

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2020

Attendance:

Pastor Shawn Osborne – excused
Jan Olson, Pres – present
Mike Nelson, Vice Pres – present
Linda Dahlman, Sec – present
Craig Asmus – present
Guest: Ron Harapat

Doug Buffington – present
Kelly Jorgenson – present
RobinLynn Stobart – present
Leoma Taylor – present
Samantha Schurke – present

Prayers: Kelly led prayer time at 6:30 PM in the church library, with prayers lifted for 8 (eight) individuals or situations.

Meeting called to order at 6:40 PM by Jan.

Guest: Ron Harapat reported on some details of the Church Safety workshop he and Doug Buffington attended. Three main points of the workshop: 1) It was insightful and educational, 2) Keeping everyone safe is the main goal, 3) Creating a Security Team for Bethany is highly recommended. After discussion, a **motion was made** to pursue the planning process for a security plan specific to Bethany Lutheran's needs. **Motion carried.** Council members will be part of the planning committee to form policy, and they will choose church members to be on the security team that will implement the policy. Council members are asked to be prepared at the next council meeting to provide suggestions for nominations for the planning committee. In a related matter, Sam suggested Jan investigate the cost of an automated external defibrillator (AED) for the church. Mike looked it up right away; price ranges from \$1,200.00 to \$1,700.00 per unit.

Correspondence: Sam read a *Thank you* note from Tom and Karyl Gopp, thanking the council and call committee for their commitment and hard work in the calling of Pastor Shawn.

Treasurer's Report: Report for August 2020 is **filed for audit.** Ken is building next year's budget proposal for the next meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of August 13, 2020 regular meeting **approved.**

Pastor's Report: ***Note: Only Jan received the Pastor's report via email. She was asked to forward the following to the rest of the council.*

Pastor's Report 16 SEP 2020

Hello, everyone!

It's been a great month, to say the least. I've made several visitations to church members who can't make it to church on Sunday and that's been an absolute blessing! I'm going to make it a point to visit everyone on a monthly basis.

I went to smoky Spokane last weekend to check in with my new Navy Reserve Command. There was nothing for me to do, so I worked on my sermon for the following week.

Rally Sunday is on the 20th, which means we kick off Sunday school and confirmation class. Sunday school will be doing a profile on various heroes of the Bible. The first heroine is Miriam, Moses' big sister. I have four students for confirmation class to begin their two-year journey. The first year will focus on the Bible and the second will be catechism.

Today we began an 8-week evangelism course called The Way of the Master, which was attended by 12 parishioners. Not a bad start!

Feel free to give out my cell phone number to anyone who asks. I'd rather they have it and not need it, than need it and not have it. 808-781-7731

My friend, Dennis Kelly and his family are staying with us this week. He is a retired Navy chaplain who now lives on a sailboat doing missionary work in Mexico. All 7 of the Kellys will be in church this Sunday.

My family and I are flying to Atlanta tomorrow to attend Karen's nephew's wedding. We'll be back Saturday.

Have a great meeting and look forward to seeing you this Sunday.

Aloha,
Shawn

President's Report: September President's Report

I hope by the time this message clears your desk the smoke has cleared out. Please continue to pray for those folks affected by the fires and our fire fighters and first responders. Pray for rain, snow, lack of wind, whatever it takes to put the fires at bay.

I'm delighted to see new faces at worship! Please take time to greet visitors and invite them to Fellowship and take the opportunity to visit. Know it's hard to discern faces behind masks, but again, as Council, thank you for masking up and providing leadership per the Governor's mandate. "Wearing a mask isn't a hard task!"

I've been in contact with Matt Jensen, superintendent of Bigfork Schools, and will provide an update with regards to the School District use of Bethany's facilities at our meeting.

Take care and stay safe!
Jano

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Worship and Music: No report submitted.

*in addition: A reminder was received that communion servers should wear masks. Also, opinions on worship music have been voiced to the committee.

Property: Parsonage:

The outlets in Seth's bedroom of the parsonage were not working. We did some troubleshooting to see if we could fix the problem.

This summer I ok'd the Osbornes to install ceiling fans in the bedrooms. The one in Seth's bedroom had a loose wire nut.

Ambient was kind enough to come out and find the problem and get it resolved and the bill was \$170. It is my recommendation that any future plumbing or electrical changes or upgrades be done by a professional to cover everyone and for safety. Also, that we have to approve what is being installed before we purchase anything.

I do not think that we should have Ambient do future work, I believe he is overpriced but I am thankful he could step in to help.

Nothing else to report.

Samantha
Property

Congregational Life: Nothing to report for September meeting.

Linda

**in addition: Linda will talk to the COVID Task Force about the upcoming Senior Lunch in October and a possible fellowship activity in November. Since the number of cases is rising in the Flathead Valley it may be prudent to reschedule these events. Linda will purchase corsages to honor Michael and KayLynn Waddell who are joining our Bethany family on Sunday.

Care Team:

Meals: 0

Cards: 2

Calls: 4. I'm sure others are calling also. The homebound are so happy to receive a call.

Visitation: Carroll and I visited a couple after church one Sunday. They miss church so much.

Hi, this is in addition to the report I sent last week. I see the council mtg was rescheduled. I've been in touch with a couple who are recovering from covid 19 virus. He was hit hard with it but he plans to return to work next week. She went back to work this week. Anyway CT will be bringing them a meal early next week to help out till they get back on their feet!

Also I received a call from a former member this week. She requested prayers for them both as they face new medical problems. She misses her Bethany church family. I sent them a card.

Sharon

Beyond Our Walls: No report submitted.

*in addition: Kelly expressed his thankfulness for the evangelism class being led by Pastor Shawn. Linda reported that 12 (twelve) people were in attendance for the first session of *The*

Way of the Master. Also, Samaritan's Purse *Christmas Shoeboxes* will be available soon for us to fill.

OLD BUSINESS:

"Hold Harmless" document: Council members are asked to look at the proposed document Mike emailed and to let Jan or Mike know of any changes within the next week.

Choir risers: *Crown of the Continent Chorale* may pick them up next week.

School district use of Bethany facilities: Jan has been in continued conversation with Matt Jensen, and other groups, about possible use of the church. The fire marshal said only school students in Grades 3 and above would be allowed to use the Fellowship Hall. No reason was given for that restriction.

Speaker update: From Ken Olson: Bethany received a bid for speakers, wiring, installation, and tuning from Aura Dynamics of Kalispell. The bid came in much less than anticipated (\$1,679.80). Installation occurred the first week in September but the wall mount for one is on backorder (however, the speaker is in its approximate location and active). Please be patient as we work to balance the system so as to provide evenly distributed sound throughout the sanctuary. Thanks to Russ Miller for his help with this project.

Scouts update report: Mike and Pastor Shawn met with Scout leader Keri Barr on August 25 to discuss possible activities and outings. The yearly charter fee for the Cub Scouts is \$75.00; no bill has ever been given to Bethany for paying the fee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pre-approval of proposed parsonage improvements: A **motion was made** to require pre-approval of any improvements to the parsonage by its occupants, in writing, with specifications and prices included. **Motion carried.** Discussion followed on the possibility of installing a mini-split in the parsonage for more efficient heating and cooling. Mike and/or Sam will get bids to present at the next council meeting.

NEXT MEETING: October 8, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the church library.

COUNTERS: October: Linda and Sam
November: Linda and Leoma

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Dahlman
Council Secretary