

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES
February 9, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER – Kelly Voss

Roll Call

Kelly Voss	x	Cyndy Kolle, Board of Lay	x
Kathy Johnson	x	Mike Bassingthwaite, Board of Property	x
Dee Jensen	x	Pastor Jake Dyrhaug	
Cindy Borchert	x	Floss Johnson, Board of Outreach	x
Pastor Erika Buller	x		
Judy Peterson, Board of Outreach	x	Guests:	
Board of Education		Lisa Bassingthwaite	x
Linda Johnson, Board of Stewardship	x		

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION – Mike Bassingthwaite

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mike moved & Linda seconded to approve. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Report tabled.

2020	January	February	March	April	May	June
<i>Envelope offering:</i>	\$28,480.00	\$36,284.00	\$34,073.00	\$24,397.11	\$29,192.00	\$28,101.00
<i>Income/Balance:</i>	(\$13,438.91)	(\$19,336.94)	(\$20,267.87)	(\$28,689.78)	\$15,193.73	\$10,725.30
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>	\$29,315.46	\$23,417.43	\$22,486.50	\$14,064.59	\$57,948.10	\$53,479.67
2020	July	August	September	October	November	December
<i>Envelope offering:</i>	\$21,512.00	\$24,417.00	\$30,922.00	\$35,612.50	\$36,528.07	\$38,103.81
<i>Income/Balance:</i>	(\$5,886.09)	(\$16,313.71)	(\$24,151.70)	(\$29,462.09)	(\$31,833.64)	(\$33,268.40)
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>	\$36,868.28	\$26,440.66	\$18,602.67	\$13,292.28	\$10,920.73	(\$20,514.03)
2021	January	February	March	April	May	June
<i>Envelope offering:</i>						
<i>Income/Balance :</i>						
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>						
2021	July	August	September	October	November	December
<i>Envelope offering:</i>						
<i>Income/Balance:</i>						
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>						

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Implementation team update:
 - a. Not much to report at this point. Some things are in a waiting phase.
 - b. Carpet in Conference room and Faith Center have been added to the project.
2. Access to technology (ICON)
 - a. Tabled
3. Lenten Theme - Calendar
 - a. Pastor Erika handed out calendars for each board's responsibility for recording Lenten services.
 - b. Stewardship just recorded theirs and they were amazing.
 - c. She reminded everyone to pick up their Lenten kits.
 - d. The scripts for each board will be available and recording takes place one week before it will be played.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Board Reports:*

Board of Stewardship: Linda Johnson

* Polly Withuski is a new board member.

* Linda Johnson will continue as Chairman and Kathy Hammer will be secretary.

Board of Property: Mike Bassingthwaite

* They will have a discussion of the roof and other projects.

* There is a need for a new copy machine in the office.

Board of Education: Lisa Bassingthwaite

* They are starting Confirmation on February 10 and hopefully Wednesday School on March 3.

* Drive-in Bingo will be held February 14 in the parking lot. They have worked out the glitches from the last one.

* First communion sessions will be held March 28 & 31.

Board of Lay: Cyndy Kolle

* The board agreed on in-person service for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, each at 6:45 pm.

* Easter Services will be in-person at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am.

* Each member of the Board of Lay will volunteer to be trained on the new soundboard equipment. They are challenging other boards to volunteer as well.

Board of Outreach: Judy Peterson & Floss Johnson

* Lois informed them of a youth program for the community – giving a candy bar with mittens/gloves given to Wilkin County to distribute.

* They are still working on the fire victims project and need a room to store items. Lisa said there may be a room upstairs they could use.

* The mail outreach is still going on.

* We have had people wanting to join Bethel and we are looking for creative ways to welcome them.

2. Discuss in-person vs zoom meetings for boards:

- a. Let the office know if you are going to meet in person so the space is ready for you.
- b. When all boards meet in person there could be a pre-meeting devotion huddle in the sanctuary.

3. Discuss Dedication of the building service:

- a. A summer event outside with a meal, hymn sing, tours, games and other ideas were discussed.
- b. Wednesday night could be an option for the summer to get more people to attend.
- c. Start dreaming of other ideas. Pastor Erika can make balloon animals.

4. Discuss Celebration of Implementation Team:

- a. The celebration should be all encompassing and all rolled into one.
- b. We should celebrate the fact that we are all back together again and thank everyone for contributions.
- c. The list should include everyone involved from the beginning to the end of the project because there was a huge cross section of people involved in this project.

5. Ash Wednesday:

- a. There will be an in-person service at 6:45 pm on Wednesday February 17, 2021.

6. Discussion of established meeting dates:

- a. It was brought up that we should switch the board meetings and the planning council around. Perhaps it would create a better flow of communication.
- b. The way the model is supposed to work is for the planning council to discuss ideas and the boards take it from there.
- c. Perhaps the crisis of this year amplified the issues that have been in the background of our minds. We should discuss this at the leadership retreat and clarify the roles for each entity involved.

7. Installation of Leadership:

- a. The installation of leadership will be on February 28, 2021 at the 10:00 worship service.

8. Leadership Retreat:

- a. The retreat will also be on February 28, 2021 from 12:00 to 3:00 pm.
- b. There will be a focused time for the staff to attend as well.

9. Request for Sabbatical:

- a. Pastor Erika requested a sabbatical to begin on April 5 through June 3, 2021. She handed out her request to members present.
- b. The policy is that a request can be for 1 to 3 months. She is requesting 2 months. The Executive Committee will make a decision about this request following this meeting.
- c. She wants to write a book and also wants to recruit some of our members to be a part of the Bethel Sabbatical Team.

10. Other:

- a. A concern was brought to the planning council that no food or drink be brought into the sanctuary with the new carpet and cloth chairs.
- b. There is a need for discussion of how we use the building and what the needs are for this and to be welcoming to people.

Dates and notables:

February 14, 2021 – Drive-in BINGO

February 17, 2021 – Ash Wednesday Service at 6:45 pm and live streamed

February 18, 2021 – Pastor Jake – Bible Study – 5 weeks – Centennial Room and Zoom

February 28, 2021 – Installation of Leadership at 10:00 Service

February 28, 2021 – Leadership Retreat – 12:00 to 3:00 pm

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Spiritual Direction for March – Pastor Jake

Next meeting March 9, 2021

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy Borchert, Secretary/Treasurer