

Monthly Council Meeting for October
Bethany Lutheran Church
October 2018
At: 7:00 PM

present: Sheldon Bieri
Bill Alexander
Rich Ehlers
Tom Anderson
Dean Armstrong
Margaret Nomann
Jean Swanson
John Runneberg

Absent: Mark Rausch

Marilyn Ehlers, Treasurer

Others: Shirley Pedersen, Financial
Secretary

Sheldon Bieri called the meeting to order and asked Tom Anderson to provide the devotions.

Sheldon asked the Council members if they had received the minutes from last month's meeting and also from the Special Council Meeting on September 28, 2018. After corrections were noted on the monthly minutes, Margaret Nomann moved for approval, seconded by Tom Anderson, minutes approved. Sheldon called for discussion on the Special Meeting Minutes. After discussion Dean Armstrong moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Margaret Nomann. Minutes approved.

Shirley Pedersen, provided the financial report for September. She noted the second half of cash rent was received and the hail damage for the parsonage had been received as well as the hail insurance on the flat roof of the church had been received. In addition a check for \$1000.00 was received in the offering toward repair of the windows in the Fellowship hall, hopefully more donations will be made.

Marilyn Ehlers, Treasurer, provided her report for September. Pastor Baker's

final check was paid. The county farm taxes and drainage have been paid. The benevolence was paid also. After discussion of both reports Tom Anderson moved for approval of the reports, seconded by Dean Armstrong. Motion carried.

Old Business: 1) Church repairs: Tom Anderson reported the repair of the tile and toilet in the Pastor's office has been completed.

2) Church Windows: Sheldon reported that Blackstone Exteriors have ordered 35 windows. They anticipate receipt of the windows in roughly four weeks. They requested a down payment on the materials. They asked for 1/3 of the estimate down, the balance upon completion. After discussion Rich Ehlers moved to make a down payment of \$10,000.00, seconded by Tom Anderson. Motion carried.

3) Parsonage issues: a walk through of the parsonage will be necessary before a new pastor moves in. We need to install new carpet in the upstairs area still affected by cat odor. It was noted the concrete steps at the front door has separated from the concrete pad, making the entry somewhat dangerous. John Runneberg will organize a crew to reset it. The front doorbell doesn't work and arrangements will be made with Laurens Plumbing to repair it. The basement wall is still bowed in, John Runneberg suggested that the interior wall should be pulled out and evaluate the actual damage. He will try to arrange the project. Final decision will be tabled until further information is available.

New Business: 1) Swedish-American records request: Sheldon circulated a communication about upgrading the records of the Swedish-American Church records in western Iowa. Warren Johnson of ArkivDigital is searching the records of churches established by the Swedish immigrants in our country. ArkivDigital is a company compiling Swedish genealogy information for the Swedish churches in Iowa. Warren Johnson is asking whether our church is interested in a genealogy record of our congregation at no cost. After discussion Tom Anderson moved seconded by Dean Armstrong to authorize ArkivDigital to conduct a record search for Bethany Lutheran Church. Before it was voted on, Margaret Nomann moved to do further research about this company, seconded by Dean Armstrong. There may be some families that may object to the record for personal reasons. Motion carried.

2) Potential outreach funds use: Sheldon reported that we have outreach funds to assist with helping new congregations. Immanuel Lutheran of Rochester, Minnesota, is asking for financial assistance for a new building project. He further explained the nature of the building project after which Margaret Nomann moved to give Immanuel Lutheran \$500.00 for their project, seconded by Rich Ehlers. Motion carried. Sheldon also circulated an Official Adoption Agreement from Pastor James Puotyual of South Sudan. This is a commitment agreement to help support his work. Discussion followed about establishing a new NALC congregation in South Sudan. Pastor James will be providing sacramental worship and spiritual care for the Sudanese. Discussion followed after which Dean Armstrong moved to give Pastor James \$500.00 towards his work, seconded by Margaret Nomann- Motion carried.

3) Evaluation of Benevolence allotments: Sheldon explained our congregation provides other assistance other than the two gifts mentioned above. He stated that the executive cotmrnittee will review the benevolence allotments and report back to the Council.

Committee Reports: Christian Ed/ Youth Committee: Jean Swanson indicated the Christmas program date is questionable.

Growth and Sharing Committee: Shirley Pedersen reported delivered items for the school kids, and delivered all the supplies from the congregation.

Tech Committee: Sheldon and Dean are coordinating getting the website set up on the new computer. They have not received the assistance they anticipated from the computer programer under contract. Further discussion followed concerning the situation and discharging the computer programer. Several members are aware of other programing companies that could be used. These members will contact the companies they are familiar with and report back at the next meeting.

Stewardship Committee: No report this month.

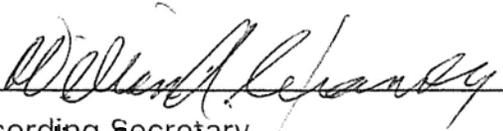
Property/Farm Committee: Tom Anderson had nothing further to add after the discussions on the windows and the parsonage reported earlier in the minutes.

Worship/Music Committee: Margaret Nomann reported they are planning the Christmas activities. No further report at this time.

Memorial Committee: Rich discussed the funds available in the account. They are considering an appropriate projector that will

meet our needs. He has contacted Best Buy to see if the Geek Squad would be able to make a site visit to provide recommendations to us.

Tom Anderson moved to adjourn after the Lord's Prayer, seconded by several members of the Council. Meeting adjourned.



Recording Secretary

Monthly Council Meeting for November
Bethany Lutheran Church
November 14, 2018
At: 7:00 PM

present: Sheldon Bieri

Bill Alexander

Rich Ehlers

Tom Anderson

Dean Armstrong

Margaret Nomann

Jean Swanson

John Runneberg

Absent: Mark Rausch

Marilyn Ehlers,

Others: Treasurer

Shirley Pedersen, Financial

Secretary Pat Boughey, Call

Committee

Sheldon Bieri called the meeting to order, noting that there was a quorum present. Sheldon called upon Marilyn Ehlers for the devotional reading.

Sheldon thanked Pat Boughey for being at the meeting to provide the Council with an update concerning the call committee's activities. Pat reported the committee received a response from Pastor David Klappenbach. He is presently serving a congregation in Rockport Missouri. He has been a pastor for 20 years, married and has a son. He is interested in coming to our congregation to provide a Sunday service for the congregation and become familiar with our town. Recently, Tom Anderson and Mark Rausch went to Rockport, Missouri to observe and listen to Pastor Klappenbach do Sunday services. Although they had a limited amount of time, they enjoyed meeting Pastor Klappenbach and visiting briefly with him. They are looking forward to having him come to our congregation, and provide a Sunday service for us. Pat explained the committee had several telephone conversations with the Pastor and are working with him to be here on a Saturday and Sunday. They are lining up lodging for Pastor and his wife, and a tour of our community and provide services on Sunday morning, with a meal and fellowship following. Pat concluded by asking the council members to help pass the word concerning the plans for meeting Pastor Klappenbach.

Turning to the agenda, Sheldon asked the Council members if they had read last months minutes. During discussion there were several corrections noted. Bill noted the corrections and would make corrections accordingly. Subject to the corrections, Tom Anderson moved, seconded by Dean Armstrong to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary, Shirley Pedersen, provided her report for receipts received in October. She noted that contributions for the hail damage and the window replacement total \$5000. Also, we received a \$600 refund from our former insurance company. The insurance receipts for damages to the parsonage and the flat roof at the church were received.

Treasurer, Marilyn Ehlers, circulated a copy of her report for October. She summarized the budgeted bills and bills paid. The bank balance as of October 31st was \$2962.68.

After the reports were received Tom Anderson moved, seconded by John Runneberg to approve the reports. Reports were approved.

Old Business: The records request for the Swedish American Churches was discussed. The final decision was a motion from Margaret Nomann resulting in a decision not to follow up on the request.

The church windows and the flat roof repair were updated. The windows in the church have been partially completed. The window inserts are completed except for the final trim. A couple of the windows were on the verge of falling out and should be fully completed shortly. The flat roof on the church is still pending.

The property committee will contact the contractor for a completion date.

Repairs and other issues regarding the parsonage were discussed next. Members of the property committee did a walk thru on the parsonage before a new pastor is found. New carpet is necessary upstairs, it appears the sub floor will have to be repaired due to cat issues. After reviewing the front steps and the concrete pad it might be appropriate to do it in the spring. Repair of the doorbell is in the process of being repaired. The basement wall repair will need to be completed in the spring.

New Business: Intern or pastor discussion. Sheldon noted that we had a request to provide an intern arrangement for Andrew Loomis. But after Pat Boughey¹'s report we are in a quandry. We can not afford an arrangement for both an intern and new pastor. Tom Anderson suggested that we hold off on the internship until we make a final decision on the call for a pastor. After discussion it was decided to work on the call of the pastor and wait on the internship.

Our tenant on the farm has raised the question about the large amount of standing water on the northeast part of the farm. Members of the Council had met with the Library board about the problem. After reviewing the topographical maps and the communications with the land owners of the properties adjacent to the northeast part of the farm it was decided to have Julian Johnson review the area to see if there is any remedy. The matter was tabled until the report from Julian is received.

The allocation of our benevolence. Extensive discussion followed concerning what we do with our benevolence. Several comments and suggestions were made. It was decided to table the matter to afford the Council members more time to assess the situation.

After discussion about the annual meeting the date was set for January 27, 2019. Sheldon asked that the committees submit their reports so a summary report would be available for the congregation.

The next topic was the budget committee report. Marilyn Ehlers indicated as soon as the financial reports are completed she will convene a meeting with the committee members consisting of herself, Shirley Pedersen, Bill Alexander and John Runneberg.

Sheldon then reported there are several vacancies for the Council starting in 2019. Sheldon will not be available as his two 3 year terms will be concluded. Margaret will be filling out her term for Brian Runneberg. Bill Alexander is completing his first 3 year term. Sheldon encouraged any eligible members of the Council that would consider serving another term to contact Becky Braesch. If any of the Council members know of any members of the congregation that would like to serve, please let Becky know that also.

Mail bag. Sheldon circulated noteworthy letters recently received regarding the church or the congregation.

Committee Reports: Christian Ed/Youth: Jean Swanson said the the youth group has been active. They are planning a pot luck after services the 18th of November; they will help with the Christmas tree and will provide singing on December 16th. The Christmas party for the youth is still pending.

Growth and Sharing: Shirley Pedersen reported the UDMO adopt a Family tree is in place. We are sponsoring 3 families and 7 children. Please take an ornament soon. These gifts are needed by December 9th. We, also, are sponsoring a jogging pants and socks drive for the LM community school. A tree is located near the organ. These will be collected until December 31st. Cash donations can be given to Shirley Pedersen or Shirley McKiernan. Still working on coffee/fellowship list for 2019, we had 15 weeks open and these need to be filled, if possible.

Tech : Sheldon explained that he had met with Charity, She worked with Dean to install part of the new web site. We are coordinating to get the balance of the software installed. Stewardship: no report

Property/ Farm: reported earlier in the meeting.

Worship/Music: working to provide pulpit services. Andrew Loomis will be here November 18th. Tom and Rich and Sheldon will help out as necessary. Sheldon is coordinating with Pastor Steffenson to help with services.

Memorial: no formal report. A suggestion was made to have a wheel chair available for handicapped parties who would like to attend services. Tom

Anderson suggested there are extra wheel chairs that may be available at the care center. He volunteered to check it out.

Subject to the recitation of the Lord's Prayer, Margaret moved to adjourn, seconded by Dean. Motion carried.

Recording Secretary