

TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION COUNCIL

August 10, 2022 • 7:30 pm

OPENING BUSINESS:

The Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council meeting was called to order by Saundy Solum at 7:30 pm on August 10, 2022.

Pr. Elizabeth opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members Present:

Pr. Elizabeth, Dan Alstad, Betty Dokken, Terry Holland, Michelle Jahnke, Kim Kapplinger, Steve Kemp, Bethany Moen, Laurie Moen, Steve Nelson, Saundy Solum, Judy Tollefsrud, Dean Wiste, Mary Zaffke

Secretary's Report for July 13, 2022 was read, edited, and approved. Mary made a motion to approve the secretary minutes, seconded by Judy. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (placed on file) Highlights listed below. Bethany made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Betty. Motion carried.

- General Fund account – Merchants Bank
 - July Offering \$17,596.59
 - July income \$20,022.87
 - July expenses \$43,717.06
 - net loss \$-23,694.19
 - Jan. – July 31, 2022, net loss \$-37,422.17
 - July 31, 2022, account balance \$6,171.41
- Special Accounts
 - Merchants Bank
 - Jan. – July 31, 2022, income \$22,787.32
 - Jan. – July 31, 2022, expenses \$146,121.97
 - Jan. – July 31, 2022, Net loss \$-123,334.65
 - July 31, 2022, balance \$176,342.10
 - Building Project – Thrivent
 - January 1, 2022 balance \$566,517.76
 - July 31, 2022 balance \$498,060.61
 - Canton First Southeast Bank
 - Trinity Center \$15,110.28
 - Church \$3,875.66
 - Merchant Bank
 - All Endowments \$14,863.10
- Luther League account – Merchant Bank
 - Jan. – July 31, 2022, income \$14,323.86
 - Jan. – July 31, 2022, expenses \$12,260.26
 - Net income \$2,063.60
 - July 31, 2022, balance \$24,382.73
- Thrivent Charitable Investing
 - Heritage Endowment

▪ January 1, 2022	\$727,634.80
▪ June 30, 2022	\$651,782.35
○ Rosendahl	
▪ January 1, 2022	\$150,673.26
▪ June 30, 2022	\$134,409.39
○ Mission Endowment	
▪ January 1, 2022	\$104,527.32
▪ June 30, 2022	\$93,287.05
○ Education Endowment	
▪ January 1, 2022	\$394,446.83
▪ January deposit	\$90,000.00
▪ June 30, 2022	\$437,130.90

STAFF REPORTS:

Pastor Elizabeth:

1. We couldn't have had a nicer day for our outdoor worship at Trollskogen Park on July 31, with Stewardship serving a "Servant Sunday" meal after. Thanks to the Worship and Stewardship Teams, along with Lee and Scott, for making it all possible. Our next outdoor worship service will be August 28 on the north lawn of the church.
2. The thing I'm focusing on the most right now is the Master Plan, and specifically the windows. Several of the Master Plan team members went to Austin to visit a church that underwent a project very similar to ours. We'll discuss the recommendation for a windows vendor tonight, as well as next steps on the proposed addition. We have received several generous gifts and pledges toward the window project.
3. I'm thankful to the Staffing Team for getting all the employee renewal documents together. This was a big task that will help us tremendously going forward during evaluations and yearend salary increases. We are getting more and more "buttoned up" in our documentation and communication. We will also discuss a slight update to Kerri's contract later tonight.
4. I had a very exciting day at the International Owl Center on July 23. Tornado! "Basement!" Loss of electricity with the owls!
5. I am on the SEMN Synod's Fall Theo Planning Team again this year. Plans are starting to come together for that yearly event, which occurs November 13-15 in Onalaska this year. It's a great time for rest, learning, and networking with my peers.
6. As I think you all know, I am a member of the SG2030 team. I hope you all have a chance to look at the work done by that team, as well as the recent CIRD team in Spring Grove. There are many exciting opportunities for the town. One proposal could affect the Trinity Center, but it is currently just a proposal. One step at a time.
7. Also to be discussed tonight: Release Time will be at the Heritage Center. All other youth activities will be here at church, with some proposed changes to the Gathering Room to turn it into a Youth-centered room.
8. Will be focusing on the weeks/months ahead on mental health. She will be taking webinar tomorrow regarding mental health. In September, she will be attending a one-day class that is strictly for rural pastors. Pr. Elizabeth order a book called, "All Who Are Weary" by Emmy Kegler. This book has twelve chapters regarding mental health. She would like the council to read this book by our October meeting, in which we will plan to discuss this book.

Pastor Lane:

1. Home visits with Holy Communion: 11 for 13 hours total
2. Home visits without Holy Communion: 3 for 4 hours total
3. Phone calls: 2 hours
4. Services at Assisted Living: 1 hour
5. Services at Nursing Home: 0 hours
6. Services at Manor: 1 hour
7. Services at Tweeten Apt: 1 hour
8. Staff meeting: 3 for 3 hours total
9. Office time: 1 hour
10. Sunday/Saturday sermon prep and service: 1 for 12 hours total
11. Hospital visits: 0 hours
12. Driving time:
13. Continuing Ed hours:
14. 498-HOPE: 15 times for 4 hours total
15. Newsletter: 0 hours

Total Hours: 41 hours

Funeral – Sharon Buxengaard

3 Sunday Services at Wilmington Lutheran Church

Kerri Jahnke (Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry):

1. Rally Sunday
 - a. Sept 18th
 - b. Outside at Trinity Church
 - c. Activities for youth and children
 - d. Registration table/ Sign up table – Ed Team member to be at this table
 - e. Serving Ice cream – Ed Team members
 - f. 3yr. old Bibles and 3rd grade Bibles
 - Blessing of the Teachers and Students
 - Backpack Tags
2. Sunday School Prep and Plan
 - a. Starts Sept 25th
 - b. Pre-K – Kindergarten meets in the Boy Scout room Sunday mornings 10: 15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
 - c. 1st and 2nd grade meet in the NEW youth room (?)/ Gathering Room Sunday mornings.
 - d. 3rd – 6th grade meet in the Fellowship Hall/ new youth room (?) Wednesday nights from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. starting September 28th.
3. Confirmation
 - a. Confirmation Orientation Sept 14th
 - b. First day of Confirmation Sept. 28th – (Fall Meatball dinner is the 21st of Sept.)
 - c. Working on finding Confirmation mentors for incoming 7th grade youth
 - d. Fall Electives/ people to lead electives
 - e. Rite of Confirmation – October 30th

- f. Pr. E presents the Confirmation schedule and topics to Ed Team
- g. Confirmation Retreat November 4-6 at Expeditions Unlimited (Baraboo) 7th -9th grade youth
- h. 10th grade pre "rite of Confirmation" retreat October 15-16 at TBD
4. Release Time – Working with Pr. Len Liptack and Principal Luke Kjelland; we will start the first week in October – Release Time will meet at Giants of the Earth Heritage Center on Wednesdays.
5. Youth Room at the Church – NEW IDEA
 - a. We will be asking the church council to consider the Gathering Room to be changed into a youth room, the current youth room in the Trinity Center, will be moved down to the church.
 - b. Paint/ make it youth friendly
 - c. AA would meet in the Boy Scout room
 - d. Buy a big rug to make it feel more homey and friendly.
 - e. Put up the 70" TV
6. 2023 HS Mission Trip
 - a. Info Meeting September 25th at 10:15 a.m.
 - b. 9th -12 grade youth invited
 - c. Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
 - d. Date July TBD
7. Adult Education/ Small Group Ministry
 - a. Chosen small group study
8. Youth Luther League Account/ Trips account – \$24,453.53

TEAM REPORTS:

Care Ministry (Laurie)

- Working on storage for HIP program. Working with the school to find space for storage. HIP meals go out in October.
- Possibly have storage at Trinity. Possibly pack out of the boy scout room.
- Received a \$500 grant from Southeastern Minnesota Synod's Food Ministry Grant.
- Received a \$200 check from Spring Grove United Fund for the little free pantry.

Education (Bethany)

- Kerri's report has education details

Outreach (Terry)

- Outreach helped with helping hands.
- There are lefts-overs from the donations from helping hands that can be used for love day.
- The Lion's Den Clothing Corner is the Outreach Team's new project. Carry Thorson has been working with assistant superintendent, Gina Meiners to find a location in the school for clothing donations for children. They plan to have a drop-off place here at Trinity. There is money set aside for clothing racks.

Property (Dan)

- Gary Wilhelmson asked the property team to look at and do some work on the door that goes to the basement at the parsonage.

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

- Working on recommendations for 2023 salaries.
- All staff now have an updated, signed contracts.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. COVID protocols
Keeping monitoring the local and county cases.
2. Master Planning Committee update
 - a. Stained glass windows
 - 4 Different bids, from Staige (Onalaska), Willet Hauser (Winona), Cathedral Crafts (Winona), and Reinharts (Winona). Staige can start in January. Staige will do a window at a time. Windows are guarantee for 25 years. Dan made a motion to fix the three south windows and to go with Staige out of Onalaska with a bid of \$78,215 plus time and materials if items need to be fixed. Seconded by Dean. Motion carried. This motion will need to be brought to the congregation at a special congregational meeting. We have received \$28,000 donations to date, \$30 pledge by the end of the year, \$30 pledge from a donor in the cities, and \$35 coming from heritage endowment fund.
 - Congregational Special Meeting on Sunday, September 25 to vote on the window repair.
 - b. Comprehensive facility plan
 - Went to look at a couple of churches in Austin and not too impressive.
 - The committee would like to hire an architect to look at the entire church, look at our master plan, and give us a vision of what Trinity should look like.
3. Benefit update for Kerri
 - There was miscommunication to Kerri regarding her benefits last year and this now has been corrected.
4. Release Time update
 - Release Time be at Giants. It's a 3-minute walk from the school. Looking at making a donation to Giants for use of their space. Kerri will walk the children from school to Giants, and then back to school following their Release Time sessions.
5. HIP storage update
 - Laurie will look at spaces in the narthex on the unlocked side of the church.
6. Trinity update
 - Beary Patch is now having 4k at the school.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Process when we borrow money
 - Bookkeeper can request to borrow money, and either the president or treasurer need to verify with the bank.
2. AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
 - Pr. Elizabeth will double check the church, but she does not think that Trinity has an AED.
 - Dean will bring this need up at Tweenen Foundation as they donate AED's to various organizations. He will also check with other area churches.
3. Gathering space/youth room
 - Bethany made a motion to change the gathering room to a youth room. Seconded by Steve. Motion carried.

LORD'S PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

- Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mary seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:12pm, followed by The Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING DATES:

- Next newsletter items due August 19.
- Fall All Team Retreat – October 2, 11-2:30, Giants of the Earth Heritage Center

Submitted by *Michelle Jahnke*