

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

## Council Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2008 - 6:30 PM

GOD'S FAMILY SERVING CHRIST WITH LOVE

Present: Pastor Dick, Tim Peterson, Tom Parrish, Brian Kjorlie, Jeanette Gessner, John Denhartigh, Wade Werner and Judy Hernkind

Absent: Tony Hess

Guests: Karen McCulloch, Marge Margelowsky, Sandy Pate and Thelma Hurd

Goals:

1. Improve communication
2. Financial stability with a focus on other ministries
3. Council structure
4. Help people utilize their gifts for serving

Ground Rules:

Be polite/ Be on time/ Stay on time/ Be good listeners/ Remember goals/ Questions okay/  
Deal with negatives with a positive attitude/ No rules needed we're okay.

Roles:

- Recorder - Judy Hernkind
- Time Keeper – Jeanette Gessner
- Facilitator – John Denhartigh

Welcome/ Opening Prayer

Pastor Dick & Council Members

ACTION PLAN: Small Group Support Forum

- 1) Looking at expanded missions' forum.  
September 14<sup>th</sup> will be the opening of Sunday school and also Rally Day. Each group within the church will have a table with someone to provide information. If people have gifts, we will help direct them so they can share their gifts with others. Common pieces of information should be at each table such as, Group Name, Contact Person, and Date of Next Meeting. Denise can compile and provide such information. We need to let people know that these do not have to be long term commitments. We also need to make this information available to those who attend services on Wednesday nights.
- 2) The question was asked if we should have an "all committee night" vs. Sunday morning. The general feeling is that doing that monthly is too much and thought it would be better to hold them on a Non-Confirmation Wednesday after church possibly in August, December and late Lent. The next "All Committee Night" will be Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:10 p.m.
- 3) A change needs to be done with announcements. It was decided that we should try having an usher taking the hand held mike to those making announcements or have the person making the announcement come to the front to make their announcement.

Check in: What do you do to relax and unwind?

Agenda items with time

Appearances/ NONE

## Items

Motion made by Jeanette to approve July 21, 2008 meeting minutes, seconded by Wade. Motion Carried.

### Pastor's Report

See your report provided by Pastor Dick

There will be a Potluck Picnic on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Council Members should try to be there to help out.

We will be starting two Sunday services in September. We will discuss how things are going with that at our September meeting.

#### PARISH NURSES:

Janice Petersen will donate 10 hours per week and Joan Swift will also donate some time. Janice will focus more on pregnancies, follow-up calls and visits, etc. Joan will focus more on such things as blood pressure monitoring, flu shots, etc. Both ladies are RN's. There is starting up money available through St. Clare's to help with this program. We will be the first church in our area with Parish Nurses.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY there will be an Egg Bake Brunch following the first service and a meal (possibly Tips & Noodles) following the second service. There will also be something light served following the Wednesday night service.

### Christian Ed.

Vacation Bible School was a great success. There were people from 23 congregations in attendance.

### Evangelism / Volunteer Coordinator

We are saddened to say that Brenda is resigning from her position on the council due to health issues. We cannot express our gratitude for all that Brenda has done and will continue to keep her in our prayers.

We are moving forth with the planning of Judy Urban returning in the fall. The fee will be \$100 per congregation.

### Environment

See your report that Tim provided

## Finance

See your reports that Tom provided.

Kari had to transfer money from the building fund to the general fund to pay bills for the first time this year.

#### Mortgage Update:

We received a letter of confirmation from Thrivent in regards to our mortgage. We will have our mortgage with Thrivent at 5 7/8% for 5 years. Our payment will be \$10,600 per month.

Kari had a prepayment clause changed from 10 years to 5 years.

Our appraised value went from 2.3 million to 3.1 million. Our closing should be approximately October 15<sup>th</sup>. Pledge cards will need to be changed so they say "mortgage fund".

Motion made by Tim to approve July financial statement, seconded by Jeanette.  
Motion Carried.

Tim made a motion to move forward with Thrivent for our mortgage. The motion was seconded by Wade. Motion Carried.

#### Property

Nothing to report

#### Social

Nothing to report

#### Stewardship

Jim Crawford has agreed to head up the Stewardship Committee.

The letter that will be sent for Consecration Sunday will be similar to last year. There will also be a letter sent from the Finance Committee with details regarding the mortgage and will include suggestions of ways that members can help.

Something needs to go in August Chimes, such as “watch for future mailings regarding the mortgage”.

The letter for Consecration Sunday should be mailed approximately September 22<sup>nd</sup>, with the finance letter to follow.

#### Worship & Music

See your report from Tim.

#### Youth

Heather went back to school, so she won't be meeting with us.

The National Youth gathering will be in New Orleans. All students in grades 8 – 12 are invited. A deposit of \$125 per person is required by September 7<sup>th</sup>.

Youth gatherings are being held at Inglett's twice per month.

#### Past concerns (old business)

John received a letter from the synod requesting 1% more than we are currently to be giving. Due to our current finances, no further action will be taken in regards to their request.

#### New Business

Nothing to report.

#### Evaluation & Appreciations

Next Meeting –September 22, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. by Wade, seconded by Brian.

#### Lord's Prayer

