

Bethany Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
September 9, 2014

Meeting called to order by Council vice-president Jim Haifley at 6:31.

Present

Paulette Van Cleve, Pastor Gallimore, Sharon Edmunds , Sally Williams, Jim Haifley, Jim Erickson, Sarah Simon, Kim Green, Daleen Haifley (church secretary)

Absent

Jan Lingenfelter (treasurer), Bob Lingenfelter, Sandy Cooper, Deb-Noble-Perry, Ruth Smithermann (Youth representative),

Opening Devotion-Ken Houts ***You Are a Miracle Waiting to Happen.*** Three Miracle Working questions to ask as a part of hospitality to guests visiting our church.

- Hi! What's your name?
- How long have you been coming here?
- How can I pray for you?

Our church will be doing training based on this book.

Approval of August minutes- Approved as written. Motion by Sally /Seconded by Jim.

Treasurer Report- Jan is on vacation, so Daleen presented the report. Our congregation is doing well in giving enough to meet current expenses. We need to tweak a couple of items so the budget matches our Quickbooks program.

Jan suggested again establishing a new savings account containing only restricted funds. Daleen has met with the Quickbook consultant to look at our Quickbooks program and how it matches with where money actually is. Some major costs do not show up on our accounting program. She went over the Balance Sheet with council to show us how to determine how much really we really have. This will take some changes to the accounts shown on Quickbooks. The Quickbooks trainer is working to figure out how to resolve the payroll liability error.

Jan and Daleen have made a list of accounts that need to be eliminated. The council can approve or not approve the whole list. **(Open. We will vote on this list at the next meeting.)** This would result in adjusting our liability to \$4500, which is manageable.

Paulette moved to accept treasurer's report/seconded by Sharon. Approved.

Pastor Report- See attached

Pastor talked about the theater performance. He felt that this was enjoyed by congregation members and friends/neighbors outside the congregation. We made a profit for the parking lot, and it acted as an outreach. We will do another performance.

Committee Reports:

1. **Worship and Music**-(Galen) Schedule set for liturgical cycle-which book used for each service. We also discussed changes that were made to the bulletins and the reaction of members to those changes. We are going to try a new plan during Advent with a reusable insert.
2. **Property**- No report
3. **Fellowship Committee** – Bob sent out an email that we can discuss with him before acting on his ideas.
4. **Learning Committee**- Schedule and changes to Sunday School were shared in the Learning report written by Michelle Parker.
5. **Youth Report**- Day of service last Saturday, Sept. 6, involved both youth and adults. It was a small group, but they accomplished a lot.

Upcoming events:

- October- Hunger Walk/Corn Maze
- Youth program- 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month
- Start planning for next summer's mission trip

Old Business-

1. **Accounting /Office** – Daleen would like to set up Quickbooks to reflect actual income and expenses. This would match the way Quickbooks was designed to be used. This will result in new reports will not match with reports generated by “old” system. It will take about 6 months to completely overhaul our accounting. New copy machine has been ordered and should arrive next week.
2. **Restoring Savings Account**- We talked about setting aside \$200 a month for a year. If we did that, we would have met our liability in a year. We should continue to do this on an ongoing basis to build up our savings account. We would vote on this continuation at the end of the year. We had been taking from the savings for several years and it is depleted.
3. **Pastor's Sabbatical**- Pastor will be taking a 2- month sabbatical in summer 2015. Grants are available to pay for the sabbatical. We have a grant writer (Carrie Ching or Ethel Wills) in the congregation that might be able to get us one of those grants. Daleen suggested that instead of putting \$200 a month, we should put \$100 in savings for Pastor's sabbatical and \$100 to repay liability. We need someone to research how to plan and pay for the sabbatical. This would involve talking to the synod office. Jim Haifley agreed to talk to Walt about calling the synod and talk to Carrie about writing a grant. **Open**
Motion was made to putting \$100 into designated savings to be used for pastor's sabbatical and \$100 in a savings account by Sally/seconded by Jim Erickson-**Approved**

4. **Lock up Schedule/Keys-** Keys needed by council members in order to lock up church every Sunday. This is a council responsibility. Only 1 counter has a key to the office. Four of the counters need to have keys. Jim will talk to office alarm company about getting more copies of the key or changing to a pad system.

Discussion discussed having the counters do their job on a day that the office is open to avoid any discrepancies in accounting. Sally suggested canvassing counters to discuss coming in on Monday or Tuesday. **Daleen will talk to Jan (treasurer) about this issue. (Open-will discuss again next month)**

New Business-

1. **Donation to Elbe Pfaarhouse house for council retreat-** We have used this venue for church retreats. Moved by Jim Erickson to pay \$200 for the last 4 retreats we have held there. Motion made by Jim H./seconded by Sharon Edmunds. **Approved**

Good of the Order (around the table)

Paulette- Discussed *Meet Your Council Member* bulletin boards. Proposed various places to hang these forms.

Sally- Only 26 left. Last push will be this Sunday, Rally Sunday. After that copies will be available only in the office.

Closing with prayer

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15.

Next Meeting- October 14 at 6:30.