

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Title Council Meeting

Pres-Elect Carrol Meyers-Dobler

Purpose Monthly Business

Secretary Bob Ihrig

Date April 17, 2018

Time 7:00 p.m.

Location Grounds for Joy

Scheduled			Actual			Council Members & Guests
Start	Stop	Total Hours	Start	Stop	Total Hours	
7:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	2	7:00 p.m.	8:09 p.m.	1 hr, 9 min	
Council Members			Present	Absent	Position	
1.	Jim Christensen			X	President	
2.	Carrol Meyers-Dobler		X		President-Elect	
3.	Dave Hageman			X	Vice President	
4.	Bob Ihrig		X		Secretary	
5.	Mark Woelfel			X	Treasurer	
6.	Greg Nelson	2015-2018	X		Member at Large	
7.	Matt Drewitz	2016-2019	X		Member at Large	
8.	Marie Slotemaker	2017-2020		X	Member at Large	
9.	Pastor Jay Dahlvang		X		Lead Pastor	
10.	Pastor Collette Broady Grund		X		Associate Pastor	
TOPIC						PRESENTER
1.	Devotions					Pastor Collette Broady Grund
2.	Additions to & Approval of the Agenda Motion by B. Ihrig; Second by G. Nelson to approve agenda as printed. Approved.					Carrol Meyers-Dobler
3.	Secretary's Report Approval of March 20, 2018 Minutes Motion by G. Nelson; Second by M. Drewitz to approve minutes. Approved.					Bob Ihrig
4.	Financial Report March 31 financial report provided by M. Woelfel to B. Ihrig: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General fund deficit is -\$13,480.37. • Member giving is at 98% of budget. • Colder weather and snow responsible for \$980 over-budget heating costs and \$886 over-budget snow removal costs. 					Bob Ihrig
5.	Lead Pastor's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. <u>Pr. Collette Sabbatical</u>: Thankful for her ministry and her upcoming sabbatical with its intended benefit of personal & professional renewal. B. <u>TEC Youth Retreat Requirement for Confirmation</u>: Dealt with medical issues & weather-related conflicts affecting TEC youth retreat participation requirement for confirmation. Confirmation is May 6. C. <u>Tanzania</u>: \$2,000 grant provided by Grace Lutheran in Waseca for Dr. Jacobson. With additional funding, Iambi SS able to finish well project. Quilts & blankets from BLC shipped to Iambi Hospital. Appeal sent out by Danielle Haigh to raise funds for schoolbooks & equipment. D. <u>Safety Policy</u>: Developing one-page handout for BLC safety policy. Facilities Board to be contacted to number exterior church doors & create pass key and maps for access by emergency responders. E. <u>Sexual Harassment Policy</u>: Unitarian Universalist Church has created guidelines for certification for sexually safe church. Will pursue this with Personnel Committee. F. <u>Mortgage Reduction Appeal</u>: Will present material at meeting to ask congregation to extend current pledges or begin new pledges to continue mortgage payments after capital campaign pledges fulfilled. Stewardship Board will be asked to coordinate this appeal. 					Pastor Jay Dahlvang

	<p>G. <u>Stewardship Luncheon</u>: Expecting approximately 25 BLC members at April 19 stewardship appreciation luncheon.</p> <p>H. <u>Visits & Pastoral Acts</u>: Made 31 visits since last report and officiated 1 member and 1 non-member memorial service.</p>	
6.	<p>Associate Pastor's Report</p> <p>A. <u>Family Faith Formation</u>: Planning well on the way for next year's FFF program. Comprehensive program goals and specific outcomes for each age will be set in summer & fall with curriculum to be aligned. Sarah Morgan will assume additional work hours in April-May and Christa Stock will provide most of additional hours related to sabbatical time.</p> <p>B. <u>Connections Ministry</u>: Shelter closed after 4-day extension to cover more winter weather. Celebration of ministry for all volunteers scheduled for April 22 at Grace Lutheran with 150 planned attendance. Exit interviews with all staff being held this week. Plans are to operate shelter again next year with hopes of more churches joining rotation. Connections to be highlighted at May 4-5 Synod Assembly to highlight how global accompaniment model can be adapted for local missions. Discussion held by Council on future Pr. Collette time & BLC role to be devoted to this ministry. How does this affect BLC staffing & meeting of other responsibilities? Collette will reflect on this during sabbatical. Ministry is growing with hopes of involving more churches in leadership roles. Connections is pursuing funding for a permanent day drop-in shelter.</p> <p>C. <u>Sabbatical Preparation</u>: Finishing up final details prior to sabbatical. Will likely revise sabbatical plans to provide more time for rest and family.</p> <p>D. <u>Visitation</u>: Made 16 hospital & nursing home visits since last report.</p>	Pastor Collette Broady Grund
7.	<p>Old Business</p> <p>A. <u>Strategic Plan Update</u>: Reviewed update provided to April 22 semi-annual meeting. Now one-half way through the 5-year time period. Need to discuss plans to move forward on all goals. Discussed FFF Ministry meetings of high school youth during Lent to discuss future program ideas with focus on service and building relationships. Discussed shortcomings of progress on goals 5 & 6 (Evangelism & Lay Ministry). Further discussion to be held at July Council meeting to develop plan of action.</p> <p>B. <u>Sabbatical Leave Update</u>: Minutes of April 5 sabbatical leave committee meeting reviewed. Guest pastors have been confirmed and on-call pastoral care schedule being finalized. FFF Assistant temporary position resulting from sabbatical and summer needs to be filled by Sarah Morgan and Christa Stock. 15 hours per week for 2 weeks in August and 1 week at start of September still to be filled. Adult Forum on sabbatical planned for April 22. Sending ceremony to be held at both services on April 29 with celebration event to be held between services that day. Budget updated with sufficient income to cover expenses. Calendar for post-sabbatical reporting process reviewed.</p> <p>C. <u>Personnel Update</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>FFF Assistant Temporary Staff Position (May 1-July 31) Update</u>: Will be covered by Sarah Morgan and Christa Stock. 15 hours per week for last 2 weeks in August & 1st week in September still to be filled. 2. <u>Junior Bell Choir Director Vacancy Update</u>: No internal candidates applied. Contact made with Bethany College resulting in an interested candidate to be interviewed this month. 3. <u>Weekend Custodian Review</u>: Surveys provided to 3 weekend custodians to assess checklist of current responsibilities and identify issues of concern and suggestions for revisions. Positive feedback provided by all 3 custodians. Meeting held on 4/10 with D. Leiferman, supervisor. Very favorable review of custodian performance and identification of checklist revisions and security responsibilities. 	<p>Pastor Jay Dahlvang</p> <p>Bob Ihrig, Pr. Jay</p> <p>Bob Ihrig</p>

