

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2017

Attendance:

Pastor Christopher Miller
Ron Harapat, Pres
Jan Olson, Vice Pres – excused
Linda Dahlman, Sec – present
Jerry Wiedebush – present

Jacqueline Whitehorn – present
Kelly Jorgenson – present
RobinLynn Stobart – excused
Mike Nelson – excused
Kathy Buffington – present

Guest: Ken Olson

Opening Meditation: Pastor led devotion, from Romans 10:5-15, and prayer time beginning at 6:35 PM in the church library. Prayers were lifted for 8 (eight) individuals or situations.

Meeting called to order at 6:51 PM by Ron.

Correspondence: Chris Miller mailed the completed application for membership in the Northwest District of Lutheran Churches in Mission for Christ (LCMC).

Minutes: Minutes of September 14, 2017 were **approved**.

Treasurer's Report: Approved. Ken Olson was present to answer questions about the proposed 2018 budget. The proposal includes figures for operation with, and without, sale of the ARK.

Pastor's Report:

August 10 – October 5, 2017

It has been a couple of months since I was able to supply a report to the council, because of the issue with my gallbladder. I feel like I lost most of August because of it. I had surgery to remove it on September 11, and I am feeling well now. It has taken a lot of recovery and work to get back to this point, but I am thankful for the help that the congregation provided to me, and look forward to being at full strength for the rest of the year.

Part of the difficulty around my surgery was the delay of the start of All Aboard this year. I hoped to start on September 13, but that wouldn't happen, and communication with the school regarding bussing of the kids broke down, so we didn't end up having anyone on the 20th either. We have had two sessions so far, each with two students. Henrik and I are brainstorming more ways to get the word out, and hopefully after MEA break October 19 and 20, we'll put some of those ideas into practice.

Confirmation moving to Sunday night has been a real blessing. The class at full strength is five: Allie Jellison, Mark Whitney, Gracie Knauth, ToniLynn Serrano, and Maddie Jellison. We meet at the couches in the narthex, and because it is not as beholden to the Sunday School schedule, it has opened up two opportunities: more learning time for these students, and more ways for them

to participate in Sunday morning activities, such as cleaning up after fellowship or volunteering in the youngest Sunday School class. I'm thankful for these kids.

The weekly Communion "trial run" came and went in this time period. I feel like I learned some things during the process, both theologically and practically. I've heard a little bit of feedback so far, but I'd like feedback from the whole council, and from others. I'm looking for some ideas as to how to gather that feedback, and I'd like to have the feedback gathered in time for the council to make a decision at our December meeting. If that is unrealistic, I'm willing to change that timeframe.

I'm very excited that we are going to be hosting the Luther documentary on Reformation weekend. I've been putting together information about it for other congregations, and putting up posters around town. We should receive the movie about a week before the event, so that we can test everything out beforehand.

Vacation

8/27-9/3, 9/12-9/15: 11 days, 2 Sundays

Total: 20 days, 3 Sundays

Visits

7 pastoral

2 hospital

6 phone calls

In addition:

*Pastor gave a brief report on the LCMC Gathering in Minneapolis. Approximately 900 people attended. The 2018 Gathering will be in Des Moines, Iowa.

President's Report: Well, I wrote the book last month. There's been nothing happening in my office this month. Feast to famine! See you Thursday at 6:30pm.

Ron

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Worship and Music:

Mike Nelson made some more friendship registers.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Nelson and Jacqueline Whitehorn

In addition:

*Scheduling for the seasons of Advent and Epiphany is complete.

*The Christmas choir concert and children's program may be combined.

Property: Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I believe Jerry is away, so I will try to remember everything.

Ken sent Jerry and I a very detailed report (thank you Ken) on what repairs and updates need to be done on the church building's heating system. We need to get bids on the job and put it into next years budget.

Jerry turned the supply valve off in the basement of the parsonage leading to the outdoor faucet that was leaking. He also took care of another item in the basement, but I cannot recall what it was. (Can I blame it on age, or selective memory?).

I have not heard when the tune up for the church dishwasher will take place.

Chris' Mom reported to me that the garbage disposal in the parsonage sink is not working, and I have yet to address that issue.

The cleanup day for around the parsonage/church is set for Sat., October 28th. That is the day of the Luther movie, so we should discuss if we want to cram both into the same day, or reschedule the cleanup.

Our adopt a highway cleanup is set for this coming Saturday, the 14th.

See you tomorrow.

In Christ,
Kelly

In addition:

*elements in the parsonage's water heater were replaced.

*Cost to tune-up the church's dishwasher is \$200.00.

*Cost to replace gaskets, etc. for the dishwasher is \$1,200.00.

*Faucet screens were cleaned.

*Property clean-up is rescheduled to Thursday, October 26, at 9:00 AM, so as not to conflict with the showing of the Martin Luther movie on the 28th.

Congregational Life: Congregational Life committee will meet after RobinLynn's return to discuss Adopt-A-Room and Reformation Sunday festivities.

I researched the purchase of a new, smaller bulletin board for the narthex. I have yet to find one for a reasonable price, and unless I do, I recommend using one of the boards we have stored in the basement.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Dahlman

Care Team: Meals: 1 for member family on Saturday. (surgery.)

No rides. Calls on going.

Call to member regarding meals for individual while other family member is gone a week. She said she is able to handle the meals, but appreciated the call.

Call to a member family who recently lost a son and member is recuperating from broken pelvis. Member said a daughter is still here, but took my name and phone # if they need some help later. Will call back and keep in touch.

Lists are available for pickup in the narthex of volunteers who will provide rides for those that may need it sometime. I made 10 copies at this time, should be sufficient for now.

Greg Gopp generously donated a variety of 21 blank note cards with biblical watercolor scenes to be used as a written outreach for members; he will provide more as needed. I am willing to personally write these; please let me know who might appreciate a special card like this, can be used as get well, sympathy, encouragement, congratulations etc. We are blessed to have such a talented watercolor artist in our Bethany family.

Respectfully submitted
SharonLorang

Beyond Our Walls: Kathy will give an oral report re: Compassion Sunday at the meeting. We are researching organizations where we can send hurricane relief special offering.

See you tonight,
Kathy and Jan

In addition:

*Pastor reported Bethany would be handing out candy on Halloween in downtown Bigfork. He will attach information on the symbolism of Luther's Rose to the candy.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bulletin board for narthex: Linda concluded that a new, smaller-size bulletin board was too costly, so a board we currently have will be patched and painted, and will be installed over the opening in the narthex above the coffee table.

ARK Update:

The county conducted a short meeting at the Ark on September 28th to allow the architect (CTA) to inspect the building; representatives of the Library Board and Senior Center were also present. At that time I was informed that Chris and Elliot Clark of Clark Real Estate Appraisal would be performing the appraisal of the Ark. The appraisal will include the building and enough additional land for approximately 42 spaces, approximately 1.37 acres total. I don't

believe it is in our best interest to let the county have that much additional land, so I have asked them (the county) to request the appraiser provide two figures, one for the Ark and proposed addition alone and included foot print, and second for the Ark and proposed addition and additional required parking (1.37 ac).

Whitney Aschenwald (county representative) has informed me the appraisers are now on-board; she expects the appraisal to be completed the early part of December. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Have a good day,
Mike Nelson

NEW BUSINESS:

A **motion was made** to use Thrivent Choice® Dollars, up to \$500.00, for Lutefisk Dinner advertising. **Motion passed.** Advertising in 2016 was \$336.00.

A **motion was made** to use Thrivent Choice® Dollars, up to \$500.00, for purchase of, and advertising for, the Martin Luther movie to be shown on October 28th. **Motion passed.**

A **motion was made** to again give Lester Mischke the snowplowing job for the church's parking areas. He is charging the same price as last year. **Motion passed.**

Communion Poll: It was decided that Pastor should meet with the Altar Guild again for further discussion on having weekly communion.

NEXT MEETING: November 9, 2017 at 6:30 PM in the church library

COUNTERS: October: Linda and Mike
November: Jan and Kelly

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Dahlman
Council Secretary