

# Bethel Council Highlights

Update from our Meeting April 14, 2025

- Response to HSR Listening Session: Over the past few months, Council has taken time to reflect on January's listening session. In April's meeting, we reserved time for the Full Council to reflect and consider our response to our church, which has developed into a congregational letter that will be sent out the week of April 25. Our heart in this communication is provide clarity for the future of our congregation as a Christian Reformed Church, while also committing to a posture of listening to one another as a diverse community that follows Christ in all ways.
- Director of Youth Ministry: The search team made up of Christie Thomas, Marci Mast, Cris Harper, and Dan Wildeboer have now received several applications for the position of Director of Youth Ministries. The process of interviews will begin soon to find the best candidate for the position. We will not proceed with hiring until we find the best person to do the job so it may take a while before the position is filled.
- New Office Bearers: For the past several months we have been considering nominations for new council members. The search has been challenging as we have found difficulty finding enough nominations for people who will let their name stand for the open positions. If anyone has any suggestions for possible candidates, particularly for Shepherding Elder or Deacon, please contact Arnold Groot.
- WillowWood Preschool: At the last Governing Elders (GE), we reflected on our WillowWood pre-school program. Since enrollment was a bit lower than expected this year, we are considering ways to best support the program for the future. With this in mind, we are in search of several potential champions to collaborate with Selikke promote and support the preschool. These people would comprise a board that provides support and oversight as needed throughout the year. If anyone has a heart for WillowWood, which often connects with young families in the neighbourhood, and would like to help out with this task, please contact Selikke, Pastor Cris, or someone from GE. We want to have this new board in place by the beginning of June before Summer begins.
- Budget Deliberations: The Finance team has submitted a proposed new budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The budget will come to Full Council for approval on May 12. Once approved the new budget will come to the church for approval at a congregational meeting in early June.
- Summer Interns: We have again received government funds to run our summer missions programs for the community of Bannerman. The funds are a period of 8 weeks where we will look for 2 intern to run these programs. The process is in place to look for these 2 people. For details about this job posting and information for how to apply, please visit [discoverbethel.com/jobs](https://discoverbethel.com/jobs)

Grace and peace,

The Council of Bethel Community Church

\*If you have any question or comments, please reach out to the different council groups:

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