

Trinity Lutheran Church Council

April 12, 2017

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by Mary Deters at 7:45 pm on April 12, 2017, in the Gathering Room at Trinity Lutheran.

Members Present: Pastor Scaife, Mary Deters, Steve Kemp, Debra Spence, Steve Nelson, Barb Arnold, Jean Ellingson, Mary Zaffke, and Michelle Jahnke.

Also Present: Milly Halverson (Transition Team), Lee Hoekstra (Property Team)

Pastor Jim opened the meeting with prayer.

MSC (Steve N, Mary) to approve the March 8, 2017, **Secretary's Report** as amended.
Complete minutes are on the Trinity website, at the church office, and at the church entrances.

Treasurer's Report – placed on file

- Envelope offering is up 2.6% --giving is ahead of last year at this time.
- Expenses continue to exceed income so "add on" expenses should be kept to a minimum.

PASTORS' COMMENTS:

Pastor Jim

- On vacation April 17-24.
- As part of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP), a minimum compensation guidelines presentation will be held on April 30 and May 7 after worship (to discuss salary, housing allowance, social security offset, etc.). The Business & Finance Team (Lorilyn D) are determining "the figure" that the congregation can support.
- Pastor Jim asked the Council to set aside time for daily prayer -- praying for peace, joy, tolerance, and forgiveness among our members during the interim process so that as a congregation we can be joyful and welcoming for the incoming pastor we await.
- A Prayer Group will be meeting monthly for 45 minutes to "lift up the congregation" and pray for our many ministries.

Pastor Lane

- Monthly report from February 26-April 1 was given to the Council.
- Saturday worship attendance is growing (25-27 attending)!
- As Visitation Pastor, in addition to Saturday worship, his time has been spent making home and hospital visits, serving communion at the Manor/Tweeten Apartments/Assisted Living, and attending staff and team meetings.

TEAM REPORTS:

Care Ministry (Debra)

- Will request that 498-AMEN information be included in the monthly newsletter.

Education (Michelle)

- Pastor Jim and Michelle met with several confirmation students and their families to discuss a plan to fulfill their requirements to be confirmed.
- May 14th is the last day of Sunday School. Caitlin Bratland will be recognized for serving as the Rotation Sunday School coordinator.
- May 21st – Senior Recognition Sunday.
- Dates of Vacation Bible School and Day Camp. TBD (Bekah)
- Sunday School Christmas Program will not be held on Christmas Eve. TBD
- To encourage the purchase of maple syrup, for the benefit of Youth programs, a “tasting” is being planned during coffee hour on May 14th.

Mission in the World (Steve N)

- Next Team meeting is scheduled for April 20th.
- They would like to do a special offering in May in response to the famine crisis in Africa. An article in the May newsletter will offer information about the need and how the monies will be used. (Janna Myrah)

MSC (Mary, Steve N) stating that the current council approves special offerings.

- The Jacobsen's will be on furlough this summer and may visit Trinity. TBD
- The Carrier Food Drive, for the benefit of the Houston County Food Shelf, is May 13, 2017.

Outreach (Mary)

- Time and Talent sheets are being worked on thoughtfully.
- Each month, the Outreach Team is writing a newsletter article highlighting a different “group” in the Church to share with the congregation.
- They are hoping to find another church willing to organize the Community Potluck this summer. TBD

Support (Steve K)

- Staffing is a busy team working on job descriptions, reviews, clarifying the role of the Youth & Family Coordinator position, etc.
- Stewardship is having meaningful discussions asking “Who talks about it? Finance or Stewardship?” Pastor Jim mentioned that today's church has a stewardship emphasis that focuses on the faith aspects of stewardship, not a focus on money. Steve K will address the congregation in the near future.
- Business & Finance will be asked to look at the budget to pay for lawn care/snow removal (since the Olerud Bequest is designated for capital improvements only).
- Communications is defining their tasks
- Property – (see Property Team Leader comments)

Worship (Jean)

- After Easter, we will be using liturgy Setting 10 during worship.
- John Ylvisaker passed away. Sunday, April 23rd will honor his memory by sharing his music throughout worship.
- May 6 – The Luther College Ringers concert, led by Greg Peterson, and Saturday worship service, led by Pastor Lane, will be combined.
- On Sunday, June 25th, during the Homecoming Celebration, the parsonage open house will host the coffee hour.
- There are no Bibles in our sanctuary—Why?

Pastor Jim encourages that there be a Council representative present during important discussions at Team meetings.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Transition Team (Milly H)

- Linda Donoghue has resigned from the Transition Team.
- Sections of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) have been divided out among team members to make the process more efficient.
- Pastor's Description (PD) is ongoing.
- The overall process is going well and is on track.

Property Team (Lee H)

The Council asked for an update from the Property Team on the long-range planning recommendations for Trinity properties (1st parsonage, 2nd parsonage, Trinity Center, Beary Patch).

- Currently, the 2nd Parsonage is part of a compensation package for the Youth & Family Coordinator position.
- Trinity Center/Beary Patch Agreement— the original agreement dated July 1988 states that the relationship is between the church and preschool. According to the agreement "*it shall remain in effect until either party feels the need for revision.*" Lee will find out if the Beary Patch has its own liability insurance in addition to Trinity's insurance. Pastor Jim will contact Bethany Bergsgaard, Preschool Teacher, so that he and Steve K can attend their next Board meeting.
- Property Team requested that the Council accept a bid for the mowing of the church property, (Church, Trinity Center, and 1st parsonage) from Total Lawn Care Service.

MSC (Steve K, Michelle) to accept the recommendation of the Property Team to accept the 2017 seasonal bid from Total Lawn Services for the mowing of church property. This includes the Church and Trinity Center (\$2300) and the 1st parsonage (\$950), for a total cost of \$3250.

- Window replacement is the next "big" project.

Church Directory is ready to go to print (Debra, Jean)

- They received a quote from the SG Herald of \$3.25/each and will order 175 copies. Lenten Supper monies (\$600) were designated towards cost.

Release Time Update

- Next meeting is scheduled for April 25th

Sign-up for Newsletter Article

- Outreach: monthly articles throughout the year
- Mission: special offering
- Education: May events

NEW BUSINESS:**Shared Ministry Request from Mabel First Lutheran**

- Pastor Elliott communicated that they would value a Trinity representative to be a part of their discussions for shared ministry. Karen Bingham volunteered to serve in this role.

Church Bulletin Boards

- After attending the Spring Gathering at Cross of Christ in Houston MN, Mary suggested that our bulletin boards need some attention. She suggested that different groups be responsible for a bulletin board, so they are informative, creative, and ever-changing.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

MSC (Jean, Michelle) to adjourn the meeting at 10 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 10 at 7:45 pm.

In HIS Service,

Karen Bingham