

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Traverse City, Michigan

“We journey with God to serve with love”

Council Minutes: 2/20/24

CALL TO ORDER President Cindy Monroe called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

OPENING PRAYER/DEVOTION: Maureen provided the opening devotion.

QUORUM CALL President Cindy Monroe, Secretary Jana Rockne, Maureen Bauer, Jim Monroe, Denice Bossardet, Tina Dohm, Vice President Paul Wiemerslage, Treasurer Gary Ancinec, Jim Hinds, Gail Goldsmith and Pastor Paul Busekist were present. Scott Farley was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Gary moved, Maureen seconded the approval of the agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES Gary moved, Denice seconded the approval of the January minutes as submitted. Motion passed.

CONGREGATIONAL AND VISITOR COMMENTS: None

REPORTS

PASTOR’S REPORT Pastor Paul provided a written report. Please refer to his written report for further details.

TREASURER’S REPORT Gary provided a written report. Please see the written report for more details. Gary also provided an explanation for the overage in spending.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY’S REPORT Jim referred council members to his written report. Please refer to Jim’s written report for more details.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Committee Reports Reports were submitted by the Financial Secretary, Personnel, Christian Education/Youth, Fellowship, Christian Care. All were accepted as reported. Please refer to the reports for more details.

URGENT BUSINESS:

A. Council retreat in March: Jana handed out an agenda for the retreat scheduled for 3/2/24. If members are unable to attend, it was recommended they review the retreat topics and provide input in advance.

B. Solar Faithful proposal update: info sheet, congregational meeting Feb 25, council vote of support? Pastor Paul provided material on the project and a report from the sub-committee. After much discussion, the following two motions were made related to the Solar Planning project: Gary moved, Tina seconded a motion that Council recommend that the congregation approve the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Fellowship Hall. Motion passed. Paul W moved, Jim H seconded that Council

recommend the congregation approve the direct purchase of solar panels for the Fellowship Hall (otherwise known as Option 2 on the ballot). Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Transfer of \$550 received from Cherry Festival from general fund to Sabbatical Fund. Gail moved, Maureen seconded a motion to transfer \$550 from the general fund to the Sabbatical Fund (which was the original intent of this fundraising). Motion passed. Additionally, Gail moved, Gary seconded a motion that all future Cherry Festival fundraising go to the Sabbatical Fund. Motion passed. Gail will sponsor her.
- B. New members acceptance: Janet Landis. Gail moved, Gary seconded a motion to accept Janet as a new member. Motion carried.
- C. Next Congregational meeting: June 16. Cindy reported the date of the summer congregational meeting.
- D. Reduce number of monthly STARS being sent out each month? Cindy led a discussion regarding people who are “inactive” (no contact with the church, no attendance at the church) and discontinuing sending them the STAR. Cindy will make a list of who these people are and share it with Pastor Paul to ensure no one is unintentionally dropped who shouldn't be.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Safety and Security Committee Update: Gail provided an update on the Safety and Security procedure of locking the front door during services and the need for volunteers to sign up for remain in the gathering space during the service. The sign-up sheet was passed around and returned to Gail. She also passed out sign-up sheets for the Lenten Service needs.
- B. Building Use Policy: Gail raised questions that had been addressed to her about prices listed on the Building Use form. It was requested that the form be clarified regarding the cost for a church representative and kitchen only use. Gail will make requested changes along with including the date the Building Use policy was adopted by the council.
- C. 2-year goal of revision of BLC constitution: Paul reported this is still in process.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS: Each council member was given an opportunity for general/undocumented comments.

LORD'S PRAYER: Said by all.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Jana Rockne, Council Secretary