

Bethesda Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 9, 2016

Present: Pastor Cheryl, JoAnn Gustafson, Sue Frank, Jon Kolb, Stacy Colich, Jason Goad,
Duane Soukkala, Jen Kuras, Theresa Vermeersch

Absent: Sue Coady

Visitors: Myrna Postal – Transition Task Force

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Sue Frank

Devotions & opening prayer by Jason Goad

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Jen MSC Jon

TRANSITION TASK FORCE:

Myrna gave the council an update of how they are moving along. She stated this is a great group of individuals and they are moving along nicely. Colleen is putting together survey results then they will start meeting on the policy???. The council thanks the TTF for all their hard work to put this together.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CYFM – Tabled until July 7, 2016. Those presenting were unable to attend June meeting

JoAnn Gustafson - Update on the search for another company to use for background checks.

Council Representative Report - (New item to agenda from this point forward)

Wendy Mitchell - Update on photographer used for First Communion, Confirmation pictures. Our past photographer, George Siebold will no longer be taking pictures so how did things go with a different photographer? Will we use same person next year? Has the church's 8x10 been ordered?

Treasurer-Debby is formally requesting a meeting with the church Treasure to go over CYFM accounts. What was the 2016 beginning balances, incoming monies if any, vouchers paid, CYFM has no check book. Vouchers, starting in February 2016, are being reviewed at our monthly meetings and approved. Payment is then requested via voucher through the church treasurer. CYFM is not receiving monthly financial information.

Act Local is coming up soon – July 18 - 22nd. Audrey Lokken, Mark Matlack, Nevada McCorison along with adult leader, Colleen Bernu, will be attending. Act Local is a weeklong local missions "trip" planned and coordinated by the local churches attending. Youth Group aged kids from congregations throughout the area meet during the day for service projects, fun activities, and devotions. There is a lock-in at the end of the week to celebrate their time together.

Camp fire Wednesday: to begin June 8

V.L.M. Day Camp: August 8-12th is still in the planning stages. Further information to follow

Acolyte training: Colleen and Pastor Cheryl will develop the training program. Grades included 2nd grades, after 1st Communion training, to 9th grade. Training is set for Wed. 6/29 5:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. and Sunday 7/10 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Post cards will be sent to children. Starting in 2017, Acolyte training will be part of the First Communion Classes.

First Communion: April 2, 2017 Pastor Cheryl will inform council and Bobbie for church Calendar

Confirmation: May 7, 2017 Pastor Cheryl will inform council and Bobbie for church calendar

3rd Grade Bibles - Colleen will check inventory

Faith Formation: We continue to discuss, plan and formalize.

CYFM will present the plan to the church council at their July meeting.

Property – Duane called on the organ pipes again with no answer.

JUNE MEETING NOTES - WORSHIP

I. Feedback & Review:

a. Worship services

Good response to quilt Sunday (blessing of high school graduates). Will try to use the service format that Pastor Cheryl used. Joel has a copy of that in the worship committee folder.

b. Attendance

5/1 (100), 5/8 (88), 5/15 (70), 5/22 quilt Sunday (121), 5/29 Memorial Day (64)

II. Worship Spaces & Liturgical Decor for the Season:

Joel put green on the base of the cross and some green leaves on the cross. He and Carol Beckstrom will continue to add leaves to the cross through this green season of the church year.

III. Seasonal Planning:

A. Services

Narrative Lectionary Discussion no specific discussion on this at the meeting. See information from Colleen listed under other regarding a possible Wednesday night service.

June 19 - PC gone - Pulpit supply Pastor Gary Terrio will preach and do communion.

June 26 - Lay led lessons and hymns. Pastor Cheryl gave the video to be used for the message that day to Joel. There will be no communion on that Sunday. Worship team will organize how lessons and songs will be done and we can include the Psalm that day. Will try to get various congregation members to be the readers. Will have the congregation pick the hymns at the beginning of the service.

Carlton Daze Polka Service July 31. Loren Lindevig will be playing the polka service and Pastor Cheryl will do the message and there will be communion. We will use serving setting number four so Liz will not need to play.

Park Services:

At this time it does not look like we will continue doing services at Jay Cooke Park. There has been very poor attendance from the campers and we are meeting some resistance from the park manager.

Outdoor Worship on August 7. Lynn has spoken with the City of Carlton and we are on their books for service at the shelter by the bike trail. There will be no service at the church that day. River of Grace is on board to play. Pastor Cheryl will do the message and communion.

Summer Communion Intinction - it was decided that all of the services during the summer communion will be done by intinction.

B. Nursing Home / Assisted Living Services

Visitation team has started doing services at Interfaith Care Center and the Pine view apartments on the first Sunday of each month and that went very well.

C. Worship Music planning:

Cathy Dale subbing on July 24th, Aug. 14 & 21

GHB Music Leader

Pastor Cheryl will be able to do the leading if there are no other leaders there.

D. Planning Ahead

E. Other

Projector - Joel will soon know the cost of the projector and insulation if we need someone other than church members to do that; then it will be decided if with the total cost of the project can be done at this time.

Colleen presented a report from the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. The tabulation so far from the survey that was done by the Task Force shows that a majority of the responses would like to have a second service on a day other than Sunday. Wednesday was the most requested day for the second

service. The preliminary plan is to have a very simple meal, possibly spaghetti, and have that same meal every week with a very loosely structured Faith family devotional that would then lead into the worship time. Worship service would use the focus of the confirmation program. The total time, meal and worship, would be two hours. There would be some changing the table formations to encourage small group conversations. To start with there would be a person at each table to facilitate conversation and these people would go through training. The goal would be to have people become comfortable enough with this conversation format that in time there would be no need for a specific person. This is still in the planning stages. At Advent and Lent we could do soup and sandwich or whatever simple meal has been done on the other Wednesday nights.

Children education on Sunday would probably be a 25 to 30 minute block of time and would focus on the Gospel lesson and would use some of the Spark program. It would be held during part of the worship service and to begin with would be up in the fellowship hall. This is still a work in progress. CYFM hopes to be able to present a more solid program to the Council in July or August.

Acolyte training will take place on June 29 and on July 10. Post cards will be sent with the dates. There will be instruction on how acolytes can be involved in a number of ways in the service beyond the lighting of the candles.

First communion will probably be April 2 next year.

Confirmation is scheduled for May 7

IV. Thank You notes to:

Christy S for all her work for projection of the Sunday worship service.

V. Items for next meeting:

Keep possible physical changes in fellowship hall on agenda to be updated as needed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Correspondence – none

Approval of May 18th meeting minutes – tabled until August 11th meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tabled until August 11th meeting

PASTOR'S REPORT

(1) Pastoral Acts and Responsibilities

Met with Executive, CYFM, visitation team and worship committee. On May 22nd we blessed five high school grads and Kayla Radtke celebrated her first communion.

(2) Contract Tasks

a. **Constitution** – The proposed revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws, which bring them up to date with the ELCA's 2013 Model Constitution. Are ready for council's approval. Once the Council has approved these revisions, they must be presented to the congregation for their vote of approval. This may be done at either a special congregation meeting, or at your next annual meeting. Keep in mind that Constitution changes require two congregational meetings: one to approve, and the second to ratify. Bethesda's policy on Fundraising is also ready for council approval.

I learned from Linda Newlon that Handevig has sold their property. This means that they will be contacting churches to use their buildings for funerals and lunches. You may want to review and update Bethesda's building usage policy regarding non-member funerals.

b. Visitation Team – Team members are visiting and reporting at our monthly meeting. They also plan and schedule members for the first Sunday worship service at IF and Pine View. Based on their observations and recommendations, I have visited three shut-ins this past month.

(3) **Interim Period** – We are in Phase 2 – Transition Tasks. No one responded to attending cottage meetings, so the team is now in the process of analyzing survey and one-on-one interview data. At our last meeting, I provided information on how to do the TTF report. As the team has begun looking at Bethesda's history, we have discovered that many original records/documents have either been destroyed in the flood, or missing following work on significant anniversary celebrations. You might want to investigate getting a fireproof safe to protect your remaining historical records, which are scattered about in various locations in the church building, and possibly in member homes. There are also several audio and video cassettes that you might want to look into having preserved digitally.

(4) **Other** – I will be on vacation from June 13-19. I will be out of state for continuing education from June 20-26. The worship committee decided that it would not be a good idea to miss Holy Communion two weeks in a row; therefore, Linda Newlon has scheduled an ordained clergy for the pulpit fill on June 19th, and Worship Committee is planning worship for June 26th. They will use a NOOMA video for the sermon portion on the 26th.

OLD BUSINESS:

AED update – Sue has not met with Memorial and Endowment as of this meeting. This is tabled until the August 11th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Constitution:

In order to change the constitution, it needs 2 votes; (1) to approve and (1) to ratify. It has not been changed since 2000 and a lot has happened since then. The Treasure and Financial Secretary must be 2 positions. Treasure cannot be on council and have a vote due to this is a paid position. The pastor should abstain from any voting regarding themselves or what would be considered a conflict of interest. Voting members of the congregation – active members only can vote – see page 10 of the constitution. We could hold our first congregational meeting in September to approve the constitution and then ratify at the Annual meeting. The constitution will be available to the congregation July 1st.

Motion to approve the constitution was made by Jen seconded by Jason – Pastor Cheryl abstained from voting. Motion was carried.

Fund Raising Policy:

Item C had some changes – When there are fundraisers, the following should be carefully observed and all fundraisers being planned **(both monetary & items) either for the church or an outside entity, or mission support event** must have the approval of the **council prior to beginning the fundraising or mission event.**

The part that was changed is in red above. Duane made a motion to approve the added information in red MSC Jen – motion carried. Council approves the Fundraising policy.

Nominating Committee – must go through nominating committee if interested in being on council. You must do this in October.

NEXT MEETING: August 11, 2016 at 5:30 – Executive meeting will be on Tuesday, August 2, 2106 at 6:00 PM

NEXT DEVOTION, PRAYER AND TREATS: JoAnn Gustafson

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Theresa MSC Jason

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM

Respectively submitted,

JoAnn Gustafson
Secretary