

Burlington Lutheran Council Meeting

Being God's Love in Our Communities



All are welcome in this church community. You are welcome here if you have ever felt excluded or judged because of your gender, ethnicity, race, religion, status, ability, sexual orientation, doubts, or questions. We are a community committed to racial equity, and we believe in Jesus' commandment to love God and love neighbor.

February 28, 2023

2023 Council

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President: Rochelle Hill | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice President: Brad Dana |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treasurer: Millie Fosberg | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary: Janice Burwash |

At-Large Members:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeremy Dierst (1 yr remaining) | OPEN (fill remaining 2-yr term) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Hill Hoffman (2 yr remaining) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eva Yeoman (1 to 3-yr term) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Svaren (2 yr remaining) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John White (Fill remaining 1-yr term) |
- Pastor: Charis Weathers
- in attendance

CALL TO ORDER President Rochelle Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

OPENING PRAYER Pastor Charis led the group in prayer.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL It was MSC (moved, seconded and carried) to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2023 BLC council meeting as presented.

PASTOR'S REPORT Charis gave a synopsis of her February report. Noteworthy: New people continue to come on Sunday mornings and there are currently 4 people interested in becoming members. Holy week services were noted. Charis would like to travel to her parent's and work remotely one week in March. Council gave their approval, and Brad noted that the new Employee Handbook will have guidelines on remote work.

TREASURER'S REPORT Treasurer Millie Fosberg shared the January financial report. She noted that there was a large (one-time annual) donation that for future reports will be divided by twelve and noted as monthly giving. Rochelle noted that it doesn't appear that our nursery attendant has been paid for

services in 2023 and asked that this be looked into. MSC to approve Treasurer's report as presented. Millie will report back to council on the best way to handle reporting large/annual donations.

OLD BUSINESS

1. SEVERE WEATHER SHELTER David has reviewed a copy of a MOU that we received from the county. He felt it was straight-forward and mostly complete; David added four sentences that better define the county's responsibilities. There was discussion about the number of volunteers/staff that would be required and if that number would be static or in a ratio to the number of guests. The question was also raised if any staff would be required to be awake and do safety/fire checks throughout the night. There was also a question about the level of training that volunteers would receive. It was MSC to send the MOU back to Madeleine with the additions David has suggested. David will also be making changes (for Chrais's approval) concerning who manages guest paperwork and how the Policy and Procedure Manual operates as a guideline. Also, when the revised MOU is returned to Madeleine for county approval, Charis will request that our three concerns regarding staffing be addressed in the Policy and Procedure Manual. (Ration of staff to guests, volunteer training, and overnight building safety checks.)
2. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE This committee has met twice to work on creating a BLC Employee Handbook, with additional input from Kathleen Hasselblad. They will bring a draft Employee Handbook to the March council meeting. Rochelle noted that they are also working on HR policies.

NEW BUSINESS AND UPDATES

1. EINER AND RUBY KNUTZEN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE A new committee member is needed to replace outgoing member Grant Burwash. Janice will ask Becky Neff if she would be interested in serving on this committee. Janice will let Charis know if Becky is not able to serve Charis will put out a request for a volunteer to the entire congregation.
2. BLC COUNCIL MANUAL It was suggested that once the Employee Handbook is completed that the Personnel Committee could work on creating a BLC Congregational Council handbook.
3. TECH TASK FORCE This group is gathering information and will bring a recommendation to the March council meeting.
4. BLC GROUPS Janice presented a list of BLC committees and interest groups. The council had a few additions that will be included, and we will be adding contact names for each entry. This document can be used to gather information for the next annual report, and could also be a tool for engaging new members.
5. VISIONING PROCESS John walked the group through several council action steps in this process. It was MSC to accept the draft Value Statements as amended. Charis and Jacob will update the BLC website with the new Value Statements. There was a discussion about next steps and action items based on the Value Statements and input received at the October 2022 congregational brainstorming session. It was suggested that John create a document to share with the congregation that includes: the Mission Statement, the Value Statements, the Action Areas, and

the 2023 Church Plan—which includes Charis’s ideas for upcoming programs and projects. We will aim for a congregational meeting in June to take next steps in this BLC Visioning process.

6. STEWARDSHIP PROGRESS REPORT Janice shared an update on the Fall 2022 Stewardship program, and suggested that for a Fall 2023 Stewardship drive we make sure to follow-up with regular givers who do not return commitment cards. The Council approved monthly “Because we are here..” messages to update the congregation on the array of outreach projects that members are supporting. Janice will write an update on Fall 2022 stewardship to be shared with the congregation along with the first monthly stewardship message.
7. DESIGNATION OF FUNDS FOR \$5,000 GIFT FROM SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS We have received a gift from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Concrete as they are closing and dispersing their funds. Council members were asked to bring suggestions to the next meeting for how these funds could be used at BLC.
8. BLC JOINING FAITH ACTION NETWORK The Social Justice Group has asked about the possibility of having BLC join the Faith Action Network. FAN is a faith-inspired statewide partnership that advocates for social justice through public witness, education, and financial support. It was MSC that BLC join the Faith Action Network, with Brad abstaining from the vote.
9. RECOMMENDING TRACI DRAKE FOR A CALL IN THE NW WA SYNOD Traci Drake is an ordained ELCA pastor who has been attending BLC and is currently on the roster in the SW WA Synod. She now lives on Camano Island and would like to transfer to the NW WA Synod. The transfer process is made easier when a congregation recommends the pastor’s transfer. The Council supports this recommendation for transfer, and also supports allowing Charis to assist in the process—which will include selecting a lay team of four members from the congregation.

NEXT MEETING: 6:00pm - Tuesday, March 28, 2023

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT Charis led the group in a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Congregational Council Secretary,
Janice Burwash

Minutes approved ADD DATE HERE