,786.00. Leaving us (\$4,865.00) minus income to meet yearly budget.
- Total expenses for Budgeted January \$ 15,354.00. Budgeted monthly expenses \$21,786.00. Leaving us with \$6,432.00 less spent than budgeted.
- January income exceeded January expense by \$1,567.00.
- Camp Fredrick 2018 corporate dues \$300.00. We took in \$256.00 dollars for Camp Fredrick from, January mission. If we use this as a portion of corporate dues then we cannot claim it as a benevolence. Bill said that endowment sends annual funds to Camp Frederick and perhaps they consider that as benevolence. He will check on this.
- Bill met with Paul Bowman February 20, 2018 from Church Mutual Insurance Company to review and obtain a quote for Bethel’s Building and grounds insurance. Paul said we could get a 5% discount from ELCA.
- Year-end 2017 statements are available in the narthex.
- betheltreasurer#1@gmail.com e-mail address has been set up for Debbie Carrocce Bethel’s Bookkeeper.
- Finance Committee 2017 year-end report completed.

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

- Met with Pastor Kidd and Bill Conkey January 23, 2018.
- Reviewed the responsibilities of the Parish Life Chairperson as stated in the Constitution.
- We had 42 members on the “3 week absent” list. They were all called and the list of those in need given to Pastor Kidd.
- Reviewed the inactive member list. Reviewing the inactive member list will be a work in progress throughout the year. Approx. 110 names on the list going back to 2005.
- Each was labeled.....Retain, Shut in, Relocated...etc. and decided best way to contact.. letter, phone call, visit.
- Currently we have a letter than can be sent but needs to be updated. Last printed in 2015.
- Next Fellowship activities include: New member luncheon with 2-4 new potential members.

***PROPERTY:**

- Faucet in women's bathroom upper level is broke and will be replaced by Stan.
- Fan in daycare is broken and taped off from use at the present time. Stan will get us a price for replacing it. It is an older unit.

- We have purchased more salt in preparation of more snow coming this next month.

***OUTREACH (Formerly WELCOME):**

- The Outreach Committee met on February 11th to discuss plans for distributing Easter Food Baskets. We will be distributing them on March 24th from 10:00 am to 11:00 am.
- We also discussed serving dinner at the Rescue Mission on the last Saturday in April, May and June. We will announce this before church service and pass around a sheet for volunteers to sign up to help on April 28th , May 26th , and June 30th .
- The drive thru dinner on February 8th brought in a total of \$45.00, \$33.75 to the General Fund and \$11.25 to mission.
- There was a brief discussion about teaming up with Mickey Schuster to hold an International Buffet in the fall and split the proceeds. Outreach would like to use their half of the money raised to purchase new communion assistant robes. Memorial funds may also be available to help with the cost of new robes. Val Demartino plans to discuss this at the next Mickey Schuster meeting and see their thoughts.

***WORSHIP AND MUSIC:**

- We discussed the Ash Wednesday Service. Pastor had one in place and we will use that service. He had an idea for the choir anthem and having some older children participate in the service.
- We will firm up the Holy Week services at our next meeting in March but they will be the same format as in the past with different people participating.
- It was discussed having a song leader using a mic when the choir does not sit in the choir loft. We will offer that to the choir members and see who is interested.
- After Easter we will begin our drive to purchase the new red hymnal. We will seek help from the memorial fund and ask people in the congregation to donate money in honor or someone or in memory of a love one. We will insert bookplates into the hymnals stating who donated and for what cause.
- We do not need to purchase the organist version of the hymnal as we have two copies already. However, we will purchase the CDs to go with the new order of service so that we can learn them. One of the orders of service is familiar to us and is based on one we are using now.
- Our goal is to have the hymnals purchased and ready for use in September or at the beginning of the church year, Advent 2018.

***PASTORS REPORT:**

- Made 30 calls and visits again this month.
- The Lock-In went well but attendance was low due to outside activities.
- Pastor is doing an Adult Bible study called “Fearless Conversations” on Sundays at 9:45.
- Wednesday Lenten services will be round robin again. With Soup supper before service.
- We had 2 new members join 2 weeks ago and have 2 more interested in joining.

***OLD BUSINESS:**

- Safety concerns were raised by the daycare. There are church doors open during the day and anyone could gain access to the daycare area. This brought up a long discussion

about church safety. Some suggestions were a buzzer system for the doors, Camera/Intercom system, notifying the office of any visits, Pickup system for tutoring program, and crash bars for all outer doors.

- Mutual Ministry committee met with the choir director. They are working on the rest of the job descriptions and will meet with other staff soon.
- The annual report needs completed still. All committees were reminded to get their reports in ASAP.
- The annual audit of the “Books” still needs completed. Council needs clarification of who the members of the team are.

***NEW BUSINESS:**

- No new business at this meeting.

***CLOSING:** Closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 9:00PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Valerie DeMartino