

**Bethany Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2019**

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

Visitor: Chuck Pearson

The meeting began at 9:02 a.m. with a presentation by Chuck Pearson regarding our Live Stream congregation followed by prayer from president, Jane Nelson.

Secretary Report

Patty Fess circulated a membership list to review for members that may have passed or moved on.

Mike McCoy moved and Randy Nelson seconded to approve the Council Meeting Minutes dated May 31, 2019. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report

Mike went over the Profit and Loss sheet through July 9th 2019. Our income so far this year is \$16,000. The expenses have been \$11,500. That leaves Bethany with a net income of \$4,500. Looking at how we compare to this time last year, we are slightly behind in contributions though doing fine. The expenses are tracking very well with what we spent in 2018. The insurance went up \$300 over last year. Our cash position is strong with about \$80,000 and there is almost \$250,000 in the Heritage Endowment Fund.

Barb Olson moved and Joann Kilgus seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

Old Business

Property

Randy is still attempting to get firm dates from contractors to install the pulpit light and to paint the steeple. He has requested a firm date to paint the steeple by the July 14th, to better inform the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Armstrong is aware and they plan clean the ductwork at the church. Armstrong needs an additional job in northern Door County to make it worthwhile to travel up here.

Randy is in the process of replacing the current smoke detectors at the parsonage with ones that detect smoke and carbon monoxide.

Cemetery

Bonnie Peterson and her family cannot locate the cemetery deeds for two plots in Christensen area of the Bethany cemetery and is asking Bethany to search our records for the deeds or copies of the deeds for the two plots in that area. We have not been able to locate the deeds or copies. Jane will contact Bonnie and let her know that Marnie Simms recently purchased one of the plots in the Christensen area. Bonnie or her family will be able to purchase the remaining plot near Edwin Christensen for \$800.

New Business

Live Stream

Chuck Pearson presented the council with many ways that we may further engage our streaming congregation. The council discussed many of the ideas Chuck presented and will begin to implement some ideas and gain more information on

others. When possible, will begin the stream earlier and end the stream later. During the time before and after the service, people may be able to engage with those online. Also those online may be able to see and hear who is present at the service. We will begin to survey the visiting clergy about their willingness to bless the communion elements for those in the streaming congregation. Other ideas are to introduce the organist or other members of the congregation who have a part in the service and to provide information on how a streamer could obtain a cranberry hymnal.

We will invite Ryan Sherman, our website provider to a future council meeting to explore more possibilities on how to further engage the streaming congregation. Patty will put together a list of the ideas and questions the council has for Ryan.

Heritage Endowment Fund

We will need one more Bethany member on the board of the Heritage Endowment Fund. We will ask for a volunteer at the Annual Meeting this Sunday.

Ephraim Historical Foundation Record Storage

The Bethany records given to the Foundation will be considered to be a permanent donation. The Foundation will scan and organize all the Bethany records in their possession.

Constitution

Jane has noticed that we no longer have associate members as a member designation and we will change the words in the constitution to comply. In May of 2020 we will begin to notify the congregation of the constitutional changes. Patty will circulate copies of the current constitution to all the council members.

Defibrillator

Nancy Jordon suggested that Bethany get a defibrillator. Randy will look into this.

Adjournment

We ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Fess, council secretary