

Bethany Lutheran Church- Council Minutes September 9th, 2024

Call to Order at 6:32pm by President Kent Kaufman

Members Present: Jon Twing, Dale Swenson, Pastor Chad, Cindy Knoop, Kent Kaufman, Kristen Van Scoyoc, Jessica Fonseca, Howard Moss, Courtney Heid, Pat Cassabaum

Members absent: none

Opening Prayer & Discussion

Pastor's Report

Joys and Thanksgivings

- God's work. Our hands. – Wonderful day! Great worship, beautiful weather, good group of God's people gathered. Thanks to Jess Fonseca for organizing!
- Wednesday Faith Formation and Sunday School Kickoffs. – Well attended, fun, and good energy to start the year.
- Faith Forward – Team has great ideas and moving forward with a couple events.

Ministry Happenings

- 13 visits
- Crestview worship
- Attend 4th Sunday supper
- Faith Forward
 - 2 Team meetings
 - Members: Brad & Jill Kinsinger, Nancy Bruns, Amanda Whaley
 - Attend Zoom meeting with cohort group and leaders through Grandview Univ.
 - Create promo materials and begin planning for upcoming events
- Men's Bible Study
- Visit with quilting group
- Wednesday Faith Formation kickoff
- Attend Sunday school
- Attend WB football games (fresh/soph and varsity)
 - Several youth playing
- Sermon Camp 2024
 - 6 week online continuing education opportunity
- Regular happenings
 - Administration, bulletin and newsletter preparation, worship and sermon preparation, social media posting, etc.
- GWOH
- Community Happenings
 - 7th annual Chipaway at Childhood Hunger golf tournament
 - Another successful year. Raised nearly \$6,000 for Operation Backpack, WB Community Food Pantry and other hunger programs within our school district.

Upcoming

- West Branch Area Religious Council resume
 - Meeting at Bethany September 12
- Zoom meeting with Bishop Current on new ELCA social statement – in Small Hall September 17 @ 6:30. All invited to attend.
- Community Tailgate – September 18 6:00 PM
- Fall Theological Conference (Southeastern Iowa Synod) September 22-23, Coralville
- Crestview Worship – September 26
- High School Event (Faith Forward)- September 29

Secretary's Report- Courtney

- August Council Meeting Minutes
 - Howard moved to approve; Kristen seconded. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report- Jon

- August Treasurer's Report
 - Jon reported highlights.
 - Tabled, books not closed as of today. Will review at October meeting.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Howard

- Volleyball tournament – barricades put up, did not deter all vehicles. Spoke with city officials about options for next year. Most important is that full size vehicles aren't driving through. Discussion will continue with for next year's event.

Education & Youth- Kristen & Courtney

- Faith Formation & Sunday School kickoffs in the past week.
- Starting to work on Christmas Program
 - Planned for Sunday, December 15th
- First Communion sign up in progress, Chad will coordinate in the coming weeks.
- Bible presentation planning for younger youth.

Evangelism & Missions – Jessica

- God's Work Our Hands was great! Projects included:
 - Cemetery clean up
 - Landscape clean up at Peache's house
 - Personal Care Kits
 - Weeding & mulching at dog park
 - Landscaping church grounds
 - Deck stain at Frostestad's

Fellowship – Pat

- September Fourth Sunday Meal – Anne Fetzer

Stewardship- Dale

- Tip sheet to decrease plastic use in our church and personal lives.
- Temple talks planned for the beginning of service each Sunday in October.
- Creating pledge cards.
- Team is working on campaign for decreased plastic use in the coming months.

Worship and Music – Cindy

- Sunday September 15th Outdoor worship and brunch to follow
 - Poppen's organizing brunch
- Committee meeting next week to discuss plans for upcoming events
 - Staff Appreciation Sunday – October 13th
 - Confirmation/Reformation Sunday – October 27th
 - All Saints Day – November 3rd
 - 1st Sunday of Advent – December 1st
 - Christmas Eve services

Old Business

- Tree Project
 - Money has been raised- carving work will likely happen late October/early November, should be done by December.
- Solar Tax Credit
 - Pending

New Business

- Confirmand approval – Arik Marsh
 - Howard moved to approve; Kristen seconded. Motion approved.
- Non-member weddings
 - Chad has presided over a handful in the past. Asked council thoughts going forward. Guidelines currently say they pay a fee and have certain requirements.
 - Council in agreement that the choice is up to Chad as the situation arises.

Howard moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:47pm, Cindy seconded. Motion approved.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Regular Meeting October 14th, 2024

