

Bethany Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting November 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Hughes at 6:30 p.m.

Members present were Nancy Bruns, Linda Black, Cheryl Fischer, Tonya Samuelson, Curt Casper, Del Hughes, Alan Beyer, and Pastor Whaley. Absent were Dave Bahnsen and Wayne Frauenholtz.

Del opened the meeting with prayer.

Pastor's Report: **Council Report – November 11, 2019**

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Last month I talked about how our relationship with Jesus changes us. The Spirit continues to transform us into the people of God. I gave one example of how that has changed me, and I challenged each of you to ponder this and consider sharing a small part of your story with our Confirmation students. We have 7 awesome students this year. Thanks to Wayne who has already shared, Curt (11/6) and Al (11/13) who will also be sharing. Just today (11/6), I prepared a short video and posted it to our website and

Facebook pages inviting others to share a part of their story and the ability to signup online. I pray we fill those slots and wonder what it says about us and our commitment to pass on the good news of Jesus Christ to our youth if we don't get them filled. It's just 5 minutes. Maybe I should title it "5 Minutes of Faith" or something like that. I know sometimes it's scary, but you all can do it. The Spirit will equip you and assist you with words to say.

Happenings in the last month:

Notes of Joy (Just a few – there are many more)

- All Saints Sunday – WOW! 126 people in worship. A baptism (Leo Burnette), 6 of 7 baptized children since last All Saints Day in attendance, and many of our Senior Saints. Praise be to God!!!
- Great discussion on Sunday morning! Thanks to all who attend and Neil for doing an excellent job leading.
- Choir Singing – Your gifts of song have assisted our worship of our Lord. Thanks!
- First Communion – Elijah Fetzer on October 27

Other:

- 9 Pastoral Visits
- Wieneke/Dlhy wedding
- Worship with the people of Trinity in Tipton
- Baptismal Education
- First Communion Education
- Crestview worship
- Emergency Management Shelter meeting
- Free*Indeed* Prison Ministry Meetings (2)
- Staff reviews
- Hospital visit for a West Branch community member not affiliated with a congregation (Pastor Connie of WBUMC and I went together as a sign of unity)
- Worship Committee Meeting
- Normal activities (Weekly E-news, newsletter, bulletins, sermon preparation, Wednesday faith formation, etc.)

Upcoming:

- On vacation (11/10) – Pastor John Meyer supplying
- One Sunday left in 2019 and several days of vacation still
- WBARC meeting (11/19)

### **Secretary's Report:**

Linda moved and Cheryl seconded to approve the secretary's report. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The October General Fund Revenue and Expense report reflects income of \$12,257 and expense of \$13,264 for a net decrease of \$1,007. The fellowship expenses include \$283 for the synod meal, which will be offset by the payment from the Synod. The general fund balance is at \$1,683, so we will need to make a decision about transferring money out of the Mission Investment Fund before the end of the year.

Curt moved and Alan seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Building and Grounds:**

- The carpet in the Great Hall needs to be cleaned and will be scheduled tomorrow. It will cost \$400 to \$500 to do it.
- There is some yard work to be finished around the church if the weather cooperates.
- Snow removal. Curt Friis and John Black have agreed to plow the snow this winter. Barnhart's Const. did it once for a previous snow. Discussion was held regarding shoveling the sidewalks and sanding or salting as needed. Curt will talk to Barnharts tomorrow about this.

#### **Education:**

Tonya received notice from EWALU regarding their program to assist with Vacation Bible School. June 7 – 12<sup>th</sup> is available for them if we agree to use their services. A down payment must be made by the end of this month. Al moved and Curt seconded to continue to use EWALU for VBS. Motion passed.

#### **Evangelism and Outreach:**

The Designated Shelter Committee met on October 28<sup>th</sup> at Bethany for a two-hour training by Cedar County Emergency Services. Another meeting will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> to finalize the organizational plans.

#### **Fellowship:**

No report. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Meal will be provided by Del Hughes and another family.

#### **Stewardship:**

No report. Time and Talent sheets will soon be available. Cheryl suggested making the sign-up sheets available online.

#### **Youth:**

No updates.

### **Worship and Music:**

- The Christmas services are being planned with a few changes from last year.
- All Saints Sunday was great. 10 of 19 members over 80 years old were present. 6 of 7 newly baptized members were present.
- Confirmation of Aiden Shields and Andrew Samuelson will be held November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Old Business:**

- Memorial Fund Committee: Members are Deanna and Paul Weismann, Linda and John Black, Neil and Chris Korsmo and possibly some others.
- Little Free Food Pantry: Planning is underway. Some discussion was held regarding how many, where will they be located, and who will tend to them. Al moved and Curt seconded to proceed with the project. Motion passed.
- Audit Committee: Jill Taylor, Deanna Weismann, and Dave Poppen.
- Nominating Committee: Jon Twing, Beth Kaufman, and Jamie Zimmerman.
- Synod Meeting Representatives: Dave Bahnsen has volunteered. Another is needed.
- Annual Reports are due on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **New Business:**

Pastor Chad mentioned that Kristin McElhinney will be using the Great Hall three times for a class during J Term.

There was no other new business.

Curt moved to adjourn. Linda seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:40 p.m.