

# 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.

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023**

## 2023 Council

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|---|---|
| <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)      | <b>OPEN</b> (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

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CALL TO ORDER (quorum 6 members) President Rochelle called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

OPENING PRAYER Pastor led the group in an opening prayer.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL The minutes of the February 28 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

PASTOR'S REPORT Highlights: Pastor Charis noted that filing the 2022 congregational report to the synod brought to her attention that the church rolls need to be "cleaned up" to make sure they reflect current church membership. There will be a second series of church 2.0 with an art emphasis. The neighborhood Lenten meals have been a success. There are several things being done to welcome new and recently new members and help them feel at home at BLC. Plans for Holy week were discussed, including the Saturday Easter Vigil where nine new members will be joining BLC. Charis shared that she appreciated being able to spend a week working from home in Portland.

TREASURER'S REPORT Millie reported that including a large one-time donation that is being divided and reported as monthly offering we are on track year-to-date with income, and expenses year-to-date are running under budget. The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

GUEST(S) There were no guests.

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. \$5,000 GIFT FROM SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CONCRETE. One suggestion for using these funds was to upgrade the AV system in the sanctuary—replacing the screen and projector with a TV screen and any necessary new wiring/cable. It was also suggested that we could tithe a portion to other community groups/projects that align with our mission. It was MSC (moved, seconded, carried) that we allocate \$4,000 to be used for BLC needs and \$1,000 to be donated to other community resources. Nancy and Eva will bring information to the next meeting on the cost of installing a TV in the sanctuary. It was also suggested that members of the council bring suggestions for additional BLC enrichment ideas to the April meeting. Millie proposed that we be thoughtful and creative in how we disperse the \$1,000.
2. FAITH ACTION NETWORK. The February vote to join the FAN was reconsidered, based on learning more about the expectations of FAN members. MSC to rescind our favorable vote to join the FAN.
3. EXTREME WEATHER SHELTER. We have communicated to Madeleine with our edits to the MOU and several concerns we had regarding Policies and Procedures. We have received a response from Madeleine and it appears that possibly the county has accepted all our questions and requests, but we are not certain that this is the case. We are not yet satisfied with stated and implied liability as per the MOU. David will pursue this with someone in the county legal department to have our concerns addressed. The discussion was tabled until David's report at the April meeting. It was MSC to allow Madeleine to use BLC for evening volunteer training sessions on May 30, July 25, and September 26.
4. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE. This item was tabled for a future meeting. Discussions are continuing but there is no draft document to share.
5. BLC COUNCIL MANUAL. Jeremy and Rochelle will work on this and bring a report to a future meeting.
6. TECH TASK FORCE. Brad shared a report from the task force beginning with a schedule for record retention and information on what constitutes a permanent record—in most cases a hard copy of the document (not a scanned copy of the original). He also shared information on a server for onsite digital storage, and he noted that for shared working documents Google offers free cloud storage for non-profits. MSC to proceed with the plan presented by the Tech Task Force.
7. BLC GROUPS. Janice shared an updated list of BLC committees, groups, and on-going projects. This document is a work in progress and will continue to be updated with the name of the contact person for each group. It was also noted that the list should include the days and times that the groups meet.

8. BLC VISIONING PROCESS. John will bring a report to the April meeting, and we are still on track for a congregational meeting on June 4 to continue the Visioning process.
9. FALL 2022 STEWARDSHIP. Janice has written a wrap-up of the Fall 2022 Stewardship drive that can be shared with the congregation. There was a discussion about sending this information out to the congregation along with a quarterly financial report. Millie and Janice will work on this.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. \$5,000 DESIGNATED GIFT FROM THE FAMILY OF DORIS REICHERT. The Reichert family would like to give funds to support a scholarship for BLC members who are pursuing degrees in either medicine or music. Millie shared that we have written a policy that does not allow donations designated for a specific project. It was also noted that there would be a lot of administration required to meet the family's expectations for the scholarship(s). It was MSC that we return the funds to the Reichert family.
2. PNWWGA (Pacific Northwest Washington Gender Alliance) The PNWWGA has requested the use of meeting use space at BLC. It was MSC to allow this group to use the building for an evening meeting on the third Thursday of each month beginning April 20.
3. CLEANING UP MEMBERSHIP ROLLS. Charis and Janice will find our established guidelines for active member status and then go through the current list of members using these guidelines.
4. SELLING BLC T-SHIRTS. Charis presented an idea for offering BLC t-shirts through a third party-- Printful. This would be an alternative to our previous procedure where we paid up front to have t-shirts printed and then sold them to recover the printing costs. The council approved trying this new option.
5. BUILDING USE REQUEST. Pastor Charis received a building use request from a church group whose values conflict with ours. She let them know that the congregational council would make the final decision on accepting their request, but during a phone conversation with Pastor Charis the representative of the group withdrew their request as they realized our values do not align with theirs.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT Charis led the group in a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Congregational Council Secretary,  
Janice Burwash

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting: Tuesday, April 25
- Congregational meeting to continue Visioning process: Sunday, June 4
- Annual Meeting: Sunday, September 24