

Bethel Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting August 21, 2016

Meeting called to order at 12:08 PM by President Ann Marie Kenitzer

Opening Prayer

Pr. Ben

Minutes (from previous congregational meeting 2/7/2016)

Ann Marie Kenitzer

- No corrections; minutes approved as written

Mission Statement

Ann Marie

- Reviewed

Senior Pastor Report

Pr. Ben

- Pr. Ben based his report on Acts 2:42-47, noting within the verses are descriptions of how the early church uses similar values to those identified at Bethel. He reminded us that to move forward as a church, we need to look more like the early church. By sharing our core values, we can make a difference in peoples' lives.
- Thanks to those who helped ready Zoar and the church for the academic school year. Thanks also to the staff at Bethel who work hard to serve both members and the community. Pr. Ben again reiterated that he is grateful to serve at Bethel as pastor.

School Report

Dawn De Bois- Weber

- Mission Statement revised
- 2015/16 highlights reviewed
 - Highest enrollment in three years
 - Enhancements in curriculum
 - Enhancements in activities
 - Enhancements in social events
 - Enhancements in opportunities to serve others
- 2016/17 notations and plans
 - Established a second two-year-old classroom
 - 90 preschoolers enrolled
 - WASC accreditation on-going
 - Additional curriculum enhancements planned

Financial Update & Budget for FY 2017

Eric Brown

- FY 2016 Highlights
 - General Fund Giving: \$23,000 above projected giving (4.1% increase)
 - Facility Use/Rental fees: \$700 above projections (1.5%)
 - Spending: \$9000 above projections (1.3%)
- FY 2017 Budget changes

- \$43,000 savings in staffing (predominately due to reduction to one pastor)
 - Staffing increase (5%) plus increase for Pastor, benefits
- \$5,875 increase in program expenses
 - Congregational Life, Children's ministry, benevolence
- \$71,250 increase in Facilities & professional contract
 - Loss of Stelling administrative fee revenue
 - Increase in pastoral Care position, Supply pastor
 - Increase in janitorial costs, maintenance & repair
- FY Budget Summary
 - Net Expenses increase by 4% (\$680,000)
 - General Fund Giving projected increase by 4% (\$650,000)
 - Budget deficit: \$30,000
- Budget approved

Old Business

- None

New Business

Ann Marie

- Elections (renewing terms)
 - Eric Brown Fiscal Officer
 - Robyn Winegardner Member-at-Large
 - Renewal approved by membership
- Weed, CA Property Donation
 - Initial offer to purchase property did not materialize
 - \$1000 good-faith deposit retained
 - New offer to purchase property for \$25,000
 - Sale of property approved by membership vote
- Eric Hanson Award
 - New award established in honor of Eric Hanson who emulated service outside Bethel
 - Award for someone who exhibits Christian ideals and principles in all aspects of daily life and participates in service Beyond Bethel
 - Awardee receives \$500 for donation to charity of choice
 - Hanson family will provide \$200 for first five years to Tanzania Maasai School toward Operation Bootstrap
 - 2016 Award to Laurie Bryson

Closing Prayer

Ann Marie

Meeting Adjourned 12:50 PM

Submitted by Mary L. Thomas, 8/22/16

