

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
October 15, 2019**

Members Present: Jim Jordal, Pastor Karri Anderson, Jolene Wille, Diane John, Dave Johnson, Pastor Terry Nordheim, Terry Hogenson, Ken Kramer, Ross Peterson, Kim Anderson, Nancy Johnson, Rachel Carlson and Colleen Guilfoile

Members Absent: Gary Peterson, Guy Aki

David Johnson, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Introduction of Confirmation Students

Devotions by Terry Hogenson

Approval of Agenda

- Diane John moved to accept the agenda. Seconded by Ross Peterson.
Motion carried.

- Nancy Johnson moved to approve the September minutes. Seconded by Ken Kramer.
Motion carried.

Senior Pastor Report

Staff continues to cover Christian Education responsibilities. Currently Pastor Karri, Pastor Terry, Bonnie and Linda are helping plan and fill in on Wed. afternoons with both confirmation lessons and leading Faith Kids.

Dave Groettum has indicated he may have someone to fill in for the organist for November and December. Joanne Endres will serve her last Sunday for 2019 on October 27th.

Pastor Terry shared information on the Bishop's Theological Conference. The focus was on how to be more imaginative with the gospel and God's work in the world. Our world is God's gift to everyone. He shared some examples from the book of Acts.

Mi Chi Lu continues. Beer and Hymns at the Uncommon Loon will take place on October 27th.

Real Faith for Real Life book discussion groups are meeting. There are 7 groups. Over 70 books have been purchased. People are meeting together who do not know each other well but are getting better acquainted. There is a growing sense of excitement and discovery.

This Sunday will be the Service of Healing for Reconciliation and Forgiveness. Pastor Karri and Pastor Dave Carlson will be leading this Service.

Pastor Karri shared about the Grief and Loss group that has recently completed. There were 12 people in attendance. Indication is that it would be beneficial to offer another group, maybe in the Spring.

The Guatemala Mission Group is moving forward. It will be one 9-day mission trip. There are 6 people signed up to go. Scheduled for March 12-21, 2020. The carving group is working on carving symbols for a baptismal font that we are building to take along to El Buen Pastor.

Treasurer's Report

Total September budgeted income: \$40, 779
Total September actual income: \$42, 409
Total budgeted income through September: \$376,509
Total actual income through September: \$370, 447

Total September budgeted expenses: \$41,718
Total September actual expenses: \$38, 289
Total budgeted expenses through September: \$378, 665
Total actual expenses through September: \$357,742

Trinity is still in good shape financially. Expenses were almost \$3,500 less than budgeted, putting us "ahead" by over \$12, 500.

The last of the real estate bill has been paid on the Greenspace. The total was \$963. There was only \$910.88 left in the account.

- Motion made by Rachel Carlson and seconded by Terry Hogenson "to take \$52.12 out of undesignated funds to pay the remainder of the real estate taxes on the rental house property." **Motion carried.**

Another bill needing to be paid is for the daily chimes (bells that ring at noon and on other occasions). Twyla recommends payment of the \$219. 16 from the Undesignated Funds.

- Motion made by Diane John and seconded by Nancy Johnson to "make payment of \$219.16 from Undesignated Funds to pay for the daily chimes." **Motion carried.**

Worship and Music has requested an LED lamp for the organ. One is already in use for the piano and has been well received. Spit and Shine has agreed to take \$200 out of their fund for an organ lamp.

- Motion made by Diane John "to take up to \$275 from undesignated funds to purchase the LED lamp for the organ." Seconded by Nancy Johnson. **Motion carried.**

The Stewardship Committee sent out the first letter for the Fall Campaign. This includes a chart that demonstrates and helps each member view where they are in their financial giving. Another letter will be sent out later this month with pledge cards included.

The pledge cards will be the basis for planning for 2020 budget. Please fill out your pledge card and encourage others to do so. There was discussion on the budget including the interim pastor salary. Council believes Trinity functions at its best with the services of both a Senior and Associate Pastor.

Old Business

Fall Annual Meeting Review Discussion

Overall, Council believes the meeting was positive. A concern was there was no time to read the biographies of the people running for Council. The suggestion was to make these available through the Chimes. Another suggestion was to put the biographies on the back of the agenda in the future so the bios can be read ahead of time.

Bequest Task Force Discussion/update/advertising for committee members

There will be 11 members total on the committee. Which will include one voting council member, the President of the Council (ex-officio), the Senior Pastor (ex-officio), and 8 voting members from the congregation. This was announced at the Congregational meeting. There have been two people to date who have indicated an interest. Council would like to accept names through November 17th and Council will discuss the makeup of this task force at the November Council meeting. Trinity members can contact Amber. The Council will appoint the Bequest Task Force Chairperson. Council would like Amber to put this information in the weekly bulletin and the November Chimes.

Capital Improvement Task Force Issues

Ross and Jolene held 4 congregational meetings and attended several Committee meetings. Ross noted many questions were raised about having a flat roof and whether this was the most expedient method to use in roofing. Ross has reviewed the 2011 prints and found they were a conceptual drawing and not a complete architectural drawing. Ross noted there are many buildings in Minnesota with flat roofs. Trinity's roof is old. A gable roof has been suggested but would most likely involve significantly more money, engineering costs and extensive remodeling. As a Council we remain open to hearing all options and will continue to keep the Congregation informed of progress and information received.

The Architect contract has been received by the Executive Committee and cost is based upon hours anticipated for the project. The total services will not be complete until the renovation is completed. Architectural prints to be made available to the full council. The cost of the architect was approved at the Congregational meeting on October 13th.

- Ross Peterson" to move forward on the contract with Progressive Architecture and Council authorizes Council President to sign the contract." Motion seconded by Nancy Johnson. **Motion carried.**

- Motion made by Rachel Carlson “that the Capital Improvement Task Force is authorized to work on behalf of Council to obtain the drawings as authorized by the contract.”
Seconded by Diane John. **Motion carried.**

New Business

Elevator Inspection

The elevator inspection was recent, and some minor corrections have already been fixed. A major concern is water in the elevator pit. At present we are on a 60-day compliance plan, where we must indicate how we are going to fix the problem. Then there is time to put the plan into action. Property’s suggestion is to include this into the renovation plan (Phase 1). This can be submitted to the State of Minnesota. If not able to comply or we cannot fix the elevator, the elevator would become unusable.

2020 Staff Health Care Insurance

Pastor Terry and Cathy and Dean and Linda Rambow are presently on the gold plus health care plan made available to them as Trinity full time staff. The Exec Committee recommendation is to continue the gold plus plan which carries a cost increase of 4%. Terry noted he would become Medicare eligible in March 2020.

- Rachel Carlson moved “to continue with the Gold Plus plan.” Motion seconded by Diane John. **Motion carried.**

Audit Committee Chair Discussion

There has been a suggestion from a Trinity member that the Council begin addressing the audit committee and looking for some additional members. We currently fulfill the constitutional requirement, but are down 2 members (the present chairperson has been deployed and the recent death of another Audit Committee member). Discussion took place with Council members asked to bring suggestions as to who would be a good fit for this Committee.

Devotions for November: Ken Kramer

Adjourn

- Rachel Carlson moved to adjourn
Seconded by Nancy Johnson
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Colleen Guilfoile