

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Mission: We INVITE all; We GROW in Faith; We GO to share God's love and grace

MINUTES from: Monday, March 15, 2021 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: P = Present A = Absent

Mal Bailey – P	Wanda Bock - P	Tami Bowman – P	Pam Crouse – P
Andy Denison – P	Mike Diercks- P	Bill Evans – P	Alexa Giddings – P
Dave Myre– P	Mackenzie Narins - P	Jennifer Nelson – P	Deberra Slagstad - P
Brad Wiedmann – P			

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

PREPARATION:

Devotions – Andy led devotions on a story of a young child who seeks out the German soldier who helped his grandma survive Auschwitz.

Sharing Joys & Concerns –. *A member who can now “physically” be present with his family after receiving his vaccine. A member whose father is 94 and failing.*

Open Forum – none

Meeting Minutes : 2/15/2021 **Motion** to approve the February minutes BW/DM. Discussion, none. Motion carried.

Financials: **Motion** made to accept the financials BW/AD. Discussion – Dawn, have you heard anything about the upcoming audit? No. Can you ask Wendy and get back to us? Yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION:

Old Business:

1. Synod Representatives: Rick and Joan Benson will no longer be Synod Representatives. We have 4 names of candidates who are willing to participate. Byron Crouse and Bea Evans have been elected by Council via a Zoom poll vote.
2. BIC Update: Reconciling Works approved our application to become an RIC congregation. We are now listed on their search engine if you search for RIC churches. Bishop Laurie called to say that we have been selected as the “Bright Spot Award” in the synod in terms of our efforts in becoming an RIC church. The award is acknowledged at Synod Assembly. During discussion some questions were asked: Who decides when/if the BIC TF continues? This hasn’t been decided yet. The BIC task force meets tomorrow. Unintended consequences...we need to be mindful of the potential UC. P. Peter shared some comments on RW, yes, we can part ways in the future if need be, but P Peter doesn’t feel that will be required, but know that is always an option. Would it be possible to have BIC TF meet just before Council instead of just after so that Council can be updated on their actions sooner? Can we provide a “future” statement (position paper) to go out to congregation in terms of what will happen if...? Implementation is what needs to be clarified. Pam will take our questions to BIC Task Force. We will wait to hear back from them before we take any further action.
3. Call Committee Updates: Call Committee members are listed at the bottom of the agenda. They have met twice. They are now beginning to work on the Ministry Site Profile. They meet again on Sunday March 28th.
4. Budget Forum – postponed.
5. Safely Regathering Task Force update: See written report from staff. Many updates in terms of phase 2 gatherings specifically for Holy Week. Positive feedback on “In Person” worship opportunities, please participate if you haven’t already done so. Question about attendance being a little lower...please encourage members to give it a try if they are comfortable coming into the building. Drive in Worship will also be added again as weather gets better. We are also looking at being able to add the Gathering Room (somewhat last minute) if our RSVPs dictate that need.

New Business:

1. Transition Task Force: Summary is attached. This is what is proposed to go out to the congregation. This is a “living document”. Suggestion that the summary be printed and mailed to the congregation with a cover letter. Deb, Jennifer, Alexa and Bill will help facilitate the cover letter/ mailing/Cross Talks. Also, an opportunity for members to gather (forum, Cross Talk) to discuss the TTF report. Full report and attachments could be put on the website.
2. “Hybrid” Council Meetings: Andy gave an update on his research into this. Desktop mics are easy to use and “affordable” but are a little limited in functionality. These would help for small gatherings in the Conference room. Gathering room would be trickier. May need to get a professional involved if we want to do Hybrid with the GR.

Motion made to extend meeting to 7:30 BW/BE. Discussion, none. Motion carried.

Brad has volunteered to help Andy in more research on a “hybrid” approach to meetings. We feel this will be useful in the future even after COVID.

Staff Reports: attached. We had a request for membership updates. Council will be updated on New Members coming in. We have had 3 couples transferred out and 6 new members coming in since Oct 1 since P Peter started.

Committees Reports: attached.

Motion moved to adjourn MB/DM. Discussion – none. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Council Meeting: Tuesday 4/13/2021 @ 10:30am

Council Meeting: Monday 4/19/21 @ 5:30p

Assignments:

Apr Devotions:

May Devotions: