

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Agenda
October 28, 2025
6:30 pm

Attendance:

Kerry Melby- In person
Jaimie Rudolph- In person
Lisa Cook- In person
Joe Jackowski- In person
Amanda Bell- In person
Mark Teslik- In person
Pastor Jaime Benson- In person
Geoff Gilbert- In person
Don Bender- In person

1. Dwelling in the Word
2. Call to Order by Geoff Gilbert at 6:52 p.m.
3. Prayer
4. Approval of the Agenda—**Motion made by Amanda Bell, second by Don Bender, motion carried.**
5. Approval of Last Month’s Minutes—One edit to #5 to include that the motion carried.
Motion made to approve minutes with revision by Joe Jackowski. Second by Amanda Bell and motion carried.
6. Pastor Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Approval of Committee Reports—**Motion made by Amanda Bell to approve, second by Kerry Melby, motion carried.**
9. Old Business
 - a. BLC Sponsorship Mission Trip Update – Geoff.
 - i. Miscommunication on the mission trip, it is open to members and anyone in the community just like it was prior. Posts were updated so it isn’t showing as sponsored by BLC.
 - b. Hwy sign repair – use undesignated memorial funds to move forward – Kerry
 - i. Women’s group isn’t going to fund it, talked about use of memorial funds. Agreed we need to put ELCA in the design and would need to put this into the budget for next year and could get input from the congregation on the

sign. Joe will edit design options to include ELCA so we can use this for congregational review/vote at annual meeting.

- c. Funding Forward – Kerry & Amanda – cohort continues to meet and share ideas on how churches are using their space or assets to gain income.

10. New Business

- a. Group photo and individual photo of Joe
- b. Air handlers – **Email vote by council was completed to move forward with replacing the music room and Sunday school room units. We will use the Air handler fund, undesignated funds, and a financial gift also received.**
- c. Spaghetti Dinner – January 17th—Lisa will talk to Brad/Brian about potentially taking this on, check into wholesale food items and some other details.
- d. Financial Communication to the Congregation – Jaimie
 - i. Add info about the air handler purchase, celebrate the win
 - ii. Discussed consistent messaging/format and agreed to separate air handler and then have specifics with expense budget vs. actuals, then income vs actuals, and separate designated funds. Could use percent of budget used as option as well.
- e. Air Handler Fundraising Initiative – Joe – update thermometer, get some photos from the installation and post it, need to celebrate the achievement, but continue the focus on 4 more to go and ongoing fundraising.
- f. Copy machine – see attached—Agreed to ask Amy to get additional info from Rhyme to check the numbers and we will leave in old business to discuss next time. Based on preliminary numbers, council agreement we are not going with Gordon Flesch.
- g. Resignation of Treasurer- Steve resigned. Jerry Saalsa will be a bridge for us currently and agreed to help with budget and then through annual meeting. He will be out of town, but is able to pre-record something to share at the meeting. Geoff will draft email to congregation notifying them that Steve has resigned, Jerry to help, and ask people to consider the role/reach out if they have gifts that could be used in this role. He will share with council for any edits, then message will go out to the congregation via email.
- h. Organist – see attached—moving to next meeting
- i. **Jaimie Rudolph made motion to adjourn, Geoff Gilbert second, and motion carried.** Meeting ended at 9:14 pm.