



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
Minutes of Congregational Meeting
April 23, 2017

Pursuant to call and provision of its Constitution, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, an unincorporated association affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Metropolitan Synod of Washington, DC, held a congregational meeting at 11:00 a.m., April 23, 2017. Approximately 33 members were present in person, which constituted a quorum.

Pastor Kern called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m., and gave the floor to Jay Sharp who presented the Chili Master 2017 Cup to this year's chili cook-off winner, Barry Uhlig.

Pastor Kern thanked Jim Trump for his service as President of the congregation, and explained that with his resignation, the vestry elected Janet Samuelson to fill his unexpired term through the end of the calendar year, subject to the approval of the Congregation at the next scheduled Congregational Meeting.

MOTION: The vestry moves ratification of the election of Janet Samuelson to the vestry, and as Congregation President to fill the unexpired term of Jim Trump. The vote was called and unanimously carried.

Janet Samuelson presented an overview of the MSP (Ministry Site Profile) as approved by the vestry, noting that full copies of the MSP are available in the office for any member to review. Janet explained that the information is considered an "Invitation to Dialogue" to prospective pastors, and described the demographic information, background information, and mutual expectations.

Janet Samuelson presented the slate of call committee candidates nominated by the vestry.

MOTION: The vestry moves the election of the following members of the Call Committee, each who has confirming willingness and availability to serve:

- Marva Benn
- David Cross
- Kristin Haynes (liaison to the Vestry)

- Brennan Hutchinson
- Henry Odom
- Ann Schultz

The vote was called and the slate was unanimously approved.

Janet Samuelson presented the revised Constitution and Bylaws. The Vestry has reviewed the proposed changes and recommends the revised Constitution and Bylaws for adoption by the Congregation noting the following:

- Revised Constitution mirrors the requirements of the ELCA in the model constitution.
- Constitution is primarily a statement of beliefs, principles and certain operating parameters, particularly regards Pastor Calls and ELCA congregational membership.
- The Bylaws provide more detail on governance, roles and responsibilities.
- Vestry renamed Congregation Council, specifies President, Director of Finances, Coordinator of Governance and Planning and no less than 5 nor more than 7 additional elected members plus the Pastor.
- Provides flexibility for the Council to direct the nominating committee to put forth nominations representing specific areas or initiatives as needed.

MOTION: The vestry moves the adoption of revised Constitution and Bylaws.

The vote was called and the motion was unanimously carried.

Janet Samuelson explained that The Synod Assembly will be held June 16-17 in Leesburg this year. Representatives were not recommended at the annual meeting last year. Bylaws normally require that the nominating committee recommend the Synod Assembly delegates for election by the Congregation but given the short timing, the Vestry appointed Kevin Metzger to contact potential nominees for direct election.

MOTION: made by Jay Sharp, Seconded by Kevin Metzger, and unanimously carried: The Congregation, on a one time basis, waives the bylaws requiring election of a nominating committee in order to identify and elect nominees to attend the Synod Assembly.

The Vestry presented the slate of representatives to the 2017 Synod Assembly:
Joe and Joanne McKinney

MOTION: made by Kevin Metzger, Seconded by Ann Schultz, and unanimously carried: Joe and Joanne McKinney are approved as the Bethlehem Lutheran Church representatives to the 2017 Synod Assembly.

On **MOTION** duly made by Zoe Parker, seconded by Jay Sharp, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Marie Bakke,

ATTEST:

Acting Secretary
April 23, 2017

Janet Samuelson, President