

Trinity Lutheran Church Council

July 12, 2017

The Trinity Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order by Mary Deters at 7:00 p.m. on July 12, 2017, in the Gathering Room at Trinity Lutheran. Mary welcomed Jacque Wennes as new leader of the Education Team.

Members Present: Pastor Jim Scaife, Mary Deters, Barb Arnold, Steve Kemp, Steve Nelson, Debra Spence, Jacque Wennes, Lori Wilhelmson (Worship), and Mary Zaffke.

Also present: Lorilyn Dehning (Finance Team) and Lee Hoekstra (Property Team).

Pastor Jim opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report for June 14, 2017, was approved.

MSC (Steve K., Mary Z.) to rescind the approval of the May 10, 2017, minutes. The quote from the by-laws concerning the Call Committee mentioned appointing or electing alternates to the Call Committee. No such quote exists in the by-laws.

MSC (Steve K., Mary Z.) to remove " alternates to be appointed or elected to the Call Committee " from the minutes.

The May minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: - placed on file.

- General Fund expenses are down 7.2% and Income is down 4.7%.
- Giving is behind by \$16,000, so we will use the line of credit at the bank to meet expenses
- Accounts Payable total \$18,000.

STAFF REPORTS

Pastor Jim: To save time, Pastor Jim deferred to team representatives present.

Pastor Lane (Visitation Pastor): Pastor Lane outlined his duties and his hours from June 7-July 6. These included 25 hours from June 7-11, 40 hours from June 16-21, and 4 hours plus 7 hours comp time from June 27- July 6.

Bekah Leafblad (Youth & Family Coordinator)

- Five 7th graders (three from Trinity and two from Wilmington) went to Good Earth Village from June 11-16 for Confirmation Camp.
- During confirmation time at camp, students went to Niagara Cave, volunteered at the Spring Valley Food Shelf, visited the Planetarium at Luther College, and volunteered at Good Earth Village.
- So far, none of the older youth (grades 10-12) have come to the Sunday night bonfires. At the Wednesday night bonfires for grades 7-9, 17 youth attended the first week, 5 the second week, and 8 this past week.
- VBS/Day Camp will be held July 17-20. Volunteers from Trinity will teach VBS and counselors from Sugar Creek Bible Camp will teach Day Camp. Volunteers are bringing snacks and lunch for Day Camp, and Trinity members are hosting Sugar Creek counselors for dinner each evening.
- Bekah is in contact with Len Liptack of Faith Lutheran concerning plans for fall Release Time.

- Ten youth have expressed interest in attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX, June 27- July 1, 2018. The Youth fund currently has \$5,089.12. Most of this can be used toward the Gathering.
- Bekah is working on Fundraising ideas for the Youth Gathering. The first fundraiser will begin in September when school starts; it is called the 144-envelope fundraiser consisting of 144 envelopes hanging on a wall in the church. If someone wants to donate to the Gathering, they can take an envelope and put money in the amount the envelope states into the envelope.

A discussion was held concerning why confirmation camp is no longer required for Confirmation.

TEAM REPORTS

Care Ministry (Debra)

- \$2,300 has been given to the Food Shelf.
- The Team is packing HIP lunches for summer school.
- An article will be included in the newsletter and the Sunday bulletin about ways to aid Stacy Storlie, a former member of our congregation, who is struggling with health issues related to MS.
- Twenty-one prayer shawls were distributed during the Homecoming celebration.

Mission In the World (Steve N.)

The team will meet on August 13.

Education (Jacque)

- Nineteen 3-5 year-olds have signed up for VBS. Seventeen K-6 graders will attend Day Camp.
- Rotational Sunday School will continue.
- Release Time will begin in September for grades K-3 for one hour each month.
- Adult Education plans include presentations by Mark Schroeder in August and Jacque Wennes on September 17 and 24 as well as a generational inclusion topic discussion in the fall.

Outreach (Mary Z.)

- The coffee fellowship list is being updated.
- The Time and Talents sheets should be ready by the last two Sundays in July.

Support (Steve K.)

- **Stewardship:** The team will include a statement with the church's six-month statement thanking for past contributions and asking for continued support.
- **Staffing:** The team is working on Appreciation Sunday for Linda Pierce and also trying to fill her position. Job descriptions continue to be a part of their efforts.

Worship (Lori)

- The team plans to do a before-and-after video of the parsonage renovation.
- The August 13 dedication of the Steinway piano will be expanded to include both the carillon and the piano donated by the Roverud family.
- The wedding guidelines booklet will be put on hold until after we have a new pastor.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- **Update on meeting with Church Building Consultant:** The consultant's report along with a document of suggestions and procedure will be emailed to council members tomorrow.

- **Call Committee update:** The council will present a slate of seven names; other names will be received from the floor. The congregation will vote for no more than six. The four who receive the highest numbers of votes will comprise the Call Committee. The next two highest vote getters will serve as alternates with voice but no vote. Steve Nelson, Debra Spence, Lee Hoekstra, Lorilyn Dehning, Lori Wilhelmson, and Steve Kemp will serve as vote counters at the congregational meeting.
- **Newsletter articles:** Debra and Mary Z. will have articles in the next newsletter.
- **Property Team report:** Property Team leader Lee Hoekstra made the following motion:
MSC (Lee, Debra): Due to the fact that ministry needs drive the use of the building space, and because Trinity has refocused the need for youth and family ministry, and due to the fact that the existing office space is inadequate for the current and future needs of our staff, the Property Team proposes that an office sway/renovation be conducted to make better use of these spaces from the standpoint of safety, privacy, and overall functionality.
Funds up to \$5,000 will be taken from the Alma Olerud bequest to cover this project.
 - Lee noted that in 2015 a proposal was made to upgrade the sound system in three phases: The sanctuary (\$9,600), the choir/pulpit mics \$7,500), and the basement audio (\$3,000) in the next five years. If there is no interest in doing this at present, the Property Team would like to move the existing system to the back of the church. The Team was given a directive by the Council to find out how much it would cost to accomplish such a move.
 - The Property Team is also interested in getting appraisals of both parsonages and Trinity Center.

NEW BUSINESS

Parsonage renovation: Council members were encouraged to demonstrate leadership on this project by pledging/giving by July 24. The total raised thus far is \$2,700.

Van donation: Kim and Nolie Kapplinger would like to donate their used van to the church. Steve Nelson will check on liability issues and other details concerning the transfer of the title to the church.

Sabbatical/Parental Leave Policy: The Staffing Team is working on these policies.

Sale of 2nd parsonage:

- The motion was made and seconded (Lorilyn, Debra) to sell the second parsonage and to use the sale proceeds in the following way: \$6,000 to repay the line of credit, \$50,000 to the Heritage Endowment so that we can begin using the interest from that fund, \$30,000 to the general budget, and \$10,000 to the youth. Discussion followed.
- **MSC (Steve K., Steve N.)** to table the motion until the August meeting.

Pastor Jim closed the meeting with a prayer.

MSC (Steve K., Debra) to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Janna Myrah, Acting Secretary