Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes
March 17, 2025
6:30 pm

"God's family working together to welcome all."

Attendance:
Kerry Melby- In person
Jaimie Rudolph- In person
Lisa Cook- Absent with notification
Joe Jackowski- In person
Amanda Bell- Absent with notification
Mark Teslik- Absent with notification
Angela Pace- In person
Jeff Johnson- Absent with notification
Pastor Jaime Benson- In person

1. Dwelling in the Word – Pr. Jaime
2. **Call to Order by Kerry Melby at 6:56 p.m.**
3. Prayer
4. Approval of the Agenda—**Motion made by Joe Jackowski to approve the proposed agenda, second by Angela Pace. Motion carried.**
5. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – **Motion by Joe Jackowski to approve February minutes, second by Angela Pace, motion carried.**
6. Pastor Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Approval of Committee Reports – **Motion by Angela Pace second by Joe Jackowski to approve committee reports. Motion carried.**
9. Old Business
    a. Funding Forward – Kerry & Amanda
        i. The Funding Forward group is meeting at Bethlehem tomorrow for their March meeting. Kerry provided an update on the columbarium committee and shared some drawings and additional materials. Kerry will be speaking at church this Sunday and have materials for people to view after church and will continue to share the additional information at services between this Sunday and a congregational meeting. To proceed, we need to get a permit. **Joe Jackowski made a motion to approve including a $50 check in with our conditional use application, using funds donated to the church. Jaimie Rudolph made a second, motion carried. Joe made a motion to hold a special congregational meeting on April 12 to proceed with the purchase of the columbarium. Angela made a second, motion carried.**
    b. Highway sign – congregation has until March 31st to vote for one of the three design options. Once vote is complete, Joe will share design with Two Rivers Signs and set up the repair.

c. Treasurer- potential to have treasurer at St. Paul in Baraboo assist us. She currently does payroll and additional financial support at St. Paul and is paid. Could potential assist us and be paid hourly. With Clergy Financial handling our finances and payroll, the need is much smaller. We also didn't allow for a paid position in our budget and likely need limited monthly support with more support at budget/audit times. Jaimie shared that Ben Rudolph has indicated an interest in assisting should we not have someone come forward. Ben is considering and will reach out.
d. Kaylin update—
    i. Pr. Jaime reached out and Kaylin is willing to modify the service. We are moving fwd with planning this for Saturday, June 6.
e. Pancake Breakfast
    i. Angela will be helping Amanda and Ann Ciske can coordinate the bake sale or could also back up Amanda/Angela. Pancake breakfast is specific fundraiser for the air handlers and will be on April 25 from 8-11 a.m.

10. New Business
    a. Music – Jeff – move to next meeting
    b. Camp application received, see attached—**Joe Jackowski made a motion to approve the camp sponsorship as submitted by Joli Guenther for Oleatta Guenther. Angela Pace made a second, motion carried.**
    c. Community relationships – Pastor Jaime- Currently any new members have come from faith backgrounds. Pr Jaime is exploring and wanting us to talk with people in the community to see what they look for in their lives. She will pose the question to the congregation as well, perhaps there are other items we can raise up that will support what the community needs.
    d. Mortgage fund / General fund change- discussed item from finance. Angela advised a mortgage fund may be a requirement of our mortgage/refinance. Pr Jaime is going to pull that information and share back with Jaimie/finance. We will research further.
    e. Quarterly finance updates at church and combining this one with the columbarium update/vote. Finance can give update before or after the columbarium portion that Kerry will lead.
11. Adjourn— **Joe Jackowski made a motion to adjourn, Angela Pace second, motion carried and meeting ended at 8:06 p.m.**
12. Lord's Prayer