Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Council Meeting

January 10, 2023

ATTENDANCE: Jeremy Van Wey, Sue Cottrill, Pastor Joel, Penny Humphrey, Rich Vanderburgh, Jeff Florida, Darlene Laubenstein

President Jeremy Van Wey called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

OPENING DEVOTION:

Pastor passed out the November 2022 Lutheran Witness and charged all to read the article Meanwhile back in Bradbury…. He also read Romans 12 vs 3-8 which tells us to live life as a Human Sacrifice. Begin with humility and use the gifts he has given us to build up one another.

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS: Jeremy welcomed everyone to a new year. He highlighted the remaining openings in the council. He also asked about keys determining that Jeremy, Jeremiah, and Jeff needed keys.

MINUTES: The December minutes were reviewed and Darlene made a motion to accept as written. Rich seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Jeff reviewed the financial data. We need to watch the data on decreased giving. He also will investigate if there are avenues to invest some of our money that would give us more gains. Jeff has signed the account at US Bank.

PASTOR: report attached. Additional information was given.

As a Congregational Outreach, Pastor would like the congregation to consider hosting a Shrove Tuesday pancake meal. It would only be pancakes and appropriate toppings and the meal would be linked with the Olney hymns. Penny will make some contacts within the Congregation to move forward. It would be 2/21 from 5-7 p.m. This would be a way to engage with people about Lent, Easter, grace and hymns

Pastor is considering a Lenten theme of Grazing Grace.

January 24, 2023 the Katy Trail mobile unit will be at the Food Center parking lot.

Possible SHINE event would be a Bob Bennett concert on April 23

Pastor is finishing Catechesis with several who will join by Profession of Faith probably later in the month of January.

EDUCATION AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES: report attached

TRUSTEES: report attached

The Council needs further information about the documents presented about the steeple issues and repair. Jeremy will get with the Trustees about that and also changing the door code, a sticking door when it is really cold, and 3 cameras that are not functioning.

STEWARDSHIP: report attached detailing distribution of special service funds from 2022 and proposed distribution for 2023.

EVANGELISM: no report A board chair person is still needed.

FELLOWSHIP: report attached.

They hosted a successful Children’s Christmas program and party

Would like to resume Fellowship coffees. If any groups are interested in assisting.

MISSIONS: Report attached Did not meet in December, however will meet in January to begin discussing spring mission festival.

ELDERS: No formal meeting this month. Continue to work on scheduling. The collection plates and prayer requests are back to being passed and collected during service. The CLF position will be advertised soon. There has been one interested inquiry from the Congregation. 2 Elders are still needed.

LONG RANGE PLANNING: No report

MUSIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE: report attached.

Peggy Forstad has officially accepted the choir director position. Choir should start within the next 2-3 weeks.

Peggy will be offered a stipend of $50.00 per hour of rehearsal

OLD BUSINESS: 3 nonfunctional cameras. Jeremy will address with the Trustees.

NEW BUSINESS:

Goals for 2023—Each board needs to set their goals for 2023

COAD-(Community Organizations Active in Disasters) will be having planning meetings for organizations who would be available during a county wide disaster. This is to help Emergency Management identify and make a resource list.

Steeple Bid—further information is needed. Does the copper need to be replaced with copper???

President Hagan has sent additional information about the family discipleship coaching. Congregations will pay for materials and a partial stipend for the coach. The congregation will also pay mileage. There will be a workshop in St. Louis on 3/11 to help with further information. The coach would be training a congregational discipleship team in family faith building. The team would then take the lead within the Congregation.

We need to nominate voters for the synodical convention. This will be addressed in February.

District Initiatives:

A Youth Lead Workshop (Peer Ministry) will be held 02/18-20. The fee is $75.00 per person.

Missouri District held a college fair at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. They had approx. 150 persons attend.

January 22, 2023 Emma Holy Cross will be hosting a church worker panel from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

CALENDARS:

Check the calendars and contact Cindy with any changes that need to be made.

February Meeting will be on 02/14/2023

CLOSING PRAYER: led by Jeremy Van Wey

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Cottrill