

Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council

August 9, 2023 7 pm

Opening Business

The Trinity Lutheran Congregation Council meeting was called to order by President, Kim Kappliner at 7:03 p.m. on August 9, 2023.

Pr. Elizabeth opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members Present: Pr. Elizabeth, Betty Dokken, Terry Holland, Kim Kapplinger, Steve Nelson, Jacque Wennes, Lori Wilhelmson, David Storlie, Bethany Moen, Jerald Oakes, Joyce Landsom for Leonard Myrah, Mary Zaffke
Members Absent: Laurie Moen

Secretary's Minutes for July 12, 2023, were read. Jerald made a motion to approve the secretary minutes, second by Betty. Motion, carried.

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

July 1, 2023, balance \$50,331.62

47 credits \$59,423.65

30 debits \$70,581.45

July 31 ending balance \$39,173.82

Outstanding checks \$7,774.62

July 31-23 ending balance \$31,399.20

Discussion regarding the second parsonage fund to move to steeple fund.

Staff Reports:

Pastor Elizabeth (see attachment)

Pastor Lane (see attachment)

Kerri Jahnke (see attachment)

Team Reports:

Property: (Jerald)

- Reviewed smaller projects
- Window in the women's bathroom
- Steps leading to the "Boy Scout room"
- Pr. Elizabeth asked for assistance with window blinds for the large window in the parsonage. And front doors work

Finance (Jacque)

- Issues with the IRS have been resolved per a letter from the IRS dated 7-5-23 in regards to form 941 for tax period of December 31, 2020, case number 0433923221. Look to receiving ERC last check soon.
- Jacque will talk to Stewart about recording in member's giving record memorial check donations regarding checks made out to Trinity from individuals.
- Our renewal of non-profit business entity has been submitted to the Secretary of State and is active.

Education (Bethany)

- Refer to Kerri's report.
- Confirmation, Sunday School, Release Time will be starting
- Education Team would like to go on record that they want the council and the congregation to know that they as a team, support Release Time
- Team is waiting for committee recommendations regarding the Trinity Center

Worship (Lori)

- Outdoor service planned for Sept. 24. It will be a Blessing of the Animals
- Uffda Fest is going to have a memorial tribute to Almore Mathsen. Possible Luther Guest Preacher and special music
- Brainstorming about increasing church/ fellowship attendance.
- Planning fun things to do between now and Rally Sunday- How has God Blessed Your Summer.

Outreach (Terry)

- Planning for serving at Music in the Park, August 23
- Empty Bowls, October 22

Mission (David)

- Change in where one of our main mission options. Dr. Jacobson died and the Synod is no longer asking for support for that mission.
- Discussion of talking with Emily Carson from the Synod office about possible ideas.
- ERC fund has \$6,000 designated for Mission. Will need to be thoughtful about where that will go.

Stewardship (Joyce)

- Giving statements were sent in July.

Staffing (Betty)

- Hopeful about interview with handbell director. Contract will be same as previous director. \$35/ rehearsal, \$70/ Sunday. Not to exceed \$350/month. Responsible for selection of music. 2 services a month at most.
- Remember to submit your team photos for newsletter. October teams, Mission, Worship and Education
- Continue to work on a sign designed by Robin for the photos of current teams. This sign will be placed by the elevator.

Book Conversation:

Chapter 2 of Belonging by Karoline Lewis. Read Chapter 3 for September meeting

Old Business

Master Planning update. Kodet/ Terry Nagel/ Kraus Anderson Construction visited the church, met with David Overland and Jerald and Gary Wilhelmson. They shared that the pillars in the fellowship hall were placed on wet clay. This is an item to be figured out for its potential consequences. Measurements were verified. Will be presenting tomorrow night at 5:30

Last Wednesday, there were 4-45 minute sessions. Teams were invited. 21 different people attended to listen. Talking about what we have, how to use it and what we want, in our buildings for the mission of the church.

Trinity Center / Release Time Update

- The Trinity Center/ Release Time Committee will present to the council on Sept. 13.
- Jerald updated on the building. Needed a new water heater, \$200 installed. New part on the boiler. Bruce Bergsgaard is completing a small wiring job. Gary is busy painting. There is a new floor and handicap partitions in the bathroom. Thank you also to Scott and Lee.
- Discussion regarding heating the upstairs. Because of the way that the boiler works, this is not possible. Best to turn the heat to 45-50 degrees. The one room currently being used upstairs, one day a week, could have a programmable thermostat.
- Noted that it is difficult to determine the cost for utilities for the TC. We are committed to using it this fall but need to plan/ budget accordingly.
- Noted at this point also, that Jason Kozee had sent samples for the steeple project. Jerald motioned to approve the color European Gray, Seconded, Jacque. Discussion. Motion failed. Tabled until actual samples could be seen, at next council meeting. Approximate start date for the steeple is mid-September.

Team Photos

Please remember to get them to Staffing Team/ Office Staff

Additional time added to meeting, Motion by Jerald, Second by Terry to extend the meeting additional 15 minutes.

New Business

Items stored in the TC by the Spring Grove School.

- Since Release Time will be back in the building, where will we put the items? Concern over possible blocking of fire exit. Discussion followed. Jerald made a motion to remove the items by Sept. 1. Lori seconded it. Motion didn't pass.
- Bethany made a motion, Joyce seconded it, to Finish out the calendar year with the Spring Grove Public Schools and will reevaluate our need for the space at the end of the year. The school may choose to move out before this date of Dec 31, 2023, and we would reimburse them. Motion passed.
- Pastor Elizabeth will talk to the school.

Sabbatical Update

- Discussion of by-laws referring to Trinity's Sabbatical policy. Done prior to 2016. Discussion to use the year 2016 based on the minutes from the meeting in 2017. Jacque will review and get back to council. Noted Nolie Kapplinger was

likely the team leader for Staffing Team at the time of the policy and Mary Deters was council president.

- Will be using the policy or a guide.
- Wanting to start a committee for the Sabbatical, to meet sooner than later. To be made up of Kim Kapplinger, Roxy Finnesgard, Dean Wiste, Milly Halverson, Jacque Wennes, Betty Dokken, Karen Bingham, and Rachel Storlie. There was no set number of people to serve on this committee.
- A list has been received from the Synod with possible pulpit supply. Added Pastor Rolf Svanoe to the list.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Terry, second Betty, Motion passed.

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer

Upcoming dates:

- Rally Sunday: Sunday, September 17
- Fall Meatball Dinner, Wednesday, September 20
- Outdoor Worship/ Blessing of the Animals. Sunday, September 24
- September/ October newsletter items due Friday, August 25
- Next Council Meeting, Wednesday, September 13, 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Zaffke, temporary secretary