

**Bethany Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2018**

Present: Patty Fess, Ron Fischer, Joann Kilgus, Mike McCoy, Jane Nelson, Randy Nelson, Barb Olson and Jim Schwengel
President, Jane Nelson opened the meeting with prayer at 9:35 a.m.

Secretary's Report

Secretary, Patty Fess presented the Council Meeting Minutes dated July 5, 2018. Joann Kilgus moved and Mike McCoy seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. Patty showed the current bulletin cover that was recently reprinted with the incorrect website address. Barb Olson suggested we print a correction on the inside with the correct address.

Treasurer's Report

Mike circulated the Profit and Loss report and the Balance Sheet as of August 6, 2018. Our total contributions received are \$24,059, which is \$700 more than last year for the same time period. For our investment in the Endowment this year's income is less due to market conditions. Bethany's net income is about \$5,000 greater than last year at \$22,170. The Bethany Heritage Endowment Fund has \$240,904.

Jim Schwengel moved and Ron Fischer seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Old Business

Pulpit Light

Randy Nelson will use a ladder from Jim Reeve that is long enough for Randy to be able to install the pulpit light.

Steeple Painting

Randy has contacted Buck Olson who will be renting a 60-foot lift for work he is doing on the Village Hall. Hopefully there will be time on the end of that job for Buck to come over and paint our steeple utilizing the lift. If this situation does not work out, Mike suggested two other contacts and Randy has one other possibility.

Church HVA

Randy has three bids to replace our current furnace with a new furnace and air conditioner using our current ductwork. The bids range from \$5850-\$12,000. We will need to add \$500 to any bid for the electrical work and we will most likely add the cost of duct cleaning to the job.

Mike moved to purchase and install a new HVA system utilizing our current ductwork not to exceed \$7500. Patty seconded and the motion carried. Mike reminded the council that any project over \$2500 needs to be reported to the Historical Foundation.

New Business

Parsonage Tree

The Box Elder tree in the front of the parsonage near the backdoor and driveway had a large branch break and hang over Poplar Street. Randy cut off the

smaller branches hanging near the street and Andy from Acorn took down the large branch and cleaned up the wood and brush. Randy will ask Acorn whether or not the tree is in decline and should be removed.

Bethany Heritage Endowment Fund

Mike gave some background on the Endowment Fund. The bylaws call for the fund to have a board made up of six people; three members from Bethany, two people from the Ephraim Historical foundation and one independent. The money that makes up the endowment is in the ELCA pool trust. The Historical Foundation owns the church, the parsonage and the cemetery.

Interest Rates on CDs

Because interest rates on CDs have moved up, Mike recommends moving \$35,000 into CDs.

Red Hymnals

Joann checked into the Organ Manual for the Red Hymnal. There are two versions, one is a spiral and the other is a two-volume set. Lori Free will research and choose between the two types and Joann will order her choice from Augsburg Fortress. We are likely to use a service in the Red Hymnal very similar to what we are using now. Mike will ask Bishop Mansholt what if anything we can do with the Green Hymnals.

Cemetery

Plots are available for purchase. People can meet Mike at the cemetery and choose their plots.

Lawn Maintenance

We have recently switched from Jodi Olson to Paul Nelson for our lawn maintenance on all three properties for a 20% savings.

Parsonage Landscaping

Nancy Jordan has begun to do some landscaping work at the parsonage.

Scheduling of Sunday-to-Sunday Tasks

Jane circulated a schedule of the remaining dates Bethany will be open. Council people indicated when they would be available for the Sunday-to-Sunday tasks that need to be done, including collections, treats for the parsonage, sign changing and bulletin pick up. Jane said that Nancy Jordan will be picking up the bulletins and Barb Olson will be taking care of the collections for August 19, and September 2, 9 and 16.

Christmas Letter

Joann has had the watercolor from Ron Litterst printed for the Christmas letter. Jane and Patty will work on the letter and Joann will prepare the mailing labels.

Church Closing

We will close down the church and the Parsonage at 9:00 a.m. on October 25th and a council meeting will follow.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Fess, council secretary