

August 20, 2024 Council Minutes

Attendees: Randy Baskerville, Jill Duncan, Gary Helgomo, Jim Herr, Dave Hill, Tom Hooper, Steve Horton, Sarah Manro, Steve Middleton, Mary Jo Mikulski, Jeff Reising, Linc Schneider, Harold Seamon, Annette Lang

Meeting called to order by Jim Herr at 6:31.

Jim introduced his friend Deirdre Graham from Ireland who does mission work in Jamaica through World Gospel Mission.

Her mission work focuses on help with the domestic violence that is occurring in Jamaica

She is the sole missionary at this time working in Jamaica and has been there 7 years.

Her overall mission is teaching, welfare assistance, Children's ministry, construction needed for a women and children effected by domestic violence.

The main project is a partnership with World Gospel Mission (WGM). With a church in Jamaica and one in Ireland, Deirdre's home church. The project is called Restoring Hope.

They are working to restore an existing building to help women and children in need.

Cost of the project is \$20,000.00 US dollars the Jamaican government will help once the money is raised and they see the benefits of the project.

A recent hurricane has set the project behind. There was mass devastation on the island and that has become the priority for the moment.

The people were without water and electricity for 3 days and many businesses were lost. Farmers lost their farms and fishermen lost their boats and business.

Many organizations and churches along with the Us government and the UK have given them money to rebuild.

The needs are great both financially and for volunteers to help rebuild

For more information about her mission please see Bethel's website on our mission page.

Here is contact information for Deirdre Graham.

Mailing Address:

52 MainStreet

Annottto Bay; PO18

St. Mary Parish

Jamaica, West Indies

Deirdre Graham's email is : Deirdre.graham@wgm.org

Online giving: wgm.org/graham

Dave Hill motioned to approve the minutes for July. Jill Duncan approved.

Financial Report:

- **Revenue** – Contributions in July totaled \$43,222. This is down compared to June which might be expected since June was a “5 Sunday Month”. Monthly contributions this year average \$50,307
- **Expenses** – Total expenses in July were down over \$6,000 compared to June. The decrease was due to lower utility expenses, lower property expenses, and no property insurance premiums due in July. Salary and Benefit costs were up in July because three payrolls were paid in July compared to two in a typical month.
- **Revenue Minus Expenses** – We had a \$5,192 deficit in the General Fund for the month of July. We now have a \$996 deficit through seven months.
- **Designated Fund** – Most of the changes we talked about for the designated fund at our council meeting last month have been made. The updates are still “a work in progress”.

Jeff Reising motioned for approval of financial report, Randy Baskerville seconded, to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Point: Point on Pastor Doug's resignation letter.

John Patterson has emailed the letter to all members of Bethel with an email. The issue of how to get the information to the members with no email was discussed. According to Pastor Dave there is a way to determine who needs to have a hard copy of the letter mailed to them. Announcement of Doug's resignation was announced at all 3 services.

Historical Committee

Has been considering how much space and where the best place is to set up the historical documents. It was decided that the current library was the best space to use. All the books currently in the library will be put back into the library after the space is set up with the historical library. Books currently in the library will be moved to another office to make room for display and then returned to the library after completion of the displa

The council has decided to re-purpose the current library room to set up displays for all the historical documents. A motion to repurpose the library and a budget of \$1000.00 to be

used to purchase frames, mounting of documents and other items to put on display and redo the room.

Tom Hooper motioned to approve the motion; Steve Horton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (51 minutes)

Stewardship Committee -Mary Jo Mikulski

The proposed motion is that the campaign be 40 days starting on Oct 13 and ending on Nov 17th. The theme of the stewardship will be to lift up the people of God in gratitude for God's gifts to us and how it has resulted in changes in our lives. Volunteers are needed to give a personal testimony for each service.

Tom Hooper moved the motion to be approved; Jeff Reising seconded it. Motion was passed unanimously.

Pastor Doug's Council Report

The proposed motion from Pastor Doug is that he would like to fulfill 3 promises he has made to Bethel Members. To Jeff and Julie Crist baptism on Oct 26th. To the Black family to do Irene Kinyon's celebration of life on Oct 31st. To Lorna Fisher Baptism TBA and Amamda and Dalton to baptize their son during the Christmas holidays.

Tom hooper moved the motion be to be approved; Steve Horton seconded it. Motion was passed unanimously.

Call Committee- Steve Horton

The call committee is looking for different platforms to help get a bigger pool of pastors to expand their ability to recruit . There is a shortage of pastors for the number of churches looking for pastors. The reasons are numerous. It is recommended that who ever is considered needs to be vetted and approved by the NALC.

The proposed motion is a request \$1000.00 to used to support the pastoral search of adding our profile to pastor recruiting websites. (56:30)

Steve Horton moved the motion to be approved; Jeff Reising seconded it. The motion was passed unanimously.

Property -Jeff Reising

LCS is requesting a lock change on room 110 so a key is not needed.

Classical Conversation continues to grow. As the group grows so will the amount they pay Bethel for usage of the building. The increase in the number of people using has now caused Bethel to get more testing of our well water, which is required by the state of Indiana. There was also discussion of asking the Scouts to do more community service hours. There was discussion on asking the scouts for annual dues.

Old Business

Mandatory office hours that was tabled and was brought back up for discussion. Currently there is no one in the office on Mondays. Currently there are 2 groups consisting of approximately 110 people in the church with no staff member in the building.

The original motion was amended to just include the change in the Monday office hours. The proposed motion is that the office be opened and staffed on Mondays 9 AM- 4:30. Sarah Manro moved the amended motion to be approved; Annette Lang approved the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Missions-Randy Baskerville

The Fish fry did okay it made about \$500.00 profit. It was considered a success because of the number of people that attended and that it helped to get interested in Bethel to come and visit.

New Business

Linc Schneider has been looking at ways to improve the music at the services to try and draw more people. We have 12 musicians at the 11:11 service and only one musician at the 8:45 service. Linc also feels that having a nurse would also help more families that would attend Bethel. Linc will be working with Pastor Dave to discuss ways to attract more people to worship using music and the talent of Bethel members who are musically inclined.

Randy will be sending 10 cases of bibles to Jamaica. This is a request from a minister who has done mission work in Jamaica.

\$1,500 was given to Sam Fulton to do mission work in Utah. Sam is the grandson of Bob Heiskell a member at Bethel. Sam is going with the group Campus Crusaders for Christ. Sam is planning on becoming a minister.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:11pm.

August/September 2024 Ministry Reports

Finance Report

Bethel Budget Preparation/Timeline for 2025

September 13, 2024

Dear Council / Staff Member,

I have attached two other documents with this email for you to work with as you prepare the proposed 2025 budget for your area of responsibility. The documents are:

- Account History Report – This document shows 12 months of expense history for your account (September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024). There is a debit and a credit column on your report. The debit column shows expenses taken from your line item(s) in the budget. The credit column shows funds returned to your line item in the budget (examples: items purchased that were returned, errors that were corrected). To find the total expenses for your line item(s) in the budget subtract the credits total from the debits total. If you want an electronic copy of this report in an Excel spreadsheet, please let me know. Ignore the balance column.
- Budget Worksheet – The Excel budget worksheet shows the budget approved for your area for 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. Please fill in the 2025 Budget column with your proposed budget for 2025. Please return your completed proposed budget worksheet to me by **October 6, 2024**. If you can enter your request in the worksheet electronically, please save the worksheet in Excel, attach it to an email, and return it to me. If you cannot enter your request in the Excel worksheet, please write in your request, then you can scan the worksheet and email it to me or put it in the finance mailbox at church.

All the proposed budget requests will be entered into one budget spreadsheet for review by the council at the October council meeting. Once the council approves a proposed budget the budget will go to the congregation for review and approval at the congregational meeting on November 10.

If you have general questions about this process, you can ask at our council meeting on September 17. If you have specific questions to your area of the budget or your expense report please call or email me, this should save time at our council meeting.

Thanks for all you are doing at Bethel! I look forward to seeing you at our council meeting next week!

Peace,

Harold Seamon
 765.432.5433
 harold.seamon@comcast.net

Senior Pastor's Report

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
<p>WORSHIP SERVICES & FUNERALS 9 Services (Saturdays/Sundays - 10 including Nora Lee Kerry's Funeral service) Healing - 7th (Me & Doug assisting)</p> <p>MEETINGS Office Staff (5) Executive Team (1) Church Council (1) Area clergy meeting @ Remnant in Arcadia Legacy</p> <p>PASTORAL CONTACTS/CALLS Homebound Members (2) Families w/ Pastoral needs (3)</p> <p>PASTORAL ACTIVITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helped with Fish Fry set-up, take down, & worked the room • Work w/ Doug on various projects • Begin putting together Advent Series on "Carols of Advent" • Have put together a Hot Air Balloon event for the October Harvest Festival. • Helped Jeff by overseeing concrete work • Picked corn for 10th & 11th distribution • Legacy Ice Cream Social • Started putting together a class for Confirmation. • Start prep for Discovery next month • Front Door Music Fest. 	<p>WORSHIP SERVICES & FUNERALS 9 Services (Saturdays/Sundays) Healing - 4th (Me)</p> <p>MEETINGS Office Staff (5) Executive Committee (1) Church Council (1) Care Team Area clergy meeting @ Remnant in Arcadia Marilyn's Place</p> <p>PASTORAL CONTACTS/CALLS Homebound Members (2) Families w/ Pastoral needs (3)</p> <p>PASTORAL ACTIVITIES Discovery Class (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) Confirmation Class (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) Operation Christmas Child begins (28th) Trivia Night (28th)</p> <p>Since Pastor Doug has pulled away, as per advice from the NALC office, I will be expanding my ministry areas to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attending Care Team meetings and to help them reach our sick and homebound. • Preaching more • Teaching more • And performing all funerals, weddings, and baptisms.

Music Ministry Report

Linc has his Advent Midweek music list available for people to vote on now so that the most popular songs and the people giving a history of the song can be coordinated. Advent midweek will be December 4, 11 & 18.

Please vote for your favorite song or hymn for the Christmas holiday. Vote early vote often for the best results.

Fellowship Ministry

Fellowship met on Monday, August 5. We finished up details on how we will execute on the Trivia Day scheduled for September 28. We also started ideation and planning for the Fall Festival on October 26. We reached out to Linc about working with the music folks and setting up a caroling event in December.