

**Bethel Lutheran Church**  
**Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Meeting Minutes	
Topic	Discussion and Decisions
Meeting Agenda	Meeting was called to order at 12:08 PM. A quorum was confirmed with 92 members signed in.
Devotion: Opening Prayer	Pastor Don
Approve Meeting minutes:	Minutes were approved for the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting August 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2019.
Pastoral Report: Pr. Don	Pastor Don commented on how appreciative he is in all that is happening at Bethel. He is not here to make changes for the sake of change. He will be sharing a report at a point during the Interim period. He is in the office Tues, Wed, Thurs from about 10:30am until after 7pm to optimize with traffic. He is looking forward to getting to know people at Bethel.
2019 Ministry Update: Sue Lampkin	Shared some highlights of the breadth and depth of the 10 umbrella Ministries and 91+ ministry leaders. Shown with a background photo montage as well as an 8 foot printout of all the ministry reports. Sue shared how the Bethel Ministries live out daily our Bethel core values and challenged folks to participate and create new ministries to make a difference in our community and world. She asked people to support the new ministry led by Marion Abney called "Ministry Minutes" that highlights a different Bethel Ministry on Sundays each month. If someone is interested to highlight their ministry, contact Marion.
Facilities Update: Tom Hoegel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlighted the mission to Mexico and Youth Ministry experience. Tom shared some hits and goals that were collected from the Youth Group.</li> <li>• Out and About – this is the 10<sup>th</sup> year and we are approaching the 100<sup>th</sup> event.</li> <li>• We are streaming 10:45am service every week and are preparing the policy for live streaming to enable sharing our service while respecting privacy.</li> <li>• Facilities: the 'big tree' was removed, 60,000 pounds of tree. We now have a new tree and a new fence put in by Men of Monday. Bethel has been re-certified with Green Business California. Some projects coming up are residing/reroofing the shed, and paving and walkway around fireside room.</li> </ul>
Financial Update: Dave Larsen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The General Fund is \$3,300 ahead of the planned budget to date. Net income Cash Basis is currently running \$24,000 ahead of budget, yet we are operating without a full time lead pastor.</li> <li>• Dave shared the elephant in the room that Finance and Exec Committee have been discussing as to how we address the big cost of living challenge, particularly housing, for a new lead pastor. Some ideas in discussion are exploring if the endowment fund could be utilized as an investment into addressing this challenge. The endowment fund currently has about \$150K in assets.</li> </ul>

<p>President's Message: Joan Christensen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This year was different than what we had been expecting, with major unexpected events including closing the pre-school and losing of our lead Pastor. Joan acknowledged the difficult decision and challenge of all involved in Bethel School and the School Board.</li> <li>• Joan thanked the School Board, all the people who have stepped up to share their gifts, time and energy to keep Bethel "Doing Life Together", and especially the Staff who have taken the lead in ensuring the programs and community continues. Also thanks to Mark Evashenk and the Deacons in working with the quest preachers to welcome and help them navigate coming to Bethel and sharing their message and leading the worship services. Also thank you to Council members who are working through these challenges with complex topics and long meetings. Thank you to Chris and Randy who have stepped in as guest preachers, and others who are not part of Bethel who are exposing us to new ministries and messages of things that go on outside of Bethel. Lastly thank you to the congregation for continuing to support Bethel with their time and financial support.</li> <li>• Update on the transition to a new lead Pastor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Call Committee is being formed through an application process. The form is available on-line at the website, as well as paper copy in the Narthex. Please return applications by February 17<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• The Finance Committee has approved forming a Bethel Housing Fund and it is open for people to begin giving if they are moved.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Elections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brett Deutscher was approved unanimously as President Elect, and Joan Christensen was approved unanimously as Project Manager for Pastoral Transition.</li> <li>• Synod Assembly delegates are now called 'voting members'. Rich Hahn and Holly Lofgren were approved unanimously as the Bethel Voting members for Synod Assembly.</li> </ul>
<p>Dorothy Meyer Award for 2020</p>	<p>This award for 2020 went to Doreen Baldwin and Patrice Sera. The Dorothy Meyer Award is awarded yearly to a Bethel member that exhibits Christian ideals and principles in all aspects of their daily life and participates in many Bethel ministries and duties.</p>
<p>New President's Message: Jamie Laughlin</p>	<p>Thank you to Joan for serving as last year's president. Jamie is looking forward to serve Bethel, and encourages others to prayerfully consider serving especially on the Call Committee. He also encouraged people to bring forward any ideas and support on potential housing. Jamie's hope for the next year is to handover a process that has moved significantly forward on a new Call and the housing effort to hand over to Brett Deutscher as the incoming President next year.</p>
<p>Meeting adjourned 12:53 PM</p>	
<p>Closing prayer:</p>	<p>Pr. Don</p>

Submitted by: Ann Marie Kenitzer February 18, 2020