

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2018 Annual Meeting

January 13, 2019

The annual meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church was called to order on January 13, 2019 at 10:30 am in the sanctuary by President Mary Deters.

Serving as Parliamentarian: Carlyn Kraabel

Pastor Elizabeth opened the meeting with prayer and litany.

Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes (placed on file)

Acceptance of Financial Reports

Barbara Arnold, treasurer, explained the year-end financial report as positive. She thanked the congregation for their continued financial support and generosity. All 2018 obligations were met by year end, except paying back the \$14,000 borrowed from ourselves. The \$10,000 line of credit from Merchants Bank was also paid back in full. In addition to our benevolence to SEMN synod, Trinity gave \$27,000 to mission work outside our congregation.

Special thanks to Lorilyn Dehning for volunteering her time and talents towards improvements to our bookkeeping system.

Acceptance of Bylaw Changes

Janna Myrah gave a summary of changes to the bylaws – showing all deletions and additions to the previous bylaws. A “strike-out” copy of the revised bylaws for Trinity Lutheran Church was presented.

Parliamentarian Carlyn Kraabel explained that bylaw changes to the Constitution require a two-thirds vote in the affirmative to pass. No amendments to the bylaws can be done today, but can be done in the future. (See B20.01 – B20.05: Amendments to the Bylaws)

Barb Arnold addressed the bylaw changes to the voting members of the Congregation Council (See B12:02), which have been changed to give a vote to the secretary, treasurer and lead pastor, following ELCA guidelines.

MS (Janna Myrah, Mark Schroeder) to approve the bylaw changes as presented. **Motion Carried by paper ballot:** 60 YES, 12 NO

Acceptance of the 2017 Ministry and Ministry Support Reports

Each Team Leader submitted a report of the year's activities which are printed in the Annual Report.

Pastor's Remarks

Pastor Elizabeth reminded us that it is easy at an annual meeting to focus on our "accomplishments" and there are many amazing things to celebrate at Trinity this past year! However, she encouraged us to begin 2019, focusing on what we are doing to fulfill God's mission for the church in this world.

She reminded us that we are a tremendously blessed congregation in so many ways with engaged people, music, and team leaders that are excited about what they are doing. She feels called to Trinity, but admits that she has the "What Next" syndrome. *What is God calling us to do next? What does our neighbor need from us? How do we fill our hearts with faith?* She is glad that we are all in it together and give thanks for all of us every day.

A special thank you to Marlene for all her efforts preparing the annual report. She asked us to pray for our synod, as we elect a new bishop in 2019.

Presentation of the 2019 Proposed Budget and Vote

Lorilyn Dehning presented the 2019 budget. She thanked the congregation for their continued financial support, the Finance Team for all their work on the budget, and the Council for their support.

- The budget presented for 2019 is \$303,000.
- It is "in the black" by \$560.00. In order to be "in the black", the benevolence to SEMN Synod in 2019 is 6%.

MS (Lorilyn Dehning, Jan Kraabel) to accept the proposed 2019 Budget. **Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Presentation of the 2019 Ballot and Elections

The ballot for 2019 was presented. Thanks to the nominating committee for their work putting the ballot together, to all who said YES to serving, and to Mary Zaffke, whose term ends, for her faithful service as the Outreach Team Leader.

MSC (Jim Gray, Kim Kapplinger) to approve the 2019 Ballot as presented.

Other Business

- Bev Nelson, representing the Visioning & Planning Team, gave an update on what they have been tasked to do: to gather information based on the ministry needs of our facility and/or changes to be made. They have begun gathering input and will be offering open forums, with the hope that everyone is given a “voice” in the process. They have set a goal of May 1st to present their findings to the Congregation Council.
- Building, Finance, and Communication teams will be formed to move forward with any proposals.

A closing prayer was given by Pastor Elizabeth.

The 2018 Annual Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Bingham