Bethel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2013

Members Present: Mark Evashenk, Hella Bluhm-Stieber, Victor Chinn, Trish Cunningham, Mary Thomas, Minnie Sudarsanam, Dave Tribby

Members Absent: Donna Kuester, Hannah Lutke, and Pastor Gabi Schroeder (at pastors' retreat)

Staff: Fara Brock, Patricia Myerholtz

Guests: None

Meeting start: 7:05 pm

Topic	Discussion	Action
Opening devotion: Victor	• Psalm 46: God is our refuge; we can find him in the simple things of life.	
Review meeting minutes from September meeting	• Minutes approved after modification.	
Ministry Reports (written reports on-line)	• Written report includes Special Needs Ministry, Out & About, Men of Monday, Caring Ministry, and Confirmation Ministry. • Three students are being confirmed Oct 27	
Audit Report (summary and detail report on-line)	• Council reviewed summary of recommendations. • Individuals identified for action items. • Motion to approve audit report carried.	• Trish: Request Outreach ministry to understand and implement request for better publicity of benevolences. • Fara: Will address items in report dealing with financial procedures and activities. • Fara: Will ensure new Facilities Manager will work on managing key holders. • Mark: Will discuss Big Dog contract concerns with Tony.
Small group follow-up meetings: Hella	• Meeting recently held to combine small group write-ups with Labor Day Retreat results.	
Financial Report: Dave and Fara (summary report on-line)	• Although last week of September income was low, the first week of October offering was very good. Other than week 5 of September, income has been on track for goal of $650K of giving to general fund. • Labor Day Retreat lost $944 beyond planned support.	
School: Minnie	• Thanks to Fara and everyone who worked on the aftermath of the fire. • Fara noted the challenges she and Marion Abney have working without a Facilities Manager.	
Review report and budget recommendations from the special task force and consultant	• Reviewed printed report. • Motion to accept report and implement 2nd scenario (reduce associate pastor to 75%; combined Youth Director and Facilities Manager position) approved. • Motion to hold postponed congregation meeting on Sunday, Nov. 3 approved. This is not a special meeting, and agenda should include all items usually covered at the fall meeting. • Need to decide next steps; decide who will talk to Pr.	• Combination of Youth and Facilities positions should wait until after congregation meeting, so members feel they are participating in the decision. • Hella will check with Pr. Nancy about any alternatives to Healthy Start. • Schedule forum for Tuesday Oct.

	Gabi, Pr. Ken, and Tom. Two council members should meet with each of them. Would like meeting with Pr. Gabi scheduled for this week, but unsure of availability of people. • Need to update Donna and see when she is available. • Should we include Healthy Start program after new pastor is called? This was done when Pr. Gabi was called. A good program, but expensive. We need to ensure a healthy relationship can develop between pastors, staff and with the congregation. Are there alternatives? • At the congregation meeting we should present information about the use of sanctuary rental to an appropriate Christian congregation for income generation. • Suggestion: Hold an informational forum regarding budget and staffing revisions before the congregation meeting for people who have questions. Tuesday Oct. 29th would be good date.	29th. • Hella will check with Fara or Pr. Gabi on presenting information at a staff meeting. • Mark will contact Donna about her availability to talk to individual staff members, and the staff as a whole. • Hella will send message to call committee letting them know of forum and congregation meeting.
Point of Information	• Synod decision made that Redeemer's stipulation to develop Asian ministry at Stelling site was fulfilled. Thus the property need not be sold. The synod voiced appreciation of Bethel's stewardship.	
Closing prayer: Minnie		
Meeting adjourned 9:19 pm	Next Council meeting: Tuesday, November 19	

Submitted by Dave Tribby
October 16, 2013