

**Bethany Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
October 20, 2021**

**Present:** Patty Fess, Ron Fischer, Joann Kilgus, Su Marotz, Jane Nelson, Randy Nelson, Jim Schwengel (via Zoom) and Barb Olson

**Secretary Report**

Secretary Patty Fess presented the Council Meeting Minutes dated July 8, 2021. A motion to approve the minutes came from Randy Nelson, Joann Kilgus seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer Report**

Treasurer, Ron Fischer presented the Bethany financials through September 30, 2021. Our total contributions for the year are \$30,358, not including the Endowment Fund. Our expenses, excluding expenses from the Boldt gift, were \$23,300. The Bethany operating income exceeded "normal" expenses by \$7,058. The Boldt gift had expenses of \$1000. There was a \$2000 deposit to the Endowment Fund for \$332,834 this does not include the third quarter statement.

Jim Schwengel asked about the \$35,000 amount in the Bethany Business Checking account and an income line item of \$552. Ron explained a transfer of Boldt gift money from Money Market to checking to pay for upcoming bills. The \$552 was most likely a reimbursement, Ron will get back to us with details. Ron will also look into closing out the Business Savings Account.

Joann moved and Barb Olson seconded to approve the treasurer report. Motion passed.

**Old Business**

**Cemetery Update**

Randy reported the brush behind the Grimsby plot has been cleared. The three dead ash trees have been taken down. There are two more dead ash trees on our property line bordering our neighbor to the south. The cost to remove the trees is \$2000.

Joann moved to have the trees removed for \$2000. Su Marotz seconded and the motion passed.

**One License**

Patty Fess explained the cost of \$185 per year to One License covers the royalties for the copyrighted music that goes out over the Livestream. Bethany needs to report any of the music pieces that are under copyright to One License. Most all of Bethany's music is covered under Public Domain and does not need to be reported.

**Music Director**

Dave Olson is our current Director of Music and hopes to be back with us next spring. Bethany has been in good hands with Lori Free, our organist and occasionally Barb Olson helping out in Dave's absence. We are covered for now and will revisit in the spring if needed.

**Street Signage at Cemetery Driveway**

A Bethany member requested street signs on both sides of HWY 42 to mark the cemetery entrance. It is especially difficult to find the entrance when you are southbound. The council has decided to clear the brush from around the stone pillars to better distinguish the entrance point. We are doubtful the state will grant us signage on HWY 42.

**Changes to Constitution**

Jane Nelson has volunteered to review the Bethany Constitution for changes we need to make. Patty will locate the most current version of the Constitution for the council to review.

### **Ongoing Tasks and Responsibilities**

Ron requested additions and corrections to Bethany's Ongoing Tasks and Responsibilities. Garbage pick up and cancellation for the parsonage will be Randy's responsibility. Randy will also look into water softener salt delivery to the parsonage by Culligan.

Ron brought up the W9 forms we need filled out by contractors who are not corporations. Randy will follow up with our contractors that are corporations.

### **Restroom/Port-a-Potty**

The EHF added an underground sprinkling system to their property which subjects them to 4 months of well testing by the EPA. This property houses the restroom Bethany currently uses for our Sunday services. Potentially we could be without a bathroom until the water testing is completed in July. Perhaps only the sink will be out of commission and we will be allowed to use the toilet. If not a port-a-potty will be on the property and Bethany will be able to use that.

### **Status of Boldt Gift**

Joanne reported that we plan to spend \$18,600 for furniture and \$1600 for blinds in the parsonage. The remaining items for the parsonage will be around \$5000. The bill for the asbestos removal was \$12,000. There has been a down payment of \$30,000 for siding restoration and painting and \$2500 down payment to the painter for the interior of the parsonage.

### **Christmas Letter**

Jane will write the letter, Joann will print the mailing labels and Patty will do the mailing.

### **140th Anniversary**

In 2022 Bethany will celebrate 140 years of ministry. Barb offered to make a banner and will ask Doris Thompson for assistance. Barb suggested we choose an historic story to tell before each service. No dinner or celebration is being planned at this time, we will wait to see if there will be any Covid restrictions for the 2022 season of ministry.

### **Extending the Season for One Week in the Spring and Fall**

It was decided not to extend the season for 2022. Being aware that Door County is working to extend the season we will be watchful for Bethany's opportunity to do so.

### **Benevolences**

Ron noted as of September 30th Bethany had about \$7,000 more than expenses. There will typically be offering to cover the expenses for the remainder of the year and perhaps a bit more to be put toward Benevolences. With that in mind, the council proposed to donate \$10,500 to 15 charities which is \$200 more than last year. The additional \$200 was from a gift to the ELCA. We also divided the \$600 to the ELCA Fund for Leaders into \$300 for that fund and \$300 towards Secret Santa that provides fuel and heating needs to the Northern Door community.

### **Bethany Benevolences for 2021**

Lutheran World Relief-\$1,000  
ELCA World Hunger-\$1,500  
East Central WI Synod Mission Support-\$500  
ELCA Fund for Leaders-\$300  
ELCA-\$200  
Ephraim Fire Fighters Association-\$250  
Gibraltar Area Schools-\$300  
Good Samaritan Society-Scandia Village-\$1,100  
Help of Door County-\$1,200

Kononia Kupboard-\$500

LSS of WI and Upper UP-\$750

Neighbor to Neighbor-\$300

Northern Door Children's Center-\$1,500

Peninsula Pre-School-\$500

Secret Santa-\$300

Veteran's Service Council-\$300

Randy moved to approve these Benevolences, Joann seconded and the motion passed.

**Opening Sunday**-May 29, 2022

Work Day-May 25, 2022 at 9:00 am

Council Meeting-May 25, 2022 following the workday

We closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 4:20.