

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 09, 2017

Attendance:

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

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

Opening Meditation: Pastor led devotion, from Ephesians 6:10-20, and prayer time beginning at 6:32 PM in the church library. Prayers were lifted for 9 (nine) individuals or situations.

Meeting called to order at 6:48 PM by Ron.

Correspondence: A *Thank You* note was sent to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Lead, South Dakota, for their generous contribution of \$864.00 sent for fire relief in Montana. We distributed \$432.00 to the Chamber for West Kootenai Fire Relief Fund in Eureka and \$432.00 to United Way of Missoula for Seeley Lake Fire Relief Fund.

Minutes: Minutes of October 12, 2017 meeting were **approved**.

Treasurer's Report: Approved.

Pastor's Report:

October 6 – November 9, 2017

At the beginning of this month, I attended the LCMC Annual Gathering in Minneapolis, and that signaled the end of my term on the Board of Trustees. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the larger church, and I also appreciate that I am going to now be able to take some of that energy and apply it back here at Bethany.

Confirmation continues to go well. This trend started last year, but never before in confirmation have I had note-takers. To me, that's a very good sign. They have also been very diligent in following through on the tasks that they have been assigned for Sunday mornings. I will need to work with Worship & Music during their next scheduling time to incorporate the students more fully.

All Aboard has been very quiet this year. On November 1, Grace was the only one who came. I am contemplating what to do, up to and including ending the program. I'd like to have some conversation about this at our meeting.

After a meeting with the Altar Guild to talk about the weekly Communion trial run, we have decided to bring the decision to the congregation. We will be polling on November 19, after worship. I have been thankful for how this process has gone, and whatever the decision the

congregation makes, I appreciate everyone's deep thought about it. If the congregation decides to implement weekly Communion, we should discuss the implementation at our December meeting.

I met a couple from the community on October 16. I performed their wedding at Mountain Lake Lodge on October 19.

Reformation weekend was fantastic! We had 31 people for the Martin Luther documentary, which was a great turnout as far as I was concerned. Our meal came together well for the Reformation Festival, and the kids had a good time with the games again. Here's to 500 more years!

Visits

3 pastoral

6 phone calls

President's Report: Another lite month. Nothing to report from my desk. Please take a few minutes before tonight's meeting to look over Ken's work on next year's budget. You may come up with a few of the same questions I have.

Ron

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Worship and Music: Jacqueline attended the meeting of the Altar Guild. Nothing else to report this month.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Nelson and Jacqueline Whitehorn

Property: Had Mildred plumbing fix garbage disposal at parsonage. Found repair person to look at the soap/rinse dispenser, which he fixed. He said and so did the dishwasher repairman that we do not own the soap dispenser and they are not to repair them. I suggest we just leave it alone and it is working fine. October 26th we had four members clean the outside area. Kelly cleaned the gutters at the Ark and provided donuts and coffee. We also removed the rain shield on the church so snow can slide off. November 2nd had car removed. 7th had door fixed and contacted Flathead Electric to fix outside light. Don't know if that has been done yet.

That is it for now. Kelly and Jerry

Up date

Today Flathead Electric was here to fix the burned-out bulb in the rear parking lot. I told him to increase the lighting, so he moved all three lights to a 3. There are three adjustments, 3 being the brightest.

Snow plowing: I told Les to not push the snow so far into the grass, trees, and brush because he also pushes gravel and it is hard for us to get it out again. Said that works for me.

Heat: seems some of the rooms in the church are very warm. The men's rest room on upper level is very warm. I know Ken Olson is working on the system and I will talk to him also.

Jerry

Congregational Life: Nothing to report this month.

Care Team: No report

Respectfully submitted,
Linda and RobinLynn

Beyond Our Walls: No BOW report this month.

Kathy and Jan

OLD BUSINESS:

Bulletin board for narthex: Jerry and Jacqueline will make adjustments for display of bulletin board: placing the board above the children's activity bags, and recovering the cork surface.

ARK Update: Clark Real Estate Appraisal of Whitefish is in the process of appraisal of the ARK for Flathead County.

NEW BUSINESS:

Polling for scheduling of Holy Communion will be after worship on November 19.

Attendance at Adult Forum for discussion on *Growing Young* has been poor by council members. Members are encouraged to bring ideas for applying suggestions from the book to November 19th's Adult Forum. Chapter by chapter discussion will not be pursued.

All Aboard: Pastor shared his thoughts about *All Aboard* in general and its poor attendance. He shared a mandate he heard at a panel discussion at the LCMC Gathering this year: "Don't try to do something a business in town is already doing." In our case, Bethany can't offer an after-school program that competes with ACES. After discussion, a **motion was made** to retire the *All Aboard* ministry in its current form at the end of 2017. **Motion passed.** The final days for *All Aboard* are November 29, December 6 and 13. Resources will be redirected to the Youth Ministry within Bethany. It is possible Bethany can offer another form of community outreach for youth in the future.

Boy Scouts: A request was received from Ron Wenzel, Boy Scout troop leader, that Bethany Lutheran allow the troop we sponsor to transfer its chartering organization from Bethany

Lutheran to the Bigfork VFW. A **motion was made** to allow Bethany Lutheran's sponsorship of Boy Scouts Charter #1923 to transfer to the Bigfork VFW. **Motion passed.** Point of clarification: Bethany Lutheran will no longer be obligated to pay any sponsorship fees associated with Charter #1923. There is a Cub Scout troop that meets in the ARK; this transfer has no effect on that group.

Mid-week Advent services are December 6, 13, and 20.

Blue Christmas service is December 21.

Proposed Budget line items: Discussion on questions raised concerning some line items. Proposed 2018 budget will be voted on at December council meeting.

NEXT MEETING: December 14, 2017 at 6:30 PM in the church library

COUNTERS: November and December: Jan and Kelly

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Dahlman
Council Secretary