

## Bethel Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Minutes September 12, 2021

**Members Present:** Total of 80 members present in person

**Meeting called to order:** 12:21 PM by Brett Deutscher

Topic	Discussion	Action
Opening Prayer:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pastor Ben Sandin</li> </ul>	
Meeting minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion to approve the January 2021 congregational meeting minutes was seconded and approved.</li> </ul>	
Pastor's Report: Pr. Ben Sandin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goals:</li> <li>• Worship together</li> <li>• Work together</li> <li>• Listening together</li> <li>• Discussing together</li> </ul>	
Facilities/Staff Update: Tom Hoegel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked on the library</li> <li>• Men of Monday- re-did the shed</li> <li>• Fixed up the turf</li> <li>• Painted Torvend Hall</li> <li>• There is a shower in Torvend Hall now</li> <li>• Installed a "Dog Poop Station"</li> <li>• New AV techs: Brian Schuette and Adam Klopfenstein as new techs for Sunday Morning worship</li> <li>• Rachel Sudarsanam will teach the senior high students</li> </ul>	
Financial Report: Dave Larsen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Finance Committee covers the following topics across the year: general giving trends, property lease, financial impact of SIP, FY'22 budget planning, pastoral housing, and reviews of audit reports from the audit committee.</li> <li>• Bethel received a Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan in April 2020 to cover staff expenses (which had been forgiven) and another PPP received February, 2021 ( will apply for forgiveness).</li> <li>• FY'21 financial highlights as of July are a year-to-day income of \$879,000 and expenses to date of \$852,858 with a month to go in the fiscal year.</li> </ul>	

FY'22 Budget Proposal and Vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By congregational vote the FY'22 budget was approved. The budget includes total expenses of \$984,000, general fund assumed giving of \$720,000, and facility use income plus other giving of \$283,100. Net income after tax is planned to be a slight deficit of -\$6,700.</li> <li>• FY'22 budget increased approximately \$90,000 in staffing to cover full time new pastor, cost of living increases, and supporting needs. There is no change to funding of programs and ministries. Benevolence increases somewhat commensurate with increased giving assumptions.</li> </ul>	
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following Council Positions are open: President Elect, Young Adult Member at Large, Rachel Sudarsanam will continue as Young Adult Member another year unless there are nominations from the floor.</li> <li>• The Congregation ratified the Constitution Updates. Constitution updates were approved at the Congregational meeting 1/31/2021 (Zoom) Per section C16.02b, changes must be ratified at a 2nd meeting with 2/3rd majority, which was done today.</li> <li>• Summary of changes are on Bethel's website. Some key changes include deleting references to School and School Board, and making Bethel consistent with the ELCA Model Constitution.</li> </ul>	•
New Business:	° A special acknowledgement was shared for Teri Kuhlmann for her leadership with The Bethel Llamas.	
Eric Hanson Award:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awarded yearly to a Bethel member that exhibits Christian ideals and principles in all aspects of their daily life and participates in service beyond Bethel.</li> <li>• \$500 donation to a charity of that individual's choice.</li> <li>• Chris Christensen is the recipient.</li> </ul>	
Motion to adjourn: 12:59 PM		
Closing prayer:	Pastor Ben Sandin	

Submitted by: Dianne Stauffer