

## BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

**MINUTES from:** Monday, March 21, 2016 (prepared by Roger Martin)

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

|                    |                     |                    |                 |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Craig Antonson – P | Carol Hakala – P    | Wendy Markgren – P | Dave Wilson – P |
| Julie Bever – A    | Tina Henningsen – A | Roger Martin – P   |                 |
| Beth Brown – P     | Kevin Jacobson – A  | John Osterloth – P |                 |
| Ryan DeNucci – A   | Jim Kusilek – P     | Walfsy Pierre – A  |                 |

**STAFF MEMBERS:** Pastor Grant Aaseng – P Pastor Bob Berg – P Amy Brekke – A Dawn Paul – P

### PREPARATION:

*Devotions* – Carol Hakala

*Sharing Joys and Concerns*

*Open Forum* – Ed Glaubitz provided an overview of the various options available to fund Bethany projects via members who are Thrivent Financial clients. Only 1/3 of Bethany members who are Thrivent clients are designating Thrivent Choice Dollars to Bethany. Ed open to ideas on how to educate/encourage members about program and how to donate to Bethany. Discussion held on how to best communicate available resources to qualifying congregation members.

*Minutes from 2/15/16 meeting* – Dave moved to approve/Craig seconded/Approved

### INFORMATION/ACTION:

***Reformatting of the council meeting agenda*** – discussed decision to move financial report to latter part of meeting and add focus to big picture discussion items.

***Church Health Team*** – Per Carol and Pastor Grant: Small Group Leaders Manual in development; Leaders workshop scheduled for 5/14/16; Goal = 5 small groups by year-end; Sue Hildebrand provides a summary in Newsbreak

***Walking Together*** -13 members attended synod event 5/13/16 in Eau Claire; each attended 4-5 breakout sessions; work in future to communicate this opportunity to all members and grow participation (cost covered by Bethany)

***Council Retreat*** – scheduled for SAT 4/9/16 from 8:30-3 at Zahrbock home; emphasis on council member gift discovery and tech/software tools available to Bethany; meet at church at 8 am to carpool.

***Letter from Business & Estate*** – circulated; Jim suggested a Thank You card be sent

***Council Assignments*** –reviewed/finalized 2016 Council Assignments for devotions and offering duty (copy attached to minutes)

***Other*** – Dementia-friendly designation being pursued for church per Jim

### REPORTS:

***Pastor Grant*** – emphasis on Holy Week preparation; encouraged by Palm Sunday event response; pleased with Usher/Greeter appreciation event; invited 18 households to Prospective Member Orientation on 4/3; encouraged support of weekly Lunch Box program on Tuesdays at Bethany

**Pastor Bob** – looking forward to visit from Mabel Madinga (Admin. Ass't to Bishop in Malawi); written report

**Finance** - Carol moved to approve financials/John seconded/Approved; Jim moved to approve a one-time action to add 3 extra payments to *Bright Home for Tomorrow* to further reduce principle and reduce reserve from 7.2 months to 4.2 months/Dave seconded/Approved.

#### **MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS:**

**Personnel (Tina)** – development of instrument for staff to share input re: church (perhaps in advance of performance reviews).

**Property (Walfsty)** – Jim suggested we look at cleaning of white stone on south face of building

**Mission Concerns (Craig)** – no meeting

**Music & Worship (Dave)** – see written report

**Education (Julie)** – no report

**Stewardship (Ryan)** – no report

**Welcome (Wendy)** – no meeting

**WELCA (Carol)** – see written report

**Altar Guild (Beth)** – no meeting; emphasis on adding new committee members

**Trust Fund (Kevin)** – no report/see meeting minutes

**The Green Team (John)** – emphasis on developing recycling programs (e.g. batteries, jeans, etc.)

**Finance (Jim)** – see written reports

**Church Health Team (Carol)** – see above

#### **NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Council Retreat:** Saturday 4/9/16 8:30a-3:00p

**Executive Committee:** Monday 4/11/16 5:15p

**Council Meeting:** Monday 4/18/16 5:30p

#### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

**April Devotions:** Kevin Jacobson

**April Collection/Lockup:** Kevin Jacobson/Carol Hakala