

TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION COUNCIL

April 14, 2021

The Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council meeting was called to order by Saundy Solum at 7:32 pm on April 14, 2021 via Zoom conference call.

Members Present:

Pr. Elizabeth, Dan Alstad, Barb Arnold, Michelle Jahnke, Kim Kapplinger, Steve Kemp, Jan Kraabel, Bethany Moen, Laurie Moen, Saundy Solum, Judy Tollefsrud, Dean Wiste, Lara Wold Mendez

Members Absent:

Mary Zaffke

Pr. Elizabeth opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's Report for March 10, 2021 was edited and approved. MSP (Jan, Dean)

Treasurer's Report (placed on file) Highlights listed below. MSP (Kim, Laurie)

- Offering (envelopes & online offerings) for the first 3 months is \$89,570.00. This is up 11% from 2020.
- Total income for the first 3 months is \$89,570.00.
- Total expensed for the first 3 months is \$95,746. This is down .6% from 2020. \$10,000 less deficit than last year.
- Net income is \$-6,175.00.
- Checking account balance at the end of March is \$12,653.00. This has been spent on payroll and bills.
- From the Finance team, motion MSC, whenever Special Accounts receive \$500.00 in building fund, it will be transferred to Thrivent.

STAFF REPORTS:

Pastor Elizabeth:

1. Just returned from vacation. It was good to get away.
2. So glad to have in person worship again.
3. So good to have the choir sharing their music again.

Pastor Lane:

1. Home Visits with Holy Communion – 6-8 hours
2. Visits w/out Holy Communion –1 hour
3. Homebound connection - Phone calls, delivering Communion Pods - 3 hours
4. Services @ Assisted Living Tweeten Apts and Manor (and Prep) 3-4 hour
5. Services @ Nursing Home 2-3 hours
6. Staff Meeting – 4 @ 2 hours
7. Office Time – 2 hours

8. Sunday/Sat Sermon Prep and Service – 1 @ 12 hours
 9. Lenten Services and prep -2 -8 hours
 10. Hospital Visits
 11. Meetings 0
 12. 498 HOPE - 4 hours
 13. Newsletter – 2 hours
 14. Response Team -1 meeting 1 hour
- Total Hours –50 hour

Bekah Leafblad - Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry:

Sunday School

- Sunday School begins Sunday, April 11. We had 13 students register for the five weeks this Spring.
- The students will be split into two groups, one of older kids and one of younger kids.
- Our topics of discussion are Doubting Thomas, the Road to Emmaus, and the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation

- Confirmation will begin again on Wednesday, April 14. Most groups will meet in person at church with a couple of groups meeting off site or on Zoom.
- Our focus this term is on service to our neighbors and our community.

Release Time

- Release Time has started again and will meet for the months of April and May. We will meet with eight classes once a month on Wednesday afternoons.

3:16s and MSGN

- Our high school youth group continues to meet on Wednesday nights at 8:00 in person at the Trinity Center.
- Middle School Game Nights continue to meet every other Friday night at 7:30 in person at the Trinity Center.

Houseboat Trip 2021

- The houseboat is full at 10 youth participants!
- The houseboat trip will be from July 19-22.
- The cost of the trip is \$375 per person.
- Scott Bingham and I will be the chaperones for the trip.

Easter Breakfast

- We made \$467 for the houseboat trip and the youth account at the Easter Breakfast.

Vacation Bible School

- Education Team has decided to offer VBS for families on Wednesday nights during the month of June. Supper will be offered at 5:30 and activities for families will be from 6:00-7:30.

Confirmation Camp

- Good Earth Village is not offering any overnight camps this summer, so Pastor Elizabeth and I plan on having our own confirmation camp at Trinity for those 31 youth who are eligible.

- Trinity's Confirmation Camp will be June 13-16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday-Wednesday with a lock in on Sunday night.
- We will focus on Bible basics during our teaching time and have fun fellowship mixed in.

Syttende Mai Meatball Dinner

- Bethany and I have started planning for the Meatball Dinner on Sunday, May 16. It will be served as a drive-through from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (or until the 500 meals are gone).

TEAM REPORTS:

Care Ministry (Laurie)

- Met on April 6.
- Moved the Little Free Pantry to new location.
- Had a sign-up for team members to do the packing and to restock the free pantry.
- Start basket by the doors for food donations to Houston County Food Shelf again.
- Asking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels.

Communications (Mary)

- no report

Education (Bethany)

- met by ZOOM last week
- most of the education info is in Bekah's report.

Finance (Judy)

- See Treasurer's report

Outreach (Lara)

- Have not met this past month.
- 20 gift baskets sent to college students and military.

Mission (Dean)

- Have not met.

Property (Dan)

- Meeting this coming Tuesday. Dave Selness contacted Dan to look at re-evaluating the insurance coverage for the church.
- Several trees around the parsonage need to be looked at.

Staffing (Meets the 3rd Thursday each month) (Jan)

- The Staffing Team met with Scott Solberg on April 5th to finalize arrangements for his Temporary Choir Director contract. Scott's temporary contract was adjusted to begin compensation the second week of March when the choir resumed rehearsals and begin recording for Sunday worship services. The choir will continue to practice every week and record selections for worship services through the first Sunday in June. Scott will be reimbursed at \$100.00 per week for this temporary contract and another contract will be in place when the choir resumes practice in the fall.
- Gary Wilhelmson will be on a leave of absence for a few more week. Lee Hoekstra continues to do custodial duties at church and Dana Kjome is covering Gary's responsibilities at Trinity Center.

Stewardship (Steve)

- Working on list of goals from March.

Worship (Kim)

- Have not met.

Book Discussion: *One Coin Found* by Emmy Kegler

- Pr. Elizabeth asked that each council member email her one thing that touched us deeply in the chapters we read or from the book. Pr. Elizabeth will submit a summary for the May newsletter.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Response Team updates
 - Meeting May 4. Will further discuss options as more people become vaccinated.
2. Diversity Task Force update
 - Five of six people who have volunteered. Pr. Elizabeth has an email out to a person to be the leader. Once this is determined, the Diversity Task Force will start meeting.
3. Music Task Force update
 - The Music Task Force met Tuesday, March 16th and questions were finalized for a survey of individuals currently involved in Trinity's music ministry. The survey includes questions designed to gather information on participation, planning, recruitment, and future worship options. Several members who are in the Choir, Praise Band, Handbell Choir and our accompanists will be contacted to provide their perspectives. Results of the survey will be discussed at our next meeting on April 20th.
4. Team Guidelines & Procedures
 - Due by May 1 to Saundy.
5. Security update
 - Free pantry has been moved.
 - Pr. Elizabeth shared thoughts and questions of locking and unlocking the southeast door that leads to the offices. What days? What hours? Who is responsible to lock/unlock? There is a proposal for installing a security lock. Is this the best solution? Do we post strict hours? Not sure if this best idea if folks are coming and going.
 - The staff will start on May 1 using keys to unlock and lock the southeast door. This change will be communicated via the newsletter, signs, etc.
6. Facilities Planning Committee update
 - Will be meeting with the architect and Wieser Brothers in the next few weeks.
7. Finance Team
 - Barb shared that members saw we had building fund for Easter donations, and there are questions from the congregation. Some members are bothered by this request as the building project has not been advertised.
 - There have been specific donations given for this purpose of building an addition.
 - Barb shared a concern from several members because the building fund was an option for Easter donations. Since the project has not yet been voted on by the congregation, the Finance Team feels we should wait on having it listed as a giving option.
 - Pastor Elizabeth and Saundy will make sure we do not have the building project listed as a giving option until there is an approved plan that the congregation has voted on and supported. However, we will accept any donations given for this proposed project.

8. Property Team

- The ramp has been removed.
- Grass seed will be added to the area where the ramp was.
- Information will be submitted in the May newsletter about the removal of the ramp.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Choir Director Contract

- Jan made a motion to extend a temporary contract to Scott Solberg, Choir Director, effective March 10, 2021 to June 10, 2021, Steve seconded. MP
- Another contract will be offered in the fall.

2. Building Fund

- (See notes under Finance Team.)

3. Pr. Elizabeth had two additional items:

- There is a request for use of the building from the Cub Scouts on Sunday, April 25 from 2-4 pm for an event (Pinewood Derby).
- VBS for families on Wednesday nights during the month of June. Supper will be offered at 5:30. Pr. Elizabeth requested that 3 teams join together to host meals for 3 of the Wed nights.
 - June 9 – Communications, Finance, Property
 - June 16 – Care Ministry, Staffing, Stewardship
 - June 30 – Mission in the World, Outreach, Worship

Pr. Elizabeth closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7:30 pm in person.

Upcoming dates:

- Newsletter articles due Friday, April 23.

Submitted by, *Michelle Jahnke*