

## BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

**MINUTES from:** Monday, January 18, 2021 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** P = Present A = Absent

Mal Bailey – P	Paul Baribeau - P	Tami Bowman – A	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 – P
Brad Wiedmann – P			

**STAFF MEMBERS:** Pastor Luci – P Pastor Peter – P Dawn Paul – P

**Guest:** Pastor Laurie Skow-Anderson

### PREPARATION:

**Devotions** – Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson, guest speaker, began by introducing us to the Synod staff and led a brief synopsis of all the work the Synod does. There are 197 congregations in the NW Synod of WI, 3 Campus ministry programs as well as 4 Bible camps. BL thanked us for our support of the Synod and reminded us of their support for us. Next, BL led devotions which began with Matthew 7: 24-27 “building your house on a Rock”, Jesus is the Rock of our foundation. Even in this crazy time, we can be faithful as we know we have a strong foundation in Jesus. We also looked at the word “crisis”, which in Chinese is identified by 2 characters: the first being *Danger*, the second being *Opportunity*. We discussed various *Dangers* and *Opportunities* we see today amidst the current pandemic.

**Sharing Joys & Concerns** – Brad - thankful for Rice Lake Area Men’s Club – no fundraiser this year due to COVID therefore the group may not be able to donate to their various causes however, they received a donation from a donor and will now be able to continue their community support this year. P Luci – thankful for Bethany members who were able to “unexpectedly” get their COVID vaccines.

**Open Forum** – none

**Meeting Minutes :** 12/17/2020 **Motion** to accept minutes. BW/ES. Discussion – none. Motion carried

**Motion to Accept Financials:** PC/PB. Discussion – left over funds, moving funds to general gift fund etc. It was decided that we would like to invite Wendy to come to the February Council meeting to answer some specific questions. Motion carried.

### INFORMATION/ACTION:

#### Old Business:

1. TTF: Report will be given to council soon. After that, Council will decide how to disseminate the information to the congregation. Since Coffee Hours haven’t gone well and there are no in-person Cross Talks now...how will we most effectively get the information to the congregation?
2. SRTE: TF has redefined their *building use* language to clarify 10 persons/room. Wisconsin Council on Churches guidelines continue to be reviewed and used as a tool. Pam will be stepping down from the TF and Mark Nymo will be the new chairperson.
3. BIC TF: - They are preparing for the Annual Meeting vote. Question raised about the new goals that Reconciling Works have set for RIC Churches for 2025 which include a “meaningful financial contribution” to Reconciling Works. This contribution would go to support the work of RW as they in turn support the work of ELCA Churches in their efforts to become Reconciling in Christ congregations. This goal (from RW) was released this month, and the BIC Task Force intends to study it more.
4. Council Goals: This will be tabled until after the Annual Meeting.
5. Special Council Meeting: This was determined to be not necessary.
6. Annual Meeting: We have an agenda, we have a ballot, we have plans in place, we have a “help desk” ready to help members who have any troubles with Zoom. If there are nominations from the floor, you will be

able to write in on the ballot for Council nominations. All other nominations will be dealt with via voice vote.

**New Business:**

1. Call Committee Nominations: Bethany Constitution states of group of 6. Exec is recommending 6 plus 4 alternates.
2. **Motion** made to extend meeting to 7:30pm. BW/ES. Discussion – none. Motion carried.
3. Call Committee cont. **Motion** made to approve the list of candidates as presented for the Call Committee. BW/ES. Discussion – we may want to make a recommendation to Call Committee to include more youth during the interviews...or at least the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of interviews. Motion carried.
4. Employee Handbook approval: postponed
5. Property Committee Motion: **Motion** made to approve the Property Committee’s request for \$17,000 to redo the east side of the church parking lot. BW/PC. Discussion – funds come out of the building fund. We did receive two quotes, one from Monarch and one from Senn. (The council packet Property Committee minutes are incorrect...the \$16,247 bid was, in fact from Monarch, not from Senn). We revisited the Property Committee budget vs the building fund budget. Motion carried.
6. Budget: reminder of Budget Forum
1. **Motion** made to accept P Peter’s report as stated which includes a list of potential new members to Bethany: Chloe Rogers, Matthew Tebo, Lianna Muschinske, Nicole Muschinske, Katherine Muschinske and Peter Muschinske. BW/ES. Discussion – none. Motion carried. Blessings and Welcome to our new members.

**Reports: attached**

1. No questions on other attached reports

**Committees: attached**

1. No questions on Committee Reports

**Meeting closed with a prayer from Pastor Peter**

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Executive Council Meeting:** Tuesday 2/9/2021 @ 10:30am

**Council Meeting:** Monday 2/15/21 @ 5:30p (via Zoom)

**Assignments:**

**Feb Devotions:** Jennifer Nelson

**Mar Devotions:** **TBD**