

## Bethel Council Minutes

6:30 p.m. Feb. 20, 2024

**Attendance:** Pastor Dave Hill, Randy Baskerville, Gary Helgemo, Jim Herr, Steve Middleton, Tom Hooper, Sarah Manro, Mary Jo Mikulski, Jeff Reising, Linc Schneider, Harold Seamon, and Steve Horton was on Zoom. Absent were Ros Demaree and Jill Duncan.

**Devotion/Opening Prayer** – Pastor Dave opened the meeting with a devotional based on Jeremiah 29: 11 “For I know I have plans for declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil to give you a future and a hope.”

**Approve Minutes, Jan. 16 meeting** – The minutes were approved as submitted by the council.

**Financial Report** – The report was submitted by the treasurer Harold Seaman and is attached. There was a 12,00 shortfall in part due to the propane bill. A motion to pass and second was give by Pastor Dave and Gary Helgamo and voted to pass.

**Bethel Bus Sale** - Due to the age of the bus and the non handicap accessibility as well as the minimum use it was determined to sell the bus at this time. For the present time all church events using transportation will be provided by either members cars or by a rental bus. Kim Forster will handle this transaction and the asking price will be in the range of 8 to12 thousand dollars. Gary Helgamo moved that the bus be sold and the money put toward the church mortgage and Jeff Reising second. After some discussion there was a friendly motion to remove any discussion of where the proceeds would go until the transaction is completed. Motion passed.

**March Council Meeting Date** – Jim had a conflict, but it was determine that the March date will remain the third Tuesday March 19 at 6:30 p.m.

**Furnace Maintenance Update** – Harold relayed the necessity of purchasing a new heating unit in the upstairs of the educational wing that needed to be replaced. We got two quotes from the same two companies that quoted the furnace replacement work for the church side of the facility in 2022.

Quote #1: Mission Mechanical, \$16,578 to replace the heating unit with a unit manufactured by Modine.

Quote #2: Precision Comfort Systems, \$8,703 to replace the heating unit with a unit manufactured by Trane (the old unit was manufactured by Trane) or \$12,690 to replace the heating unit with a unit manufactured by Modine.

Jeff moved to have Precision Comfort install the Trane unit for \$8,703. When they tried to get the unit they were told it could be seven weeks before the unit was shipped. Since we were in the middle of the winter, we decided to have Precision Comfort install the Modine unit which they got in about 10 days. Harold second. Motion passed

Along with the furnace discussion there was a discussion of the Building Fund that totals \$108,000 at present. Funds are pulled as needed and the following is a list of needs that need to be addressed soon:

1. Backup Pump GEO
2. Painting in various parts of the church both inside and out.
3. Staining of the areas around the church stain glass windows plus putting the wood base around some of them
4. Concrete ramp that goes up to church front entrance.
5. Parking lot needs to be redone.

**LCS and Property Update** – Jeff explained that since the Legacy Preschool enrollment was much the same, the payment they would make for the rest of this school year will remain the same.

There is hope of more students next fall so will see how that plans out. The agreement with Legacy runs through June 30, 2026.

**Credit Card Usage** – The usage of the credit card was discussed. It was mentioned that they reviewed the reoccurring charges and were able to eliminate some and have a process for using the card and who okays it. Each charge must have a validation sheet signed by the council person representing the committee it falls under. Dee will not write a reimbursement check without it.

#### **Council Terms, Nominating Committee (from the bylaws, B1.06.d)**

Nominating

- 1) Shall seek at least as many nominations as council positions need to be filled.
- 2) Shall have at least five (5) members, including the Council President.
- 3) Council members going off the Council shall have first right of refusal to serve, and other members may be recruited as needed from the congregation.
- 4) Candidates should represent the demographics of the congregation.
- 5) The Nominating Committee should seek candidates whose leadership qualities meet the needs of the open ministry committees.
- 6) The Church Council shall approve the slate of candidates to be presented to the congregation by the May Council meeting for their approval/election at the June congregational meeting.

A discussion was held about who would be continuing with those being up for renewal are

Randy Baskerville, Roz Demaree, Steve Horton, Sarah Manro, and Jill Duncan.

This will be discussed and confirmed for the June election by the May meeting.

#### **Fellowship and Other Activities**

Stuff the Truck, March 16

We are concentrating on providing health kits and flood buckets to be sent to the NALC disaster relief program.

Easter Egg Hunt,

Instead of an Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Candy packages will be created to hand out to church children, Legacy and Homeschooled groups with an invitation to attend our Easter weekend services.

Easter Breakfast, March 31

Sausage and Scripture will head the efforts for our Easter Breakfast.

#### **Ministry Performance/Where is Help Needed**

**Small Groups – Tom Hooper passed out information for the small group project of meeting in homes for food and fellowship.**

**Lent Offering** The offering will be given to the Ethiopian Ministry for their evangelism ministry. Pastor Dave moved, Jeff Reising second, Passed

**Motion to Adjourn was passed**

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Mary Jo Mikulski, acting Secretary**

#### **February 2024 Ministry Reports**

**PASTOR DAVE'S REPORT**

*"We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them."* Romans 8:28

<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b>
<b>WORSHIP:</b> 12 services (Sundays & Saturdays) Healing (10th w/Pr. Doug)	15 Services (Saturdays/Sundays/Wednesdays Healing (7th)
<b>MEETINGS:</b> Care Team (4) Office Staff (5) Missions Team Executive Team Church Council Marilyn's Place Youth Midweek	Care Team (2) Office Staff (4) Executive Team Church Council Marilyn's Place Youth Midweek
<b>CONTACTS:</b> Legacy (Weekly) Homebound Members (6) Fire Inspector Kept in contact w/ Pr. Doug & canceled Pastoral Retreat plans	Legacy (Weekly) Homebound Members (4) Families w/ Pastoral needs 3
<b>ACTIVITIES:</b> Evelyn Chance Memorial Movie Night Chosen Study Preparation Post Easter Preparation Volunteer/Staff Luncheon Furnace issue Ed. Building Homebound Members (6) Fire Inspector Kept in contact w/ Pr. Doug & canceled Pastoral Retreat plans	Comedy Night Shrove Tuesday Meal Furnace Install (Ed. Bld.) Chosen Study Preparation Food Pantry Help Post Easter Preparation  + Doctor's Appointment 16th + Automobile Servicing

**CARE MINISTRY, JILL DUNCAN**

Care ministry continues to look for someone to be in charge of Take Them A Meal. We have plenty of people who have volunteered to provide meals, but no leader yet.

**COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY, ROS DEMAREE**

Gay Hanson created an outdoor banner for Lent. Helped the Youth and Fellowship ministries promote Comedy Night and the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner within the congregation and to the public. Working with Christian Ed to announce the scholarship opportunities.

**FELLOWSHIP AND EVANGELISM MINISTRIES, JIM HERR AND STEVE MIDDLETON**

The fellowship and evangelism groups met on Monday, 2/4. We discussed Lenten Midweek and Engagement Cards. We finalized our plans for the midweek meals. We also firmed up our plans for Bethel Bingo on 4/27 and started some planning for a craft event on 5/18. Finally, we solidified intentions for a concert at the Farmhouse on June 21. We will meet again on March 11.

#### **MUSIC AND WORSHIP MINISTRY, LINC SCHNEIDER**

Preparing for the Lenten Season starting on Feb 14 with all groups being represented during the Wed Services. This should offer some variety and meaningful worship for those who are attending one of the 3 services. Continue to gain volunteers, particularly in the AV area. Nice job with this area improving with volunteers and also quality in sound and visual during worship services. Starting to see some improvement with music in all 3 services as we work on unifying the sound and quality. Still see our regulars doing Gods work in all areas of the ministry (AV, Music, Altar Guild, Greeters, Ushers and Readers). Continuing to work on advance preparation to reduce the mistakes. The earlier the better in planning. Unfortunately, have not seen a gain in attendance. But, this will be in God's time.

#### **PROPERTY, JEFF REISING**

As of this morning, thanks to Harold while I was gone, the heating unit is being replaced in the second floor mechanical room. It should be up and running by Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>. That will be a 12k bill that should be taken from the building fund. We are also getting a revised quote for the backup circulation pump for the Geothermal system, as it was not replaced at the time of the system installation a couple of years ago.

I will continue to work on Paint quotes for the exterior trim for this spring as well as concrete quotes for the long overdue ramp work at the front door.

The last thing we will be looking at is the parking lot and the need to either seal the lot or at least put some energy into crack filling. The parking lot is getting to a precarious age and will become a bigger part of our future repair considerations.

Jim and I talked about this item, and I will be laying out boundaries to install a sand volleyball court, most likely at the back of the farm property. Cost will be minimal, labor and equipment donations will cover most of it with the biggest cost being sand. More soon on that.

General spring outdoor work will begin around March 1, or sooner if mom nature allows.

LCS reports no issues and feels very blessed to be at Bethel. Scout troops report the same. I have not questioned the home schoolers but they have dealt with cool classrooms w no issues over the last two weeks.

I would love to see an expansion of growing veggies at the farm. Jim and family stepped up with corn and some tomatoes, but it'd be nice to expand that program. Ideas on how to get engagement for management and upkeep would be appreciated. That is a beast I cannot tackle as the lead person. Someone else needs to own that.

#### **STEWARDSHIP, MARY JO MIKULSKI**

We continue to emphasize the laws of Stewardship and will have several on the Stewardship bulletin board. As we move into Lent let us all remember that one way we observe our Lenten journey is to faithfully give to the work of Bethel and the larger work of the church. Each member is a part of this act of giving. Remind those on your committees be faithful in giving.

#### **YOUTH, SARAH MANRO**

We have continued meeting Wednesday evenings for midweek group, but will not meet during Lent except for a quick check in after midweek services if any youth are there. Comedy Night was held Feb 9 and was attended by about 75 people. We had 6 youth there to help. After expenses we made approximately \$700 to go towards youth activities.