

**\*\* SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING \*\***

**Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council**

October 9, 2019

The Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council meeting was called to order by Mary Deters at 7:45 pm on October 9, 2019 in the Gathering Room.

**Members Present:** Mary Deters, Steve Nelson, Lorilyn Dehning (for Barb Arnold), Bekah Leafblad (for Jacque Wennes), Steve Kemp, Willy Leafblad, Milly Halverson, and Lara Wold Mendez.

Pr Elizabeth opened the meeting with prayer.

**Secretary's Report** for September 11, 2019 was approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report** (placed on file)

- The balance as of September 30, 2019: \$1,313.95 in checking; \$7382.67 in bills; \$28,752 loss (line of credit at bank, line of credit from ourselves)

**STAFF REPORTS:**

Pastor Elizabeth (full report placed on file)

- She has had 3 weeks of no preaching.
- September events have been AWESOME! (New Member Sunday, Meatball Dinner, Rally Sunday)
- She will be attending the Fall Theological Conference, November 3-5 in New Ulm.
- A Farmer's Round Table will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Giants from 1-3pm. The focus will be opportunities in the construction industry.

Pastor Lane

- Report to the Council included 44 hours of ministry:
  - 9 Home Visits with Holy Communion (11 hours)
  - 3 Visits without Holy Communion (4 hours)
  - 3 Services at Tweeten Apts, Assisted Living, and Manor (3 hours)
  - 1 Service at Nursing Home (1 hour)
  - 3 Staff Meetings (2 hours)
  - Office Time (3 hours)
  - 1 Sunday Sermon Prep and Service; Saturday included (12 hours)
  - 2 Hospital Visits (1 hour)
  - Road Time (7 hours)
- 1 Funeral (6 hours)

Bekah (full report placed on file)

- In her report, Bekah shared faith activities, fundraisers and gatherings that children, youth, and families of our congregation are engaged in.
- There are currently 94 K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in the Release Time program. Teaming up with Calvary is going well!
- The first rotation of Sunday School is wrapping up; 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade students "love" the Connect curriculum.

### **Care Ministry (Milly)**

- The Wisdom Luncheon was cancelled due to only two rsvp's.
- Bag-a-Buck will be held November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Education (Beckah)**

- The Ed Team has not met while Jacque has been on vacation.

### **Mission in the World (Steve N)**

- Their next project is the Alternative Giving Fair, to be offered between Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- A thank you was received from Sunrise North for Trinity's donation.
- A fundraiser for the Habitat project was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Outreach (Lara)**

- Follow ups are being made with new members.
- Four more families want to join Trinity!

### **Support (Steve K)**

#### Property

- Karr Tuckpointing Co of Vinton, IA has begun the tuckpointing project. They are finding some issues with the soft brick, so it is taking more time (in addition to the weather delays).
- Some walnut trees at the parsonage may need to come down, since walnuts are falling on cars.

#### Stewardship

- A gift-in-kind has been received: a large bible in memory of Beryl Blexrud.

#### Communications

- No report.

#### Finance

- (see New Business)

#### Staffing

- Staffing will present a revised PTO policy to the Council by the December meeting.
- Family Leave for Bekah was discussed and a recommendation from Staffing was presented.

**MSC (Steve K, Karen B)** to give 6 weeks of paid time off for maternity leave to full time employees, not including vacation/PTO time.

- A performance issue has arisen with the half time custodial position. Pastor Elizabeth will facilitate a face-to-face meeting with Kayla, a member of the Staffing Team, and herself to address it.

### **Worship (Willy)**

- Purchasing new liturgy booklets for Advent Vespers.
- Working on scheduling regular piano and organ maintenance.
- Ordering compostable communion cups.

### **CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

#### Update on Facilities Planning Team

- A third interview with CRW from Rochester is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### Update from Nominating Committee

- The committee's first meeting was October 8<sup>th</sup>. They will meet again on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm.

#### Update on Tuckpointing

- (see Property report)

#### Update on Beary Patch

- Accepted the Council's decision to charge rent for the use of Trinity Center (for cleaning and utilities).

#### Update on Constitution Changes

- To date there have been no volunteers.
- Constitution changes take time to complete and will not be done before the annual meeting.

#### Ad hoc Committee

- Clarification was given to the committee. Their task: to discuss the pros and cons of keeping or selling Trinity Center.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### First Reading of the 2020 Budget

- It was the consensus of the Finance Team to present a balanced budget.
- All Teams were asked to review the budget and let Lorilyn know of any changes before November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Portico – Health Benefit (Staffing)

**MSC** (Steve K, Milly H) to continue with the Silver Plan C benefit package for another year and continue with the \$1200 per year in additional HSA coverage.

#### D & O Insurance (Directors & Officers)

**MSC** (Steve K, Lara) to approve adding D&O insurance to our current insurance policy.

#### Syttende Mai Norwegian Food Stand

**MSC** (Steve K, Steve N) to allow the use of Trinity's Federal Tax ID# by the Syttende Mai Norwegian Food Stand, as required by the bank.

#### Parish Nurse Information

- Trinity has been approached about the opportunity to have a part-time volunteer parish nurse. Jan Kraabel is involved in researching how a parish nurse might serve as a resource within our community.

#### Nominating Committee

**MSC** (Mary D, Steve N) to approve Judy Tollefsrud, Barb Arnold, and Jessie Strinmoen to serve on the nominating committee.

#### Naming Trinity as Beneficiary

- Marlene is working with an insurance company to provide them with information (Trinity's EIN, address, phone) so that an interested party can designate Trinity as a beneficiary of one of her policies.

Pastor Elizabeth closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

**Next Meeting: November 13, 2019 at 7:45 pm in the Gathering Room.**

In HIS Service,

*Karen Bingham*