

## BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

**MINUTES from:** Monday, October 16, 2017 (prepared by Roger Martin)

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

|                    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Craig Antonson – P | Carol Hakala – P    | Roger Martin – P   |
| Julie Bever – A    | Tina Henningsen – P | Jen Nelson - P     |
| Beth Brown – P     | Jim Kusilek – A     | John Osterloth – A |
| Rachel Engel – P   | Wendy Markgren – P  | Dave Wilson – P    |
| Chick Feather – A  |                     |                    |

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

### PREPARATION:

*Devotions* – Rachel

*Sharing Joys and Concerns*

*Open Forum* – None

*Minutes from last meeting* – September 18, 2017 meeting minutes approved (JN/DW)

*Financial report* – Approved (RM/CH)

### INFORMATION/ACTION:

**Promote Name Tags:** 451 name tags were ordered and will be available for distribution in the coming weeks. Council members should wear their tags whenever you're at services/events.

**Internet WIFI upgrade:** Update on September meeting discussions: Upgrades to the WIFI in the church were made shortly after our last meeting. The old system provided a very limited number of users and limited use for larger events. Additionally there were places in the building that had little/no coverage (e.g. Pastor Grant's office). The updated system now fixes those issues. The one-time cost for the upgrade was approved by the Trust Fund but the incremental \$40.00/mo. cost from Mosaic was not. This will be absorbed into the '17 budget and planned into the '18 budget.

**Nominating Committee:** In our September meeting we discussed this committee operating with just 3 members but the constitution states it must operate with 5 (+ Pastor Grant) so Tina will work to ID 2 additional committee members in addition to Laurie, Kevin and Dennis.

**10:00 service update:** Discussed early response to change in this service time from 10:15 to 10:00. General consensus is most response is favorable as it reduces lag time between services and thereby encourages Sunday School parents to stay for worship. Good participation noted for Creation Station program. Some concern about changes in certain programs impacted by reduced time. The on-going process to fine-tune this will take 2-3 years to assess. The Worship and Education teams will determine any future plans and changes.

**NCD Survey/Task Force:** Reviewed survey results from the second congregational survey conducted in SEPT 2017. Saw marked growth in 7 of 9 profile categories. Two lowest scores fall in the *Passionate Spirituality* category and *Inspiring Worship Service* category. Pastor Grant is of the opinion that many Lutheran congregations score lower in the *Passionate Spirituality* category so the *Inspiring Worship Service* category was determined to be the greatest area of opportunity. After the first survey, emphasis was placed on Small Groups based on scores in that category and that score increased from 41 to 67 showing positive response to what was done in the past 2 years with small group ministry. A Task Force was assembled to address the second survey's results and it was agreed that the Worship Team

will be charged with defining “inspiring worship service” in our congregation and then appropriate follow up will be introduced. A Cross Talk presentation of the survey results will be conducted between services on Sunday, November 19.

**Future Foundation Fiesta:** Discussed strategy and plans for the upcoming 11/11 Fiesta stewardship event. All council members are to attend and help as needed.

**Extend meeting:** Motion made (DW/CH) to extend the meeting as needed past the 7 pm deadline. Approved.

**Building Maintenance & Improvement Fund:** A request was made to create a new Building Maintenance & Improvement Fund. A motion was made to that affect (JN/TH) but was not approved. Discussion focused on including such a fund within the existing Bright Hope for Tomorrow fund for greater clarity. After further discussion the following motion was made (CH/BB): *Change the existing fund name from Bright Hope for Tomorrow to become The Building Fund and expand the purpose of the fund to include necessary building maintenance needs not just the mortgage tied to the expansion. Current \$ in BHFT will be used for mortgage only and future funds from the new appeal will be used for both mortgage and building maintenance/improvements. APPROVED*

**Current financial position:** A recent letter and email was sent to the congregation to address our current general giving shortfall. Additionally messages have been given at services recently. Follow up with select donors will be also be conducted to address the potential for special gifts. Additional measures will be visited following assessment of the Fiesta stewardship event.

**There were no additional committee reports beyond the written reports/minutes submitted.**

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Executive Council:** Monday 11/13/17 @ 5:30p

**Council Meeting:** Monday 11/20/17 @ 5:30p

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

**November Devotions:** Beth Brown

**November Collection/Lockup:** Beth Brown/Chick Feather

**December Devotions:** Carol Hakala

**December Collection/Lockup:** Dave Wilson/Tina Henningsen