

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

MINUTES from: Monday, September 21, 2020 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: P = Present A = Absent

Mal Bailey – P	Paul Baribeau - P	Tami Bowman – P	Pam Crouse – P
Andy Dennison – P	Mike Diercks- P	Rachel Engel – A	Bill Evans – P
Alexa Giddings – P	Michael Husak – A	Jennifer Nelson – P	Ed Skaw – A
Brad Wiedmann – P			

STAFF MEMBERS: Pastor Luci – P Dawn Paul – P

PREPARATION:

Devotions – Mal Bailey led devotions on this uneasy time with COVID and how

Sharing Joys & Concerns – Celebrate new opportunities as we try new things during COVID but also the concern of how people are getting “online” tired. Celebrate for Alexa as she embarks on retiring, for a 2nd time. Celebrate with Dawn as she embarks on a new home environment. Celebrate that students able to participate in sports. Prayers for David Walczak’s family. David passed away at 56 from a heart attack. Prayers for John Grant’s family. He passed away at 53 from cancer. David and John are both friends/relatives of Brad. Also, Joy for Brad’s grandson who qualified for the CO State tennis tournament this weekend.

Open Forum – none

Meeting Minutes 7/20/20: motion to approve minutes Discussion – since we hadn’t mentioned to review the July minutes, we will postpone voting on July until next month so in October we will need to vote July and September. August 17 meeting was CAT review hosted by Pastor Kurt Jacobson. Motion moved to accept Financials (BW/MB) discussion – how are we doing? Dawn gave information on previous years data which shows that, while we are behind right now, that is not unusual for this time of year. 9 yes, 1 no motion carried.

INFORMATION/ACTION:

Old Business:

1. Re-Opening Task Force – Pam reported on the work of the Task Force. They communicate weekly with each other and review recommendations coming from Barron County and other areas. Worship and Music has reduced the time they need for reopening to 10 days. Pam reminded us who is on the Task force. Discussion about church building having some activities vs having worship. Action – Reaffirm support. After discussion, there was no vote but a verbal reaffirmation from most council members who are in support of the Task Force.
2. BIC and Welcome Statement – Motion made to approve the Welcome statement as presented by BIC task Force. (PC/BW) – discussion – has there been communication to the church body as a whole about this? Yes; Cross Talks, articles in the newsletter, survey sent out to all members of the congregation, questions on the CAT, one on one conversations with some members. 9 yes, 1 abstention, motion carried.
3. Transition Task Force – update, three sub-groups: mission and vision, staffing, self-study. Pam and Bill have joined this group to help. The group has been reviewing the 2013 Transition Task force report as well as the CAT report. They tried a “coffee hour” yesterday and had limited attendance. They are trying to come up with other ways to get information out to the congregation. This group has a lot of work to do. If they reach out to you for your input, please do your best to participate.
4. CAT – observations: A lot of great information that was well mapped out. Very insightful. Reaffirmed what we already thought. Worship experience is very high. Flexibility in worship is very high. Financials showed that our giving is below average compared to the other churches in the “pool”. Demographics need to be

remembered, who completed the survey...longer term members and the 55 and older members. Fence sitters...this is a group to pay attention to. How do we engage them more?

New Business:

1. Constitution – Need a team to review and suggest updates. Brad, Alexa and Jennifer will work on this.
2. Annual Meeting – Need a team to review ways to go forward with this due to COVID-19. We need to be sure we have a quorum and we need to address the voting. Is anyone willing to help with “pre-planning” for our annual meeting? If you know of anyone with Zoom expertise who may be able to offer some guidance, please let Pam, Bill or Jennifer know.

Strategy Discussion:

1. Canoeing the Mountains discussion of Part 4, 5 and complete book – delayed until October meeting.

Reports: attached

1. No questions on other attached reports

Committees: attached

1. No questions on Committee Reports

Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Council Meeting: Monday 10/12/20 @ 10:30am

Council Meeting: Monday 10/19/20 @ 5:30p (via Zoom)

Assignments:

Oct devotions – Pam Crouse

Nov Devotions: Mike Diercks