

Bethel Lutheran Church Council Meeting-Draft

June 19, 2025

Attendees: Randy Baskerville, Gary Helgemo, Jim Herr, Tom Hooper, Sarah Manro, Steve Middleton, Mary Jo Mikulski, Jeff Reising, Linc Schneider, Annette Lang, Wes Wells, Logan Wells.

Meeting called to order at 7:02

Devotion was given by Pastor DJ Smith

Innovation Team

Wes Wells presented the innovation teams discussion on the various areas the innovation team felt were needed for the pastor to address. There was concern about the innovations teams recommendations conflicting with the job description for the pastor. It was also discussed that the call committee is still working on the job description and that more time was needed to review the job description. There was also discussion about the need to integrate information from the innovation team with the job description being reviewed by the call committee. The job description will be voted on by the council. The importance of aligning job descriptions with the constitution was highlighted for clarity in pastoral roles.

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the May 2025 council meeting, it was moved by Gary Helgemo and seconded by Randy Baskerville.

Motion was made to approve the treasure's report, moved by Jeff Reising seconded by Steve Middleton.

Treasurer's Report- Harold Seamon

The documents that comprise the June 2025 General Fund treasurer's report are attached. Some notes about the report:

- **Revenue** – GF Revenue for June 2025 totaled \$49,482.47. June revenue was significantly higher than May. Higher revenue was expected because June was a “5 Sunday Month”. For comparison, the “Average Giving per Sunday” in May was \$8,693 and the average in June was \$10,380. The

approved budget for 2025 is \$744,884. To meet the budget, we need an average monthly revenue of \$62,074, or weekly revenue of \$14,324.

- **Expenses** – Expenses in June 2025, including principal on the mortgage, totaled \$58,499. A few notes about June expenses:

- ☐ Salary and Benefit expenses included the final payment on Pastor Hill’s “departure package” of \$16,666.

- ☐ Property expenses from the general fund were up \$3,766 compared to May. The increase was due to paying the quarterly insurance premium paid to Brotherhood Mutual for \$4,332.

- ☐ A significant expense in June was \$17,200 paid for sealing and restriping our parking lot. This was paid from the Building Fund, not the General Fund. New council members please note the balances for all funds are shown on the bottom of the “Month by Month Statement of Activities”.

- **Revenue Minus All Expenses** – Revenue minus expenses (including mortgage principal) in April totaled **negative \$9,016.68**.

Two questions were raised about finances since our last meeting. First what is the income from land rent? In 2024 we received land rent (farm income) of \$5,500. The second question was what are we paying in interest on our mortgages? Our interest in 2024 was \$67,796. Our 2025 interest through June totaled \$31,583. Our mortgage payments are \$13,610 per month. More information about our mortgages as of June 30, 2025:

- a. #960 Current Principal Balance = \$642,067 Rate 5.75%
- b. #961 Current Principal Balance = \$447,391 Rate 5.50%
- c. Total Principal Balance = \$1,089,458

If you have questions, feel free to email or call me.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Seamon
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Fellowship-Jim Her

LCS is planning on having a fellowship event on October 4th of 2025. Jim has talked to Susan Harper about how Bethel can help with the event. Continued collaboration is encouraged.

Saturday July 12th after the 5:30 service there will be a bonfire and cookout. The event is open to the public.

Sunday the 13th will be the official installation of the new council members. Members who attend the 5:30 service on Saturday will be installed at that time.

New Business

Marilyn's Place is struggling financially. Missions have been supporting the mission. There was a discussion about using the rent money from the individuals who are paying rent to store their RVs on church property. There was also a lot of discussion about the future use of farmhouse property and how the property can be put to better use for the community.

A motion was made by Randy Baskerville to pay the utilities for Marilyn's Place through the end of December 31, 2025. Missions will discuss with Glen any other finances that may be needed to help Marilyn's Place by the end of December 31st, 2025.

The motion was moved and seconded by Jeff Reising, the vote carried 7 to 3.

Missions-Randy Baskerville

The Pastor from Ethiopia that was due to be a guest speaker in August has had his visa denied and can not come to the United States. Bethel Lutheran Church has supported this church in Ethiopia for 13 years. Missions will see about getting the Pastor to visit in November of 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

