

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
720 South Second Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

**COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Title:** Congregation Council Minutes

**Officiating:** Mary Bliesmer

**Purpose:** Monthly Business Meeting

**Recording:** Kathy Yale

**Date:** December 20, 2011

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Heritage Room

Scheduled			Actual			Present
Start	Stop	Total	Start	Stop	Total	Number
7:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	2 Hrs.	7:00 p.m.	8:50 p.m.	1:50	11
Council Members and Guests			Present	Absent	Position	
Mary Bliesmer			X		President	
Bob Ihrig			X		President-Elect	
Rachel Wood			X		Vice President	
Kathy Yale			X		Secretary	
Diana Olson				X	Treasurer	
Amy Heiser			X		Member-at-Large	
Betty Groth			X		Member-at-Large	
Lori Ruthenbeck			X		Member-at-Large	
Pastor Jay Dahlvang			X		Lead Pastor	
Pastor Collette Broady Preiss			X		Associate Pastor	
Beth Webb			X		Bethlehem Child Care Center	

PRESENTER TOPIC	ITEM DESCRIPTION
7:00 p.m. Mary Bliesmer	CALL TO ORDER
Pr Jay Dahlvang	DEVOTIONS: A reading from Luke 2 followed by an opening prayer.

REGULAR BUSINESS	
Mary Bliesmer	AGENDA: On a motion by Bob Ihrig, the agenda was adopted with the addition of Bethlehem Child Care Center at the Open Forum. MSC.
OPEN FORUM	
Beth Webb	BETHLEHEM CHILD CARE CENTER: Positive changes continue to be made and the financial situation continues to improve.
	REGULAR BUSINESS, <i>continued</i>
Kathy Yale	MINUTES: The November 15, 2011, minutes were approved on a motion by Rachel Wood. MSC.
Bob Ihrig	Copies of minutes from the November Semi-Annual Meeting were distributed.
REPORTS	
Diana Olson	FINANCIAL REPORT: Written Report.
	In keeping with the goals of the Five Year Plan, Bob Ihrig made a motion to waive the remaining \$7000.00 rent due from the Child Care Center for the balance of 2011 in order to give them a head start going into 2012. MSC.
	The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by Kathy Yale. MSC.
Pastor Jay	LEAD PASTOR'S REPORT: Written Reports.
	Lori Ruthenbeck moved that the following Housing Allowances for tax year 2012 be approved: Pastor Jay Dahlvang - \$24,000.00/year Pastor Collette Broadway Preiss - \$20,000.00/year MSC.
	Lori Ruthenbeck made a motion to discontinue Bethlehem's membership in Greater Mankato Area Growth. MSC.
	Pastor Jay requested that 'Mission Statement' be included on the Council agenda for the next three months.
Pastor Collette	ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT: Written Report.
OLD BUSINESS	
Bob Ihrig	FIVE YEAR PLAN: Written Report regarding orientation sessions and a strategic plan implementation update.

NEW BUSINESS

Mary Bliesmer	<p>BUILDING PROJECT: Bob Ihrig made a motion to invite the following people to serve from January, 2012, to January, 2015, on three new special committees. MSC.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Building</u></td> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Finance/Fundraising</u></td> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Communication</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bob Brown</td> <td>Kari Csizmadia</td> <td>Gene Bentsdahl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brad Groth</td> <td>Tom Engstrom</td> <td>Matt Drewitz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jim Halbur</td> <td>Andrew Garry</td> <td>Kari Halbur</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marcia Nagel</td> <td>Jack Halvorson</td> <td>Etta Poole</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steve Olson</td> <td>Jack Kent</td> <td>Susan Weinberger</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jerry Orness</td> <td>Amanda Klanderman</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tom Sanger</td> <td>Frank Larsen</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Randy Wood</td> <td>Karen Sandersfeld</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Finance/Fundraising</u>	<u>Communication</u>	Bob Brown	Kari Csizmadia	Gene Bentsdahl	Brad Groth	Tom Engstrom	Matt Drewitz	Jim Halbur	Andrew Garry	Kari Halbur	Marcia Nagel	Jack Halvorson	Etta Poole	Steve Olson	Jack Kent	Susan Weinberger	Jerry Orness	Amanda Klanderman		Tom Sanger	Frank Larsen		Randy Wood	Karen Sandersfeld	
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	Kathy Yale will work with Pastor Jay and Mary Bliesmer to write drafts for proposed Standing Resolutions related to these new committees.																											
	President Mary Bliesmer appointed a committee to review Bethlehem's current Facilities Use Policy: Mary Bliesmer, Bob Brown, Pastor Jay Dahlvang, Bob Ihrig, Kathy Yale and Joel Zimmerman.																											
	ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE: The Committee meets next on January 9, 2012, and plans to conduct an Adult Forum on February 19, 2012.																											
Mary Bliesmer	<p>ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by General Consensus and closed with all joining in The Lord's Prayer.</p> <p>Next Meeting: January 17, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.</p>																											

MSC = Motion Seconded and Carried.