

**Bethany Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2018**

**Present:** Ron Fischer, Joann Kilgus, Mike McCoy, Jane Nelson, Randy Nelson, Barb Olson and Jim Schwengel

**Participating via telephone:** Patty Fess

President, Jane Nelson opened the meeting with prayer at 10:12 a.m.

**Secretary Report**

Joann Kilgus moved and Barb Olson seconded to approve the Council Meeting Minutes dated August 7, 2018. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report**

Mike McCoy presented the Treasurer Report. To date for 2018 our income is \$56,043. Our expenses to date are \$27,059, leaving a balance of \$28,984. For the purposes of figuring the benevolence amount we take out the contribution to the Endowment Fund, the interest on investments and short term gains and other designated contributions and that leaves us with about \$40,000 of contributions received on which to base the benevolence.

Jim Schwengel moved to accept the Treasurer Report, Ron Fischer seconded and the motion carried.

**Old Business**

**Pulpit Light**

Randy Nelson is getting help from an electrician to install lighting to illuminate the pulpit for improved viewing via the Livestream. Also there will be some electrical work done to upgrade some older wiring at the church.

**Steeple Painting**

Eric and Buck Olson have been hired to do the painting on the steeple. They have already removed the louvers, restored and replaced them. The painting will be completed in the spring when the temperatures will be warmer to allow for the paint to dry correctly.

**Cry Room**

Due to time limitations this project has been moved to spring. Randy brought up ideas for the remodel that will turn the cry room into a pass through and service area. The shorter pew in the cry room could be utilized for some seating in the last row near the new opening for the service area. The original door that leads to the Narthex could be relocated to the new entrance and would swing into the service area. Barb Olson suggested a pocket door instead of a swinging door and a counter that hinges downward, an electrical outlet for the coffee pot and better lighting. Randy will do the demolition and Jim Schwengel volunteered to be included in the project.

**Duct Cleaning**

Armstrong will do the duct cleaning originally scheduled for November 6 and now rescheduled for the spring.

## **New Business**

### **Cleaning the Church**

Patty Fess and Jane had suggested a sign-up sheet for bi-weekly cleaning of the church. The council was not sure that bi-weekly cleaning was necessary. It was decided to request volunteers for cleaning and work out an appropriate schedule with those volunteers.

### **Donation of Print and Book**

Barb Knipsel has donated a matted print and accompanying book to Bethany. Joann took on the project of finding a frame for the print and hanging it in the parsonage in the spring.

### **Hearing Loop System**

Jane has noted that several of the surrounding congregations advertise having a hearing loop system available for those people with hearing loss. It was considered and we did decide not to follow up on such a system at this time.

### **Asbestos Siding**

Bethany has asbestos siding dating back to about 1940. Randy has become aware of grant money available for the restoration of sacred buildings. He will explore the possibility of this grant money for Bethany to remove and replace the asbestos siding.

### **Bethany Heritage Endowment Fund**

There has been a request to place a box at the entrance of the church for people to drop in checks for the Fund. It was discussed and a final decision was postponed.

### **Christmas Letter**

Ron Litterst's watercolor for the letter has been printed on the letter paper. The labels and envelopes have been printed. Jane and Patty will write and mail the letter.

### **Red Hymnals**

Joann is waiting on Lori Free's decision for which organ manual she prefers, either the bound two-copy set or the spiral addition. The decision should come soon and Joann will order Lori's preference from Augsburg.

Setting four in the Red Hymnal is very similar to what we are using now from the Green Hymnal. Ron noted, the need to change the page numbers in the bulletin to reflect the setting we choose. The Apostle's Creed is a modern version and we will use with the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer.

Patty will give Ron some additional information he needs to create the bulletins for next season.

We most likely have enough Red Hymnals to be able to mail them to our regular Livestreamers.

### **Advertising**

Mike has committed with Door County Living to a ½ page ad in the beginning of the season and a full-page ad that comes out around the Fourth of July for the cost of \$3000. We also advertise on a weekly basis with the Door County Advocate.

### **Benevolence**

Mike circulated a record of where Bethany has distributed benevolences since 2011. In 2017 we distributed \$13,550. This year we have undesignated income of about \$40,000. Typically we have been giving away 30% of our income which would be

about \$12,000-12,500 which is about the same as we did last year. The council decided to focus a little more giving to Door County this year.

Here is the benevolence breakout for 2018:

Lutheran World Relief-\$1000

ELCA World Hunger Appeal-\$1500

Hurricane Appeal-\$750

University of Wisconsin Madison Campus Ministry-\$250

Lutheran social Services of WI and UP-\$750

Mick Roschke's New Mission Milwaukee-\$500

Scandia Village-\$1100

Help of Door County-\$1200

Northern Door Child Care Center (scholarships)-\$1500

Peninsula Preschool Ephraim (scholarships)-\$500

Kononia Kupboard at First Baptist Sister Bay-\$500

Ephraim Firefighters Association-\$250

East Central WI Synod ELCA Mission Support-\$1000

ELCA Fund for Leaders-\$600

Neighbor to Neighbor Door County-\$300

Door County Chapter of Disabled Veterans-\$300

Secret Santa Project for Fuel-\$300

Angel Fund for Gibraltar Schools-\$250

The Bridges-\$200

This adds up to \$12,750 and with the designated funds added in the total benevolence will be \$13,950, which reflects 33% of our income.

Randy moved and Joann seconded to pass the benevolences as stated. Motion carries.

### **Green Hymnals**

Bishop Mansholt will be contacted for ideas as to where the Green Hymnals may be donated.

### **Liturgical Colors**

Barb requested a calendar showing the liturgical colors for the upcoming season.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty Fess, council secretary

