

## Bethel Lutheran Church Annual Meeting – February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

Topic	Discussion and Decisions
Meeting Agenda	Meeting called to order at 12:11pm. A quorum is confirmed. 100 members signed in.
Opening Devotion / Prayer: Pastor Ben	
Meeting minutes	Minutes from August 19, 2018 Congregational meeting approved
Pastoral Report: Pr. Ben	<p>Sharing of Pre-School Finances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on what the School Board, Council and Finance Committee are working through.</li> <li>• School has received gifts from two donors of the congregation who have generously provided \$64,000 so that the pre-school will have a full year through June. Without the donor help, we currently are about \$3000 below a break-even point through February, with about \$27,000 below break-even in March due to 3 week pay period. Going through the summer adds \$114,955 deficit through June.</li> <li>• Without donors, going through the summer until end of budget year August 31<sup>st</sup> will become a \$164,955 deficit beginning Sept 1, 2019 at the start of the next fiscal year.</li> <li>• Question with respect to summer programs: They have typically been break-even to pay for the cost of the summer program itself. In the past there had been savings that could be used to cover the summer. This year we do not have savings, and hence if we use future tuition to cover the summer costs, if the pre-school were not able to continue, then the church would need to come up with the money to pay back future tuition.</li> <li>• The church has helped by \$83,000 reductions in putting the 2019 budget together.</li> <li>• The intent is for the congregation to be aware of and pray for discernment in this situation, asking where God is leading us toward.</li> </ul> <p>The Church:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Putting the school and church side-by-side there is a big contrast. We have seen folks moving out of the area selling their homes and moving out of the area for retirement. Giving remains strong and we have new people worshipping and bringing their gifts to Bethel. The church is strong. This brings us joy in a changing world.</li> <li>• What is preventing Bethel from having 300 people regularly in worship on a Sunday morning?</li> <li>• How do people start attending a church? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A friend invited me 86%</li> <li>○ Organized visitation 6%</li> <li>○ Invited by pastor 6%</li> <li>○ Advertising 2%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• PEW report top reason people attend church: to become closer to God.</li> <li>• How do we start welcoming people to come see what Bethel is about, and <i>Inviting</i>? To share the wonderful family we have here.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do we provide more opportunities for transformation ... a look at 2018 video. And we look forward to a wonderful 2019 with the love of Christ and love for one another. Thank you!</li> </ul>
Bethel Lutheran School Report – Doreen Baldwin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doreen is doing an English Language (EL) class with Mom’s and every Tuesday morning. Nikki does the God Bless prayer with the children and this is a great moment.</li> <li>• Nikki Hufana came on board in August as the pre-school director and has been amazing.</li> <li>• Bethel elementary School was closed in June 2018 due to rapidly declining enrollment.</li> <li>• In the fall started with 42 students enrolled and we are now up to 56 students. 25 children are enrolled in the afterschool program.</li> <li>• Donations from the Bethel Church family are sought as we struggle to keep our school open.</li> <li>• All are invited to the open house on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and anytime at the school to see the joy.</li> </ul>
Facilities Update - Tom Hoegel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities are in good shape, and a tool to do more ministry.</li> <li>• Replaced the tree that blew down, and installed the Cunningham planter. Cameras were installed in the Sanctuary. Working through logistics and approvals process.</li> </ul>
Financial Update: Dave Larsen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generosity abounds. General fund contributions to date are \$26000 (10%) ahead of planned. Total income is \$20,000 ahead. Net income is \$17,000 ahead of budget.</li> </ul>
President’s Message – Sam Sudarsanam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was a pleasure and honor to be President, and opportunity to help move forward the spiritual community.</li> <li>• Initiated focus on young adults and how to bring folks together. Great work on a new logo and a tag-line.</li> </ul>
Elections – Sam Sudarsanam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Council members renewing terms: Ann Marie Kenitzer (Communications Officer), Sue Lampkin (Ministry Liaison), Dianne Stauffer (Member at Large), Jamie Laughlin (Human Resources Advisor)</li> <li>• Approved Joan Christensen as the new Bethel president.</li> <li>• Open Positions we are still looking for: President Elect, Youth Member at Large, Project Manager (not needed at this time)</li> <li>• Nominating Committee are continuing: Hella Bluhm-Stieber, Jack Wedgwood, Scott Anderson.</li> <li>• 2 delegates needed for Synod Assembly in Stockton CA May 11<sup>th</sup> 2019: Tony Stieber and Hella Bluhm-Stieber approved as delegates.</li> </ul>
Dorothy Meyer Award	2019 Dorothy Meyer Award goes to the Men of Monday
New President’s Message	
Meeting adjourned 1:25 PM	
Closing prayer: Pastor Ben	