

TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION COUNCIL

June 14, 2023 • 7:30 p.m.

OPENING BUSINESS:

The Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council meeting was called to order by President, Kim Kapplinger at 7:35 p.m. on June 14, 2023.

Pr. Elizabeth opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members Present:

Pr. Elizabeth, Betty Dokken, Terry Holland, Michelle Jahnke, Kim Kapplinger, Laurie Moen, Leonard (Lenny) Myrah, Steve Nelson, Jerald Oakes, Jacque Wennes, Mary Zaffke

Members Absent:

Bethany Moen, David Storlie, Lori Wilhelmson

Secretary's Minutes for May 10, 2023 were read. Betty made a motion to approve the secretary minutes, seconded by Terry. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (placed on file) - highlights listed below. Lenny made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Mary. Motion carried.

May 1, 2023	balance	\$26,155.76
	51 credits	\$19,656.57
	28 debits	\$31,589.39
May 31, 2023	ending balance	\$14,222.94
	7 outstanding checks	\$6,611.63
May 31, 2023	balance	\$7,561.31

STAFF REPORTS:

Pastor Elizabeth (see attachment)

- Pastor Elizabeth shared that she is eligible for sabbatical April 1. She is planning to take her sabbatical June 1. There will need to be a Sabbatical Committee formed by November. Jacque shared that we do have a budget for the sabbatical. Staff will need to review Trinity's sabbatical policy.

Pastor Lane (see attachment)

Kerri Jahnke (see attachment)

TEAM REPORTS:

Communications (Mary)

- Mary reported that there were 27 at the Artist Prayer event.
- The team is planning to send cards to everyone on the prayer list.

Education (Bethany)

- Good Earth Village Day Camp next week.
 - Counselors are staying with Pr. Elizabeth.
 - There are 25 day campers (K-6). 5 young people (3-4 year olds).
 - There are 4 confirmation youth as helpers.

Finance (Jacque)

- Employee Retention Credit (ERC) funds have started to arrive from the federal government. In May our first installment was \$17,678.15 which included some interest. Funds will be dispersed as they arrive.
- \$3500 to reimburse general fund for ERC consultant fees
- \$2400 Retention Staff Bonus (\$600 to Marlene, Stewart, Scott & Gary)
- \$6000 to First Fruits Mission team is to decide on dispersement
- \$40,000 to Special Projects Fund (new account)
- \$11000 to increase the amount for Loans to ourselves (currently \$14000 with addition will be \$25000)
- The \$6000 offage has been audited and resolved. Going forward this will not happen because Special Accounts is being monitored more closely to balance the Profit & Loss statement with the Balance Sheet for each Special Account.
- An unusual expense in May was “snow removal” for \$6000.

Property (Jerald)

- Boy Scout entrance steps need to be fixed.
- Window in the women’s bathroom needs to be fixed.
- The walk-out between the kitchen and the basement at the parsonage needs replacement.
- Bruce Bergsgaard installed the lightning rods.

Staffing (Betty)

- Robin Bartell ordered sign for the church staff pictures to be displayed on.
- Marleen will take pictures of the staff and post on the website.
- The staffing team would like to feature the teams in the coming newsletters - they are thinking three teams per newsletter. The team would like each team to included their mission. Betty will send an email asking the teams to take a picture of their respective team, and she will have a schedule of when each team will be featured in the coming newsletters. The team pictures will also be added to the website.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Trinity Center and Release Time Committee update
 - Heather Gray has volunteered to be the new chairperson.
 - The committee plans to have a report ready sometime in August or September.
2. Waste Management update
 - No update
3. Stained Glass Window Project update
 - First three windows are done.
4. AED update
 - We will need to put this on hold for now. The Tweeten Foundation has decided to fund EMT Training that will be coming to Spring Grove. This is a huge need to help support and build our Ambulance Service in Spring Grove. The Tweeten Foundation is asking

that Trinity helps advertise this information in the upcoming bulletins. Pr. Elizabeth will reach out to Dean Wiste for more information about the EMT Training.

5. Printer update
 - The new printer is here and is working great!
6. Time & talents update
 - More to come.
7. Trinity Center boiler update
 - Jerald is staying in contact with Dave Eiken.
8. Master Planning Committee update
 - The group engaged in a lengthy discussion of the Trinity Center focusing on its cost and its purpose in the future.
 - A majority of the members strongly suggested selling Trinity Center, while at the same time they unanimously agreed we should preserve the Release Time Program wherever it is housed.
 - Discussion held on the 2023 goals. After much discussion it was apparent that Trinity needs the help of an architect before prioritizing these goals. Eric Frydenlund moved to hire an architect, seconded by Mark Dokken and carried.
 - Jacque Wennes will contact the Kodet firm in Minneapolis to ask them to return to make a presentation.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Congregational Meeting Results and Next Steps: Steeple Project
 - Jason Crawly will be sending the contract - Kim & Jerald will sign.
 - The project will cost \$80,580. The funds will come from the ERC money of \$35K. \$15K from special accounts. Lenny made a motion to use \$30K from the second parsonage funds to complete the funding, seconded by Jerald. Motion carried.
 - Jacque made a motion to take the money from the ERC funds if a down payment is needed, seconded by Terry. Motion carried.
 - There are 12 copper ornaments that will cost \$14K-\$15K to repair. The council suggested having a fundraiser to earn these funds for the ornaments.
2. Use of Trinity Center for mental health counselor
 - Mary shared that there is a therapist from Rochester who is willing to come to Spring Grove once a week and is interested in using the Trinity Center for a meeting location. The therapist will do their own advertising to make the community aware of this service. Mary made a motion to allow the therapist to utilize the Trinity Center to provide mental health counseling, one day a week, and we would review after 3 months. Seconded by Lenny. The council shared concerns with the toilets not working. Jerald will talk to Gary Wilhelmson and Dave Eiken. Motion carried.
3. Holy Spirit Grant
 - Pr. Elizabeth shared that Trinity has an opportunity to rent the billboard on the west side of town being Trinity is part of the Chamber of Commerce. The cost is \$860 for 3 months. Trinity can apply for a Holy Spirit Grant for \$500 to help fund this rental. The rest of the money can come from the general fund. Jerald made a motion to apply for the \$500 Holy Spirit Grant, seconded by Laurie. Lenny shared his thoughts of utilizing the \$500 for seed money to help house some refugees. A lengthy discussion followed. Lenny called for the motion placed. Motion carried.

LORD'S PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

- Betty made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Terry seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m., followed by The Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

UPCOMING DATES:

- VBS June 18-21
- Day Camp June 18-22
- Next newsletter items due July 21 (August newsletter)

Submitted by *Michelle Jahntke*