

Bethel UCC Consistory Meeting
January 2, 2018

Members Present: Karen Lisowe, Tom Birschbach, Fred Kraemer, Rich Lange, Beverly Voss, Mark Zimmerman and Pastor Jim Klein. Also attending: Elizabeth Birschbach

Karen called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and Rev. Klein shared an opening prayer.

The consistory and Elizabeth reviewed the rationale for using name tags and Elizabeth also stressed the need for continued healthy communication between the consistory, the congregation, and the pastoral relations committee.

Reports: It was moved by (Beverly/Mark) to approve the December consistory minutes of the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by (Rich/Tom) to approve the Report of Receipts, the Report of Expenses, the Memorial Fund report and the Building Fund report. The motion carried unanimously. The income for December was \$12,440.91 and expenses were \$8,053.68. \$2,000.00 of the income was a transfer from the Scrip fund. Rich noted that each month's financial statement is also posted on the bulletin board.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Klein shared how he divides his work schedule between his home office and the church office. Church matters need attention almost every day. Christmas services and activities were reviewed and the continued practice of having families light the Advent wreath was strongly encouraged. Tom also expressed the sentiments of the entire consistory by extending a huge thank you to all the individuals who provided vocal or instrumental music for our Advent and Christmas services.

Correspondence: A thank you note was received from Cindy Meyer for the Christmas gift card. Thank you notes were also received from the Kiel Food Pantry and Safe Harbor in Sheboygan. Elizabeth Birschbach has resigned from her position as chair of the Mission Team. Karen expressed thanks and appreciation for Elizabeth's faithful service.

Unfinished Business:

- The membership list has been reviewed and currently we have 118 members. Karen also shared a comparative attendance chart for the past eight years.

- The name tag materials have arrived and Carol Roethel will write members' names on the tags.

- The 2018 budget and actual expenses for 2017 were reviewed. It was moved by (Tom/Rich) to give an equal wage increase to all salaried employees. The actual salaries will be listed in the budget. The motion carried unanimously. (Tom/Mark) then moved to approve the proposed budget. The motion carried unanimously.

- It was moved by (Rich/Mark) to approve the slate of nominees submitted by the nomination committee. The motion carried unanimously. The nominees are as follows: Building and Property Committee - Tim Voss, Cemetery Board - Dan Huber, Pastoral Relations Committee - Dana Dunton (3 yr. term) and Carol Matzdorf (1 yr. term), Nominating Committee - Jim Raquet, Consistory President - Dennis Roethel and Consistory Secretary - Lenora Stuckmann.

- The Agenda for the Annual Meeting was reviewed. It was moved by (Rich/Mark) to recommend a constitutional change to the congregation by moving the Annual Meeting from the third Sunday in January to the fourth Sunday in January. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

- The consistory expressed its gratitude and thanks to Ken and Carol Matzdorf for the donation of this year's Christmas tree.

-Mark shared that he was able to obtain free check blanks for the Building Fund account.

- An inquiry into electronically amplifying the church bell so it could be more easily heard was shared with Information/Technology team. But, the cost of such a project is prohibitive.

There being no other business to conduct it was moved by (Rich/Tom) to adjourn our meeting at 8:25 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Kraemer