

**~Draft~ Bethany Lutheran Church Council Meeting ~Draft~**

**December 10, 2024 (6:00pm – 9:30pm)**

**In attendance:** Margo Filipkowski, Jean Meiers(zoom), Shanon Polsfut, Ken Stroklund, Karen Brunner Wright, Darek Zaun, Cheryl Nilsen, Carolyn Seehafer, Pastor Dave, Patti Abrahamson, Dalyce Leslie, Nadine Holmly, Jake Thraikill.

**Excused:** None

**Absent:** None

**The Lord's Prayer:** Pastor Dave opened the meeting leading with the Lord's Prayer.

**Call to Order:** By President Shanon Polsfut.

**Devotions:** Discussion about the Governance and Ministry Ch 9 led by Pastor Dave.

**Staff Reports:** Pastor Dave is working on job evaluations for the Staff. They will first conduct a self-evaluation followed up with review by Pastor Dave. Additionally, Dalyce was at Concordia Lutheran Church in Benedict doing lay ministry two weeks in November and Judy Mathson is going to Concordia in the second and fourth weeks in December.

**Youth Advisory Board:** nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Cheryl motioned to approve. Margo 2nd. No discussion. All in favor, approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Derek presented financials for the month's end. Karen motioned to approve. Cheryl 2nd. No discussion. All in favor, approved.

**Budget/Finance Report:** Cheryl presented the Audit Report Form. Pastor Dave mentioned the possibility of changing the month in the Constitution for the Annual Meeting to give the Audit Committee a little more time to complete their report. Cheryl made a motion to suggest a bylaw change to reflect a later date in February for the Annual Meeting. Margo 2nd. Discussion was held and the final version to be presented to the Congregation at January's Annual Meeting for approval was: "The Annual Meeting will be held on or before the last Sunday in February". All in favor, approved.

**Correspondence:** None

**President/Executive Team:** Shanon brought up a concern from June Stroklund representing the BLCW. Presently, there is no one responsible for cleaning the kitchen fridges. In the past, it was the custodian's responsibility. Moving forward, the BLCW is responsible for this task. They would like all users to label their food to make the task easier for all. Anything not labeled will be tossed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Call Committee Report: MSP was approved by the Synod office.
- b. All Day Preschool: A draft contract was presented by Patti. There were a few suggested corrections/additions/deletions. A final copy will be sent out electronically for Councils approval.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Synod Financial Support: Discussion on whether we should increase, decrease or stay the same on our giving amount. It was decided to stay the same as we have been giving.

- b. Cantata Financing: Nadine presented for approval a request to finance the five musicians \$150 each for a total of \$750 to perform at Christmas Cantata. Darek made a motion to approve, Cheryl 2nd. Discussion was held on which fund to use this year and future years. For this year, the money will come from the Music Memorial Fund. The Budget & Finance Team will look to add it into the coming year's budget. All in favor, approved.
- c. CD: There is a \$50,000 CD maturing at First Western this month. Cheryl made a motion to renew it for 1 year at 4%. Karen 2nd. All in favor, approved.
- d. Funeral Pall: Our Funeral Pall is in rough shape. There's no way to clean or repair it. It needs to be replaced. Karen made a motion to take the money out of Memorial/Alter Funds to replace it. Cheryl 2nd. All in favor, approved.
- e. Insulation/Boilers: There was a bill presented from AAA Heating for the two new boilers (\$16,000) and the roof eave insulation (\$2,685) for a total of \$18,685. This was previously approved. Derek said to pay the bill from the CHIF 3515 account.
- f. Christmas Bonus: Pastor Dave requested an increase Jackie's Christmas bonus from \$100 to \$200. Pastor Dave also pointed out that it would not affect the approved budget because the offset monies would come from Kari Files bonus. Margo motioned, all in favor, approved.
- g. Pastor Dave's Salary: Pastor Dave presented a request to increase his base salary next year to \$53,000. His current salary of \$43,464 is below those ministers being ordained in 2025 according to the Synod Guidelines for Salary and Housing. Additionally, he has been fulfilling the responsibilities of Senior Pastor since May 2023 without compensation. Margo made a motion to forward this to the Budget Committee for inclusion in the 2025 Budget for approval by the Congregation at the annual Meeting. 2nd by Cheryl. All in favor, approved.

#### **TEAM REPORTS: CHRISTIAN NURTURE**

- a. Worship/Altar/Music: nothing to report.
- b. Faith Formation: Nice Thanksgiving worship service with Christ Lutheran. Some of our confirmation students served Apple Crisp during fellowship. The Church School students are learning about God's Global Barnyard. December 18<sup>th</sup> is their Christmas program followed by cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate. Santa may even attend. There is no supper on December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- c. LYO: Caramel Roll Sunday was a great event.
- d. Ministry of Care/Local Missions: Thanksgiving cards were sent out to 59 members who have experienced a loss or long-term illness. 20 gift cards were sent out for the Holiday Baskets. On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 16 church members volunteered at the Welcome Table Soup Kitchen preparing and serving food for those in need.
- e. Faith & Care: nothing to report.
- f. Library: nothing to report.
- g. 7-2 Program: See Ministerial Acts Report.

#### **TEAM REPORTS: CHURCH OPERATIONS**

- a. Property Management: Nothing to report.

- b. Foundation: Nothing to report.
- c. Staff Support: Nothing to report.
- d. Hostfest/Lutefisk/GermanFest Events: Lutefisk Dinner is on December 14<sup>th</sup>.
- e. Technology: nothing to report.

**TEAM REPORTS: MISSIONS**

- a. Stewardship: Nothing to report.
- b. Global Missions: nothing to report until December.
- c. BLCW: Nothing to report.
- d. Breakfast Boys: Doing Saturday am breakfast and devotions. All are welcome!
- e. Memorial: nothing to report.

Margo moved that we adjourn our meeting. Jeanie seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Final prayer was given by Pastor Dave.

Ken Stroklund, Secretary