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Bethel Lancaster Church Council Minutes

Bethel United Methodist Church Lancaster

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Recommended Citation

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June 30, 2019

Church Council Meeting

**Nell McWhorter
Christie Starnes
Glenn Ribelin
Tony Langley
Mary Ribelin
Peggy Flynn
Gwen Pope
Judy Stogner**

**Frieda Murphy
Derwin Starnes
Melvin McWhorter
Tracy Pope
Emily Flynn
Vickie Langley
Mike Rorie**

Church Council meeting was called to order. The names for the Safe Sanctuary Committee were presented, Frieda Murphy, Emily Flynn, and Tracy Pope. Gwen made motion to accept, Peggy seconded. Motion passed.

It was brought before council that a safe is needed to keep the Safe Sanctuary informaion secure. Motion was made by Tony and seconded by Gwen to purchase a safe. Motion passed.

Background checks were discussed. The cost of the checks should be paid by the church. Motion was made by Gwen and seconded by Tony for the church to pay for the background checks. Motion passed.

Bethel will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. We would like to have a homecoming celebration for the church. The date of October 19th was selected and time will be from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Motion was made by Christie and seconded by Frieda to accept the date and time. Motion passed.

The Nuture Committee has \$200.00 in budget but the committee will need additional funding. We will be taking a special offering for two Sundays. This offering will be used for homecoming. The church will add funds to give the committee a total of \$500.00 and this will come from Love Fund.

Emily brought up that we should have a cookout. Pastor Glenn said he would like to have it at his house. This will be discussed further.

We have not paid any apportionments this year. A copy of what is due was handed out. Much discussion was centered around paying on a line item basis. This will be discussed again in July.

Meeting adjourned.

October 27, 2019

Charge Conference for 2020

Rev. Joe Long, DS, called conference to order. He was presented the different reports, forms, etc. for Bethel United Methodist Church for the year 2020.

Reports were given by the Pastor, Lay Leader, and Church Council reporting on the activities of the church for the previous year. Nominations Committee presented reports for the year 2020. One correction was made to remove Kathy Rorie from the Nurture Committee. The budget for 2020 was aslo presented.

Those present voted to accept as presented.

Rev. Long spoke to us and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Frieda Murphy

January 26, 2020

Church Council Meeting

Mike Rorie called the meeting to order.

First item to discuss is Salkahatchie in June. There is an opportunity to join with another church and serve a meal. Motion was made by J. B. Stogner and second by Emily Flynn to serve a meal. Gwen Pope will get the information. Motion passed.

Discussion was held to find someone to be in charge of keeping supplies in kitchen and bathrooms. Motion was made by Gwen Pope and second by J. B. Stogner for Kathy Rorie to be in charge of the supplies. Motion passed.

Mike Rorie presented a wheelchair to the church that was donated by Elaine Rock and Mary Hall in memory of Mr. Frank Hall and in honor of Mrs. Mary Hall. It is to be used by the church as needed. It is noted that Mrs. Mary Hall passed away this week.

The Trustees will go over the burial policy at their upcoming meeting. This policy will be shared with the church.

We do plan on doing Easter Eggs this year as a fundraiser for the church. Mary Ribelin reported that we have approval from the school to use their large mixer. A planning meeting will be held.

Pastor Glenn reported that there will be additional motions made to the General Council in May on LGBTQ issues in the Methodist Church. Even though a special conference was held last year and vote was to remain traditional according to The Book of Discipline, another vote will be held.

Bethel needs a plan to handle visitation under the guidelines of Safe Sanctuaries. The pastor can visit hospitals, nursing homes, and other public places. Home visits require addition people to be in attendance. Background checks have been done on members on a voluntary basis. People working with children and adults at risk must have background checks. There is list in the Pastor's office of the background checks.

Pastor Glenn wants to start a "shepherding program" to visit church members. We have to decide who will be visited and how this will be done.

Motion was made by Tracy Pope and second by Emily Flynn to adopt a "Shepherding Program. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Christie Starnes and second by Gwen Pope to include the entire membership of Bethel. After discussion on how and when to visit or contact the members, motion passed.

Motion was made by Christie Starnes and second by Tony Langley to have 4 "shepherds" and to divide the membership among the four. Motion passed.

The four "shepherds" are: Kathy Rorie, Tracy Pope, Tony Langley, and Christie Starnes.

Meeting adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Frieda Murphy
Recording Secretary*

Revision 06-03-2020

Special Charge Conference Bethel UMC

May 28, 2020

Attendees:

- Rev. Joe Long*
- Rev. Glenn Ribelin, Sr.*
- Melvin McWhorter*
- Nell McWhorter*
- Mike Rorie*
- Kathy Rorie*
- Tony Langley*
- Vickie Langley*
- Emily Flynn*
- Frieda Murphy*
- Mary Ribelin*
- Joshua Ribelin*

Rev. Long called meeting to order opening with prayer with a request from Pastor Glenn to remember one of Bethel's members that passed away last Friday, J.B. Stogner and his family.. The purpose of this meeting is to set the salary for the new pastor for the upcoming church year.

The new pastor will be Rev. Larry King. The salary is \$36,000.00. Bethel will be responsible for \$10,000.00 annually. Tabernacle UMC will be responsible for the remainder.

Since the pastor will be 1/2 time, there will be no direct billing. Also, no housing responsibilities at this time. However, this could change in the future.

Also, when we are able to meet with Rev. King, Bethel will discuss changing their time of worship as Tabernacle will keep the 11:00 am time.

Rev. Glenn closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Frieda Murphy
Recording Secretary*

Per conversation with Rev. Long, a retired 1/2 time pastor may choose to participate in the pension plan. If 3% of salary is deposited, the church is responsible to match 9%. This could be an annual expense if pastor chooses.

October, 2021

Charge Conference for 2021

District Superintendent Rev. Hodge called conference to order. He was presented the different reports, forms, etc. for Bethel United Methodist Church for the year 2021..

Reports were given by the Pastor, Lay Leader, and Church Council reporting on the activities of the church for the previous year. Nominations Committee presented reports for the year 2020. One correction was made to remove Kathy Rorie from the Nurture Committee. The budget for 2020 was aslo presented.

Those present voted to accept as presented.

A message was given to us and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Frieda Murphy

October 9, 2022

A meeting was held to discuss serveral items.

To talk about switching to One Committee organization. It was discussed to some extent and most felt that it would benefit Bethel to go to this plan. A vote and was taken and it was approved.

We will talk to Rev. King about getting an item on the agenda for the upcoming Charge Conference.

With Thanksgiving coming, it was decided to do cards again this year and up the amount to \$75.00 per card. This was also approved.

Those in attendence were Tracy Pope, Gwen Pope, Gayle Pope, Peggy Flynn, Emily Flynn, Frieda Murphy, Vickie Langley, Lanny Ashley, Tammy Ashley, Christie Starnes.

Charge Committee on Staff/Pastor Parish Relations

A. Previously Elected

Class of 2023

Emily Flynn Mike Rorie

Class of 2024

Peggy Flynn Gwen Pope

B. Nominees Class of 2025

Frieda Murphy

C. Lay Member to Annual Conference

Tabernacle

D. Lay Leader

Christie Starnes

Finance Committee

Emily Flynn, Treasurer

Frieda Murphy, Finance Committee Chairperson

Larry King, Pastor

Member of Finance Committee at Large

Tammy Ashley

Kathy Rorie

January 8, 2023

**Derwin Starnes
Lanny Ashley
Tony Langley
Tonya Blackmon
Tim Flynn
Emily Flynn
Gwen Pope**

**Tammy Ashley
Mike Rorie
Vickie Langley
Peggy Flynn
Frieda Murphy
Tracy Pope
Judy Stogner**

Meeting was held to discuss vote on disaffiliation from the United Methodist denomination. Items that are before the church

- 1. Vote on disaffiliation from the UMC. Unanimous vote by those present.**
- 2. Meet next Sunday, January 15, 2023 for further discussion.**
- 3. Investigate legal counsel/local group. Unanimous vote by those present.**
- 4. Form a committee to work through the process. Unanimous vote by those present.**

**Tracy Pope
Frieda Murphy
Derwin Starnes
Lanny Ashley
Emily Flynn
Tony Langley**

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Frieda Murphy
Recording Secretary**

January 11, 2023

**Tracy Pope
Tony Langley
Frieda Murphy
Emily Flynn
Derwin Starnes
Christie Starnes
Lanny Ashley**

This is a meeting of the committee to pursue disaffiliation from United Methodist. Tracy opened the meeting with prayer. Copies of documents were handed out that describe the process and actions that are needed.

Tracy has spoken with a church in Union and has a contact for a group they are using. Doug Hinds sent the name of a law firm that has handled this process for other churches. He will get back with more information.

RiverNet WIFI is needed for this process. Tracy will contact them to get it installed for at least one year. The committee agreed unanimously.

Tony will get a copy of deed for Bethel.

Lanny will get the name/or names of commercial appraisors as a new appraisal is needed.

A discernment period is needed to get information to the entire church. The committee agreed on a period to be January 15, 2023 to end on February 16, 2023.

The informational meetings are set as follows:

***January 15, 2023
January 22, 2023
January 29, 2023
February 5, 2023***

A letter will be prepared for the District Superintendent to inform the DS of our intention to disaffiliate. At that time a Church Conference will be held with the DS to have an official vote.

Tony closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

***Frieda Murphy
Recording Secretary***

January 22, 2023

**Tracy Pope
Gwen Pope
Tonya Blackmon
Christie Starnes
Tammy Ashley
Frieda Murphy**

**Lanny Ashley
Tim Flynn
Peggy Flynn
Vickie Langley
Tony Langley
Judy Stogner**

Mike Rorie replaced light bulbs in the sanctuary. He also replaced switches on fans in the Fellowship Hall.

The appraiser has been at the church and will have an appraisal as soon as possible.

The amount of assets that may have to be paid is 10%. Praying that this is under consideration by Bishop and Board.

Letter to District Superintendent has been sent. An email was also sent. DS will reply back promptly.

We had a phone call with NCLL last Tuesday. The committee agreed to hire them for a period of 1 year for \$1,000.00. They stated that litigation could be long and drawn out and could be costly.

We received information from NCLL on the information needed to form a new corporation.

Our money can be spent for disaffiliation. Will work on getting insurance information.

Meeting adjourned.

January 27, 2023

*Tracy Pope
Tony Langley
Frieda Murphy*

Mr. Jonathan Bailie, of NCLL, called to speak with our committee. We advised him we were still waiting on the appraisal of Bethel. Then we can submit it to UMC conference to get final financial figures. At that time, it will be brought before church for a final vote.

He advised that we do the best we can on insurance information. It will be our best effort. Tracy will contact our insurance company to see what information they will provide.

We will attempt to contact members as we have addresses. It again will be a best effort.

He advised that we need to work on the new corporation information so they can proceed to file the new papers.

Meeting adjourned.

January 28, 2023

*Tracy Pope
Emily Flynn
Lanny Ashley
Tony Langley
Derwin Starnes
Frieda Murphy*

Emily gave a report of finances as of December 31, 2022

*\$5,995.73 checking for housing
\$17,961.68 savings - designated
\$23,548.97 CD from sale of parsonage
\$43,840.49 checking*

Need new corporation set up as soon as possible. Need to get new name and information to NCLL.

Insurance is paid in 3 year periods. We are good through April 2024.

February 18, 2023

*Martha Ann Floyd
Tony Langley
Emily Flynn
Judy Stogner
Tracy Pope
Mike Rorie
Peggy Flynn
Derwin Starnes
Lanny Ashley*

*Frieda Murphy
Vickie Langley
Tim Flynn
Bryan Blackmon
Gwen Pope
Kathy Rorie
Christie Starnes
Tammy Ashley*

*Rev. Larry S. King
Rev. Anthony Hodge*

Rev. Hodge call the church into conference. He went over the process set out by South Carolina for disaffiliation from the UMC. He also discussed the costs for the local church.

The ballots were explained. A YES vote means leave and a NO vote means to remain in the United Methodist denomination.

No discussion was allowed as Rev. Hodge said he was no here for a question and answer session. He also said we were not operating under section 2553 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.

The vote being taken is to determine if Bethel wants to continue with the disaffiliation process. The process can be stopped at any time.

Beth Westbury is the treasurer of the South Carolina Conference and she will determine the costs from the infortion submitted to her.

The ballots were distributed to the members present. The result of the vote is, 17 members voted to leave the UMC.

Two trustees were voted on as the ones to represent Bethel in the continuing process. They are Tracy Pope and Tim Flynn.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Frieda Murphy
Recording Secretary*