

Bethany Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2022

Present: President-Jane Nelson, Treasurer-Ron Fischer, Secretary-Patty Fess, Trustees-Joann Kilgus, Su Marotz, Randy Nelson, Barb Olson and Jim Schwengel

Past Presidents: Mike McCoy and Chuck Pearson

Members: Dick Christensen, Deb Fischer, Jim Engelhardt, Pat Engelhardt, WallyKilgus, Jim Marotz, Marge McCoy, Duska Pearson, Scott Pearson, Becky Roehl and Marc Roehl

Visitors: Marsella Fults, Tim Fults, Elinor Pearson and Camilla Ross

Meeting called to order by President Jane Nelson at 10:38 A.M. Jane opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary Report

Jim Schwengel moved and Wally Kilgus seconded to approve the Annual Meeting Minutes dated July 18, 2021. Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Ron Fischer provided a detailed report of Bethany's financials including an itemization of the Boldt gift expenses to each person present. At the end of 2021 Bethany had total assets of \$197,480 and \$344,431 in the Heritage Endowment Fund. Bethany's general contributions for 2021 were \$42,716 and \$2,450 for the Endowment Fund. Bethany gave \$10,000 for the yearly benevolences. The normal expenses for 2021 were \$39,286 and \$64,917 was spent from the Boldt gift.

At the end of May 2022 the Endowment Fund was down to \$312,000. At the end of June 2022 Bethany is a little ahead in income compared with the end of June in 2021. So far this year we have spent \$27,078 of the Boldt gift. As of June 30th our expenses are ahead of our income by \$9,000.

Mike McCoy moved to accept the Treasurer Report, Barb Olson seconded and the motion passed.

President Report

Jane said it is an honor to work with this church. She remarked that there are many "Marthas" or hard workers at the church. Some of those workers are Mike McCoy who arranges for the pastors, Deb Fischer who organized a meaningful anniversary service, Dave Olson who sings for us almost every Sunday and his wife Barb who provides the altar flowers and dresses the altar. Lori Free our organist plays each Sunday and helped plan and prepare the music for the anniversary service. Nancy Jordan is our bookkeeper and picks up the bulletins from the printer and distributes them each week. Jane went on to thank members of the council starting with Patty Fess the secretary and a person who works behind the scenes. Ron Fischer is the Treasurer that coordinates between Nancy and the Accountant, Paul Pillat. Jim, Su and Randy attend to many details and Joann worked on choosing and ordering all the new furnishings for the parsonage. Besides these people there are all of those who volunteer to read, usher and provide treats for coffee hour.

Membership Report

Patty reported that Bethany has 118 members. There was one death since the last annual meeting, John Hagman. There are 110 emails addresses that receive the Bethany email.

Proposed Changes to the Constitution

Jane explained that the constitution was last updated in 2017. The council has reexamined that document and found areas that need updating. We will eliminate the category of "associate" members. The responsibilities of the treasurer will be updated. We are eliminating the cost of gravesites from the constitution as this is an ongoing changing detail that does not need to be listed in the constitution. The description of our guest pastors will be

updated. We will change the grammar of the agreement between Bethany and The Ephraim Historical Foundation from future to present tense.

Jane began with paragraph 3, articles 6.02 and 6.04, 6.05, 6.06, 6.08, 10.02, 12.05 and 13.01. These articles all deal with the terms “associate” and “regular” members. Going forward all those belonging to Bethany will be called “members”.

Jim Marotz moved and Marc Roehl seconded. The motion passed.

Article 11.05 updates the description of the treasurer’s responsibilities.

Barb Olson moved to update this job description, Randy Nelson seconded and the motion passed.

Articles 9.03, 9.04, 9.05 and 9.06 remove the costs for the gravesites for members and non-members. Article 9.04 will be eliminated because it details the gravesite cost for “associate” members.

Joann Kilgus moved to accept these changes, Barb Olson seconded and the motion passed.

Article 12.02 This article clarifies the description of guest pastors.

Mike McCoy moved to approve this change, Duska Pearson seconded and the motion passed.

Article 6.08 There is a typo, we will be changing ‘role’ to ‘roll’.

Barb Olson moved to approve this change. Deb Fischer seconded and the motion passed.

Articles 5.02, 5.03 and 5.04. The correction in these articles changes the tense from future to present.

Su Marotz moved to approve this change and Mike McCoy seconded. Motion passed.

Property

Randy Nelson updated those present regarding the Bethany properties. We had a survey done for the church and the parsonage property. The asbestos siding was removed from the church to reveal the original siding from 1882 that was in very good shape. It was a little dry as it had not been painted in 70 years. The Vestry had no wooden siding and it now has new siding to match the church. There was some repair done on the windows and new aluminum flashing installed. A primer coat and the first coat of paint was put on last fall and the second coat is going on this summer. A vehicle hit the stonewall on the corner of the church property causing damage. We received an insurance settlement of \$4000. The cost to repair the wall is expected to be \$20,000 vs. \$4,000 because we are extending the repair to include more of the wall that needs attention.

In the cemetery we took down 2 dead Ash trees and we have landscaped the inner circle of the driveway with a tree, boxwoods and day lilies.

At the parsonage we are planning to install a flagstone patio. Mike McCoy asked if the parsonage needed painting. Randy thought the exterior corner where the existing house meets the new construction could be touched up. Mike thought there also needed to be painting around the windows.

Parsonage

Joann spoke about the changes to the parsonage. The process began with the pastors reporting on what needed to be done. We did not know that the shades often fell off the brackets, the sheets in the guest bedroom popped off the bed and the twin mattresses were past their prime. All of these items have been replaced and new furniture has been purchased with the old furniture going to Habitat for Humanity. The walls and trim have all been repainted and there is now a chandelier and sconces in the dining room.

There is a wish list for new lamps and something in front of the couch to put your feet on or hold a drink. There is also hope for a patio and a new screen door in the back of the house.

Next Annual Meeting July 2023

Mike McCoy had high praise for the anniversary worship service on July 13th.

Pat Engelhardt thanked those in charge for their time.

Adjournment at 11:10 A.M.

Patty Fess, council secretary

