

Bethany Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 6:00 PM

Members Present: Darren Bushinger, Tania Hendrickson, Gary Oberton, Maggie Petersen, Elizabeth Oberton, Pastor Carl Larson, Norb Bueckers, and Brad Hansen

Pastor's report: Pastor Carol talked about Norma Pantzke's funeral on Sunday. First communion will be on Sunday April 7th, and confirmation will be on May 19th.

Review and Acceptance of January Minutes: Gary made a motion to accept the January minutes, seconded by Brad, motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Norb made a motion to accept the financial Secretary's Report, seconded by Maggie, motion carried.

Old Business:

Stoves: Gary reported that a repair man calibrated the stoves and it's still a work in progress.

Venmo: We currently use Vanco for e-giving. Elizabeth, Jeanine, Lynn will talk about exploring Venmo options for people to use as a way to donate to our church.

Lenten Offering Designation: We talked about donating the offering to the Motley Food Shelf or possibly the Youth fund. We'll decide next month.

Outdoor services: At a past council meeting, we discussed that the turnout and giving for Saturday services has been low. If there is a Saturday service, there isn't church on Sundays. At times, people have showed up for church on Sundays when we had an evening service the night beforehand. We talked about including fun music on certain Sunday services in the summer. We also talked about having a pancake breakfast or a BBQ before or after service. We decided to continue the discussion and talk more at the next council meeting.

Joint Ministry Team Update: Jan Bueckers and Mike LuConic attended the meeting on February 8th. Norb presented the joint ministry team minutes.

New Business:

Funerals: The preparations for the upcoming funeral are all arranged. Because we anticipate a big turnout, there will be people outside to assist with parking.

Many people are not using funeral homes because of the costs. In the future, we plan to look at Bethany's plan for members and nonmembers and make sure the charges are appropriate.

Playground equipment: Norb is looking into playground equipment, thinking possibly a slide and monkey bars. The playground area will also need to be expanded to fit everything. Tania will help with the planning.

Evangelism: We are going to continue to discuss bringing the chicken supper back in the Fall. We could stick with chicken like we've done in the past or try something different.

Gary made a motion to end the meeting, seconded by Elizabeth, motion carried.

We adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 6:53 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Minutes were approved by email.