

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Title Council Meeting **President** Carrol Meyers-Dobler
Purpose Monthly Business **Secretary** Bob Ihrig
Date August 21, 2018 **Time** 7:00 p.m. **Location** Grounds for Joy

Scheduled			Actual			Council Members and Guests
Start	Stop	Total Hours	Start	Stop	Total Hours	
7:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	2	7:00 p.m.	8:22 p.m.	1 hr, 22 min	
Council Members			Present	Absent	Position	
1.	Carrol Meyers-Dobler		X		President	
2.	Dave Hageman		X		President-Elect	
3.	Wendy Keenan			X	Vice President	
4.	Bob Ihrig	2018-2021	X		Secretary	
5.	Diana Olson	2018-2021	X		Treasurer	
6.	Matt Drewitz	2016-2019	X		Member at Large	
7.	Marie Slotemaker	2017-2020	X		Member at Large	
8.	Derek Brown	2018-2021	X		Member at Large	
9.	Pastor Jay Dahlvang			X	Lead Pastor	
10.	Pastor Collette Broady Grund		X		Associate Pastor	
TIME	TOPIC				PRESENTER	
7:00 p.m.	1. Introductions				Carrol Meyers-Dobler	
	2. Devotions				Dave Hageman	
	3. Additions to & Approval of the Agenda				Carrol Meyers-Dobler	
	Motion by Pr. Collette; Second by D. Olson to approve. Approved.					
	4. Secretary's Report				Bob Ihrig	
	Approval of July 17, 2018 Minutes					
	Motion by B. Ihrig; Second by M. Drewitz to approve. Approved.					
	5. Financial Report				Diana Olson	
	A. July 31 General Fund positive balance of \$2,899.36 due to additional Sunday in July & fewer monthly financial costs.					
	B. Member giving at 96% for annual pledges.					
	C. Reduced monthly mortgage payment of \$8,200+ now in effect but BLC will continue to pay previous amount of \$10,782.68 to reduce principal & save on interest costs.					
	D. Facilities request for chapel roof repair to address discovered leak.					
	Motion by B. Ihrig, M. Slotemaker to approve up to \$12,000 from Facilities budget to cover repair costs. Approved.					
	6. Lead Pastor's Report				Pastor Jay Dahlvang	
	A. <u>Evangelism</u> : BLC will host Lincoln Park Neighborhood Night to Unite on August 28. New BLC signage being explored for visitors/guests. New member orientation to start on September 30.					
	B. <u>Stewardship</u> : October campaign theme is "Being Thankful, Living Generously, Giving Joyfully". Member mailing scheduled for September to promote legacy gifts to BLC. Electronic giving being promoted to fulfill annual pledges.					
	C. <u>Reconciling in Christ</u> : Members being recruited for special task force to facilitate this goal for BLC.					
	D. <u>Small Groups</u> : New Men's Group starting this fall. Financial Peace University to be held at YMCA this fall to encourage more community participation.					
	E. <u>Visits & Pastoral Acts</u> : Made 48 home, hospital, care facility visits & officiated 2 funerals & 2 weddings since last report.					

	<p>7. Associate Pastor's Report</p> <p>A. <u>Sabbatical Return</u>: Grateful for sabbatical. Will submit report to synod and Council in September. Plans to share sabbatical with congregation at future Adult Forum.</p> <p>B. <u>Family Faith Formation</u>: Preparing for the school year with many plans in place. Comprehensive plan being developed for FFF Ministry. Feedback to be solicited this fall with goal of plan completion by next April.</p> <p>C. <u>Connections Ministry</u>: Staff being hired & fall fundraising campaign planned. Pursuing a permanent location and securing separate non-profit status. Will meet with BLC Executive Committee to discuss future time to be devoted to Connections and revision of pastoral letter of call.</p> <p>D. <u>Reconciling in Christ</u>: BLC members being recruited to serve on RIC task force. Communication made with other church and ELCA group to provide guidance & resources to task force.</p> <p>E. <u>Pastoral Care</u>: Since sabbatical return, made 19 hospital & nursing home visits and officiated 2 funerals and 1 wedding.</p>	<p>Pastor Collette Broady Grund</p>
	<p>8. Old Business</p> <p>A. <u>Strategic Planning Update</u>: No report.</p> <p>B. <u>2018 Financial Review Update from Finance & Personnel</u>: Both committees are pursuing study & actions on 10 recommendations approved at July Council meeting. Will report once completed.</p> <p>C. <u>Personnel Update</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Junior Bell Choir Director Update</u>: Waiting for application from Charlie Leftridge to schedule interview. 2. <u>Office Assistant Position Description Update Approval</u>: Motion: Revised position description from feedback provided by C. Schulz approved on motion by B. Ihrig; Second by D. Olson. Approved. 3. <u>Brass Ensemble Director Position Description & Stipend</u>: Motion by B. Ihrig; Second by D. Hageman to approve new Brass Ensemble Director position description. Approved. Stipend similar to Senior & Junior Bell Choir directors will be proposed in lay staff compensation proposal for 2019 budget. 4. <u>Sexual Harassment Training Update</u>: 3 available dates in September & October identified by Church Mutual for presentation to BLC staff, leadership & board/committee members. Pastors will decide on preferred date. 5. <u>FFF Director Sabbatical Planning</u>: A sabbatical plan recommendation is being developed for presentation to the Council by April 2019. Updates will be provided during the year. 	<p>Pastor Jay Diana Olson, Bob Ihrig</p> <p>Bob Ihrig</p>
	<p>9. New Business</p> <p>A. <u>2018 Annual Pastoral Review Report</u>: Final report reviewed and highlighted based upon July & August meetings with pastors. Very positive experience for all involved & positive feedback provided. Suggestion made to schedule a future Adult Forum for "Meet the Pastors" to discuss pastoral views and news.</p> <p>B. <u>April 14 Semi-Annual Meeting Date Change</u>: Originally planned April 14 meeting date requires change due to conflicts with FFF Palm Sunday activities and Teens Encounter Christ retreat at BLC that weekend. Motion by B. Ihrig; Second by M. Slotemaker to change date to April 7 with meeting preview forum on March 31. Approved.</p>	<p>Carrol Meyers-Dobler</p> <p>Carrol Meyers-Dobler</p>

	<p>C. <u>2018-19 Board/Committee Goals Update</u>: Goals submitted by Council and various BLC boards/committees thus far reviewed. Still need goals & directory information from 6 groups.</p> <p>D. <u>Fall/Winter Adult Forum Topics</u>: Confirmed & tentative Adult Forums for September-December reviewed.</p> <p>E. <u>ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Ministry Scholarship Request</u>: \$1000 scholarship request made to support this ministry in U.S. armed forces, Department of Defense, Veterans Administration & federal prisons. Dollars would go to ELCA Fund for Leaders to support ministry candidates interested in working in these areas. Discussion held about how candidates can be informed about these ministries and how to proceed on financial request. Council was not prepared to act on the request at this time. Action: C. Meyers-Dobler will seek a speaker for a future Adult Forum on this topic. It was suggested that this topic be shared with Community & Global Mission Board for consideration as a possible future monthly mission.</p> <p>F. <u>Evangelism</u>: August 28 Night To Unite in Lincoln Park Neighborhood to be held at BLC from 5:30-8:30 pm. Red Cross blood drive also scheduled at BLC on August 28. Traditional Rally Sunday meal & activities will be held on Rally Wednesday on September 12.</p>	<p>Bob Ihrig</p> <p>Bob Ihrig</p> <p>Carrol Meyers-Dobler</p>
	<p>10. Next Council Meeting: September 18, 2018 7:00 p.m. Devotions: Wendy Keenan</p>	
	<p>11. Adjournment Motion by D. Olson; Second by B. Ihrig to adjourn. Approved.</p>	

Our Mission: Bethlehem is an inviting community that is growing in Christ, loving our neighbors and serving God's world.