

Bethany Lutheran Church

Board Directors and Members Orientation Meeting

July 24, 2004

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July 24, 2004 --- Overview

- Opening Bible Study & Pastor's Vision -- Pastor Schmidt
- Bethany Mission Quest status -- Lois Lucas
- Bethany Mission & Organization Structure -- Alan DeFend
- Break
- Meeting Schedule, Events, Etc. -- Alan DeFend
- Planning & Budgeting -- Alan DeFend
- Financial Reporting -- Bruce Johnson
- Closing Discussion

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Pastor Schmidt

Opening Devotion and Vision

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Lois Lucas

Mission Quest Update/Status

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

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The task of the church in the
world. . .

In one sentence, or even one
word, define the mission, the
task, of the Church in the
world.

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

What is Bethany's Mission?

Preaching

Teaching

Service

Worship

Christian Education

Community Outreach

Social Ministry

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

Bethany's Mission:

“EVANGELISM”

Matthew 28: 18-20

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always to the close of the age.”

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

Evangelism..... What does it mean?

Secular dictionary says: "Zealous preaching and spreading of the gospel."

- Bring, Announce, or Proclaim *the* Gospel
- The Gospel is the heart of Evangelism!
- Gospel... The Good News of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

- Our job is to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ in everything we say and do!!
 - Evangelism is our template
 - What would Jesus Do?
- Bethany's Fundamental Mission:
 - Bringing the Gospel to all people , both within the church and outside of it!
 - Hence outreach and family life ministry as essential elements for our action framework

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

- Evangelism is the mission of Bethany
 - All aspects of church life and activities support that task.
 - Use all available tools
 - We have a variety at our disposal
- Evangelism is the task
 - activities accomplish the task
 - Preaching, teaching, service, worship, fellowship, witness, education, outreach

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

- If evangelism is to deliver the Gospel to people, both inside the church and outside the church
- Then the message is the same for the believer & non-believer..... Good News is Good News!
- Strengthening process for the believer.... an appeal to the non-believer.
- Use different methods of message delivery

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Bethany's Mission & Organization

- **Every task in Bethany's ministry has something to do with evangelism.**
- **Who are the Evangelists at Bethany?**
Everyone of us!!
- **Evangelism at Bethany:**
All believers in operation!

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Ablaze!

- LCMS has one mission to seek lost people for Christ
- Synod has set as a united effort reaching 100 million people for Christ by 2017, which is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation
- *Lutheran Witness and Reporter* and other publications have covered

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Ablaze!

- One mission to the ends of the earth
- Ablaze! The theme of LCMS Convention
- Based on Isaiah 49:5-6
 - “And now the Lord says. . .’It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

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Bethany’s Organization

- Bethany’s Structure:
- “Abdon Plan”
 - Our *guideline* is Rev. Donald Abdon’s structure
 - “Organizing Around The Great Commission”
 - He saw a need for a “comprehensive congregational structure and program centered around the Biblical nature and purpose of the Church.”
 - Evangelism is the organizing principle of his material
 - Not a structure of power...but a structure of:
 - Authority
 - Responsibility
 - Service

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Other Abdon Work

- “Training and Equipping the Saints”
- A book about “M”
 - Mission -- what we are to do
 - Method -- how we are going to do it
 - Motivation -- how to involve others
 - Multiplication -- how to get more and more involved in ministering to others
- “Evangelism is getting people to come to church.”
- “Evangelism is getting people to conform to our particular pattern of religious belief or behavior.”

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Bethany’s Mission & Organization

God

Jesus Christ

Office of Ministry*

Congregation

Voters Assembly

Officers

Board Directors

Board Members

* Teaching the Gospel & administering the Sacraments

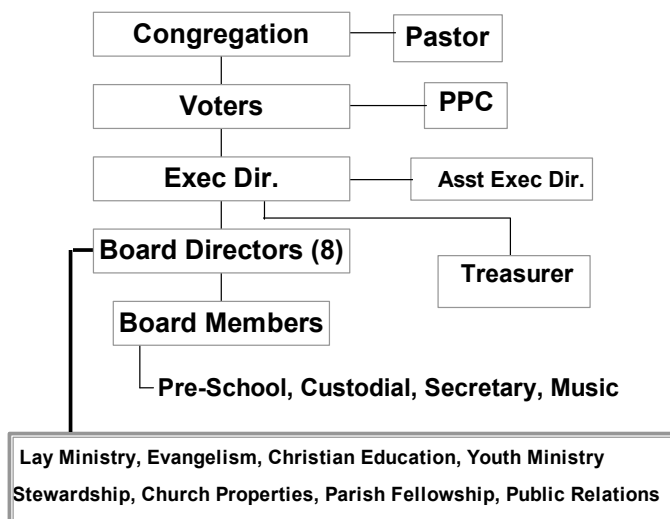
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Bethany's Organization

- Management function at Bethany is carried by:
Officers, Board Directors, & Board Members
- Church is not a business, we may employ the best techniques of management & administration
- Motivation, however... is spiritual in nature

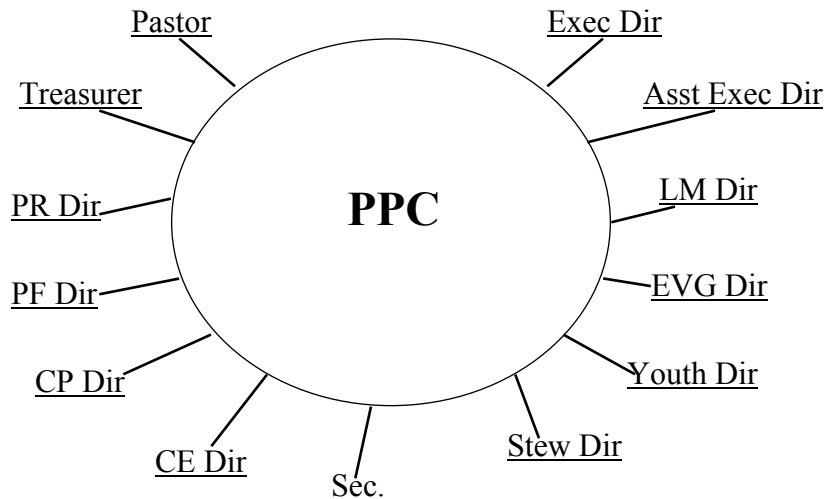
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Bethany's Structure



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Parish Planning Council



Plans, Communicates, & Coordinates

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Constitution & Bylaws

- Constitution -- little more than 3 pages
 - Spells out our purpose; what we believe; synodical affiliation; membership; pastors; organization; property
 - Takes three-quarters vote to amend
- Bylaws of the Constitution
 - Meetings; discipline; elections; PPC; duties of officers; organizations within the congregation; **board functions** - general and specific
 - Amendable with a two-thirds vote

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Recapping. . .

- We've covered thus far. . .
 - Opening devotion and vision
 - Update on Mission Quest
 - Bethany's mission and organization
 - Reference to Abdon's work
- We will turn to
 - Meeting Schedule, Events, Etc
 - Planning & Budgeting
 - Financial Reporting
- But first. . .

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Break!

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Schedules and Events

- Future Board Meetings 1st Mondays at 7:30 p.m. -some exceptions - see calendar
 - Boards can meet at other times
 - Minutes -- send to executive director email
- Parish Planning Council 3rd Mondays 7:30 p.m.
- Voters Meetings 4-5 Meetings Each Year
 - “Saturday Night Alive”
 - Entertainment Needed!

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Schedules and Events

- Synod and District Events
 - Southeastern District
 - 215 Congregations & Missions; 95 Schools
 - 2004 Leadership Conference
 - “Returning to God, Stewardship, A Matter of Faithfulness
 - August 6-8, Richmond, Virginia
 - Sheraton Park South Hotel
 - Dr. George McCalep will preside

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How to Use the Church

- Use the function sheet to schedule activities
 - Sample in your handout
 - Turn it in to Beth Leeman in the Church office
 - Coordinate what you're planning with relevant boards or officers
 - Go directly to the board involved; PPC an option
 - Try to deconflict the dates
 - Beth will do this, but it saves time to ask her first
- Respect for Church property
 - Disney World

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Communication!!

- How good are we at it?
- Resources
 - Board Boxes – internal dist near the stairwell
 - Sunday Bulletin -- see Beth as early as possible
 - Bethany Beacon - deadline to Beth 3rd Thurs.
- Email: amdefend@aol.com
- What's the best way to communicate?

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World Wide Web

- How many know we have a web site?
- Address: www.bethany-lcms.org
- Host of categories such as worship; music; fellowship; education; events and news
- Video sermon each Sunday is in the works
- Know about our new African Style Service?
 - Called: “Freedom Christian Fellowship International at Bethany”
- Currency!!

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World Wide Web

- Updating the site/suggestions
- All Boards must track their information
- PR Board is the focal point
 - Claire Kunkle created our site
 - Melinda Bremmer maintains it
- Send updates/suggestions to Jon Straw
–strawjl@msn.com

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Planning and Budgeting

- Boards plan, budget in the fall for next year
 - Use “Action Plan Worksheets”
 - Refer to previous year planning for carryovers
 - Refer to Bethany 2000 major goals
 - Family Life Ministry
 - Outreach
 - Refer to Mission Quest
- Voters review plans, budgets in November
- More about the schedule in a moment

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Action Plan Worksheets

- Date and Board
- Congregational Primary Target
 - Family Life Ministry or Outreach
- Board Primary Target
 - Typically a population category -- public, congregation
- Preferred Statement of the Future
 - General Statement: “Members of the congregation motivated and equipped to be active in evangelism.”
 - Specific Statement: “Develop and regularly schedule alternative worship services to include contemporary and culturally diverse liturgies and music.”

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Action Plan Worksheets (cont'd)

- The objective
 - Another way of saying how to get to the preferred statement of the future
 - could include a timeline
- Steps
 - The roadmap to the preferred future
- Cost
 - Budget for this element of the plan

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Planning and Budgeting Timeline

- July 24 - discuss budget procedures/timing
- Aug. 16 - Parish Planning Council meeting
 - Treasurer briefs on 03 expenses, 04 YTD, plans for 05 budgeting and distributes budget forms
- Sept. 13 - All Boards
 - Boards continue prep/opportunity for questions
- Sept. 20 - PPC - questions/discussions
- Oct. 4 - All Boards
 - Each Board submits 05 budget forms to Stewardship Board and Plans to Exec Dir

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Planning and Budgeting Timeline

- Oct. 18 - PPC
 - PPC review 05 budget/Voters recommendation
 - Discuss congregational letter re: plans/budget
- Oct. 27 -
 - Exec Dir reviews final Budget and Plan
 - Copies available for congregational pick-up on Nov. 6 and 13
- Nov. 20 - Voters meet to approve plans/bud
 - “Saturday Night Alive”

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Planning and Budgeting Timeline

- Several more weeks built into this year’s schedule
- Seems like a long way off
- Begin thinking now
 - Review 04 plans and budgets
 - Reflect on Mission Quest
 - Begin formulating plans and budgets
 - Questions: Stewardship, Treasurer or Exec Dir

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Financial Reporting

Bruce Johnson

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Recap Questions Discussion

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Thank you!

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Critique

- Was this morning helpful?
- Is there a better time for an orientation?
- Did we cover too much or too little information?
- Did we tell you things you already knew?
- What would make it more interesting/helpful?

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