

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008 - 6:30 PM

GOD'S FAMILY SERVING CHRIST WITH LOVE

Present: Tim Peterson, Tom Parrish, Tony Hess, Brian Kjorlie, Jeanette Gessner, Heather Kucksdorf, Pastor Dick, John Denhartigh, and Judy Hernkind

Absent: Brenda Ertl and Wade Werner

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: Brainstorm goal #1 (15min) Tom Parrish

Ideas were discussed in regards to improving communication and understanding the financial statement. Kari explained the statement and it is felt that we all understand (for the most part). Kari will put one more line on the bottom of the current front page showing the 'bottom line' numbers so an overview of the financials is quick and easy to see, as well as any 'red flags' we need to be aware of.

Denise will add the information from the weekly giving statistics (from the 15th – the 15th) to the council agenda.

Committee chair people will relay to the financial information to the people on their committee.

It is felt that each committee should have a detailed report of their spending in June and again in early October.

Check in: How do you best describe yourself when in stressful situations?

Agenda items with time

Appearances/ NONE

Items

Motion made by Tony to approve June 16, 2008 meeting minutes, seconded by Jeanette. Motion Carried.

Pastor's Report

See separate report

Our congregation is doing well with "small groups".

Please contact those on the list of interests to invite them to your meeting.

Christian Ed.

Vacation Bible School will be August 4th – 8th.

Planning meetings are being scheduled. Sunday school 8/6, Youth 8/13,

Confirmation 8/20.

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.

A suggestion was made by Brenda to reimburse Charlotte Gilman some of the cost of the program used for our web page. Tony made a motion that we reimburse Charlotte \$400, the motion was seconded by Tim. Motion carried.

We need to look into following up and moving forth with the planning of Judy Urban returning in the fall. We need to know if we have members to work on this and if the congregations involved with share the expense.

Environment

None to report

Finance

Motion made by Tim to approve June financial statement, seconded by Heather. Motion Carried.

The mortgage application will go in on Wednesday, 7/23. More information will be available next month.

Property

Tony is looking into room darkening shades.

Property was over budget due to extensive snow plowing expenses.

Social

None to report

Stewardship

The committee will be forming on August 10th. Jim Crawford has agreed to head up the Stewardship Committee.

Worship & Music

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, 7/23.

The outdoor service was a success.

Check into the possibility of a cookout following the outdoor service on Sunday, August 31st. (Labor Day weekend)

Youth

An informal ceremony by the youth will be held on 7/30 & 8/3

It was suggested that we contact Anne Ciske about representing the youth on the church council.

Past concerns (old business)

None to report

New Business

The question was asked “has our church done anything to help with the recent disaster in our area?”

Pastor Dick will be attending a meeting to learn if there is something we can do.

ASAP in 2009, we need to look into the possibility of getting cushions for the pews and possible cloth banners. Both will function as sound barriers.

Evaluation & Appreciations

Next Meeting – August 18, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Lord’s Prayer