

TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION COUNCIL

September 8, 2021

The Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council meeting was called to order by Saundy Solum at 7:35 pm on September 8, 2021.

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, Mary Zaffke

Pr. Elizabeth opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's Report for August 11, 2021 was read and approved. MSP (Dean, Jan)

Treasurer's Report (placed on file) Highlights listed below. MSP (Dan, Mary)

- January through August offering (envelopes & online offerings) \$167,320
- Total income to date (January to August) \$225,730
- Total expenses to date (January to August) \$24,1315
- Year to date Net Income \$-15,585
- Checking account balance at the end of August \$12,573

STAFF REPORTS:

Pastor Elizabeth:

Starting up programs in the next week. Go one week at a time.

Pastor Lane:

1. Home Visits with Holy Communion: 4 @ 4 hours
2. Visits W/out Holy Communion: 2 @- 2 hours
3. Services @ Assisted Living, Tweeten Apts. and Manor (and prep): 3 @ 4 hours
4. Services @ Nursing Home: 1 @ 1 hour
5. Staff Meeting: 4 @ 3 hours
6. Office Time: 4 hours
7. Sunday/Sat Sermon prep and Service: 2 @ 23 hours
8. Hospital Visits: 4 @ 4 hours
9. Driving time: 6 hours
10. Continuing Ed: 0
11. Meetings: 0
12. 498-HOPE: 13 times @ 3 hours
13. Newsletter: 1 hour
14. Response Team: 1 hour

Total Hours: 56 hours

Funerals for Morris Tweeten and Beulah Onstad: 15 hours

Funerals for Mabel Area - Marsha Wart and Elenore Iverson: 14 hours

Kerri Jahnke- Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry:

Sunday School Prep

- We will be continuing to use the Rotational Sunday School Curriculum
- Lessons are ready to go
- Looking for teachers/ guides
- First day will be September 26th
- Mailed and communicated Sunday School Plan for 2021-22

Confirmation

- Confirmation Schedule is ready for 21-22
- Working on confirming and finding mentors
- We invited Mabel First Lutheran to Join our program this year, they have accepted and will be added to our program. We invited Scheie Lutheran as well, and we are waiting to hear back from them.
- Looking for adults to lead ELECTIVE classes for our fall trimester of confirmation.
- Confirmation orientation will be September 22nd
- Mailed and Communicated Confirmation plan for 2021-22

ELCA Youth Gathering 2022

- Information meeting will be held September 26th at 10:30am
- July 24 -28, 2022
- 9th-12th grade youth invited

Highschool Youth

- Meet every Wednesday after Confirmation in the Youth Room at Trinity Center 7:45pm-9pm
- Start September 22nd
- HS youth Retreat in October

Release Time

- Working with Pastor Len Liptack and Principal Kjelland to plan Release Time.
- The Program will start October 6th
- Pr. Len will teach and I will provide the Faith 5 activities
- K - 6th grades invited

4th - 6th grade Youth Group

- Once a month starting October
- Wednesday after School 3:30 - 5:30pm

Middle School Game Nights

- Start in October

TEAM REPORTS:

Care Ministry (Laurie)

- Shawl ministry has been on pause. It's been a couple of years since shawls have been given. The team is currently working on a list of people who need the prayer shawls. Laurie asked the council members to let her know if we know of someone or family are in need of the ministry.
- Team is looking to increase the HIP lunches. Laurie talked to Rachel Udstune today and discussed sending a flyer in the free lunches that are sent home to the families. Currently all students getting free meals. Laurie said the team should be able to fund this ministry through Channel 1. States this is still in a work in progress.

- Laurie is looking for a volunteer or another team to take on the meals on wheels delivery schedule for Trinity members. Asked teams to think about taking this ministry over. Lara will talk with Outreach Team.

Communications (Mary)

- Working on scheduling a meeting.

Education (Bethany)

- Kerri working on Sunday School and Confirmation preparation.
- Sunday School teachers are needed, confirmation mentors are needed, and elective credit teachers are needing for fall semester.
- 2022 Youth Gathering information will be sent out in the near future.

Finance (Judy)

- Working on the budget.

Outreach (Lara)

- Meeting next week.

Mission (Dean)

- Met and discussed the budget.

Property (Dan)

- Plan to take tour of properties with Gary Wilhelmsen.
- Fridge in kitchen running constantly running. Hammes Refrigeration will be coming to look at the fridge and fix the issue.
- Laurie shared that Paul Morken stated that the sidewalks, curb, and gutter are being done next year on the west side of the church.

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

- The Staffing Team met twice in August.
- Scott Solberg, senior choir director agreed to continue in his temporary contract as choir rehearsals begin in September. His former contract will resume when restrictions on indoor singing are lifted.
- A proposal for 2022 salaries for staff and pastors was sent to the Finance Team. The suggested increases were made based on a wage freeze for pastors and staff in 2021.
- Discussion continues this month on salary adjustments for our recent hires: Bookkeeping and CYF ministry.

Stewardship (Steve)

- Has not met yet.

Worship (Kim)

- Meeting on September 12.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Response Team update

- We will continue to message to please wear masks to protect others. Thus far, most people are wearing masks to church. Also Sunday School will be outside as long as possible. We will continue to set an example and encourage wearing masks when inside.
- We will continue to watch numbers and if needed or if the school mandates masks, we will also require masking to protect others. Our next meeting is set for two weeks on Tuesday, September 21 at 8pm.

- Fellowship still is on hold
 - If funeral wants a lunch, WELCA will mask up and provide this for the families that request.
2. Facility Planning update
 - Met with Wisser brothers with questions and facility planning team will be meeting in a couple of weeks.
 - Saundy will submit an article for the newsletter to update the congregation on the progress of the facility update and plans.
 3. All-Team Retreat recap
 - Saundy thanked council members and their team members for attending.
 - Saundy would like each team to find a goal for 2022 to the guidebook and is the hope this will be an annual occurrence.
 4. Diversity Conversations update
 - Group is working on putting together a lending library that has information about inclusion.
 - Looking for resources for an online speaker – Viterbo has some resources for speakers regarding diversity
 - Also looking for online resources to be published on Trinity’s website.
 - Working on selecting a book for the diversity team to read and discuss as a team.
 - Next meeting is on September 21st at 6:30pm, at Joe’s Coffee House
 - Plan to contact other congregations and the school to let the community know the diversity conversations group.
 5. Budget
 - Need to cut 50,000 to have a balance budget. Council reviewed the initial budget line by line. Some things were decreased, and some things increased. Barb and Judy will take the revisions back to Lorilyn Dehning to revise.
 - Need to plan a budget around the mission of the church.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Property
 - Saundy reported a couple of items that need to be looked at by the property committee.
 - a. Bell tower and bell rope, screen
 - b. Sacristy door – Gary will work on shaving off the bottom of the doors so they are easier to open and close.
2. Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity by Michael R. Ward
 - Pr. Elizabeth would like the council members to read this book for our next book study
 - The book is about mission – God is calling us to a particular mission in this time.
 - Pr. Elizabeth will order each council member a book from Augsburg. It is 9.59 for each book. Council members will give Pr. Elizabeth \$10 for the book to cover tax and shipping.
 - c. Upcoming fundraisers:
 - November 7 if for Bag-A-Buck for Houston County Food Shelf
 - Thanksgiving offering for Christmas Cheer
 - Both fundraised approved, Judy, Steve, MSP

Pr. Elizabeth closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming dates:

- Newsletter items (for October) due September 17
- Book reading discussion will be November. Please read sooner as this will help when discussing the budget at the October council meeting.

Submitted by, *Michelle Jahnke*