

**Minutes from the Annual Budget Meeting of the Congregation
Trinity Lutheran Church, Lindstrom, Minnesota
February 9, 2020**

Meeting Called To Order at 11:45 by David Johnson, President.

Opening Prayer by Pastor Terry Nordheim

Cathy Johnson, Secretary, confirmed a quorum with 60 members counted in attendance.

MM by Coleen Guilfoile to approve the agenda as presented. MS by Katie Roche. MP.

MM by Coleen Guilfoile to approve the February 10, March 17, and October 13, 2019 congregational meetings. MS by George Popa. MP.

Jeff Fuge, parliamentarian, reminded the congregation that Robert's Rules of Order are used to help the President move along through the meeting. An individual will be recognized if he or she wants to speak.

BUSINESS:

- A. Senior Pastor Report-- Pastor Nordheim described 2020 as a year of challenges we are growing from, including the upcoming renovation of the church building. There have been council reports discussing building renovations dating back to 2010, then 2012, 2015, and 2016. Now, in 2020, we will plan for informational meetings for the congregation and work out a schedule with the council for the building renovations that need to be done. At this time, the projected start date for renovations is the spring of 2021.

He reminded the congregation that 2021 is the 120th anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church, and he suggested an anniversary theme of: REMEMBER, REJOICE, and RENEW. Pastor Terry continued to talk about Capital Improvement, the Stewardship Committee and the Bequest Task Force. He discussed the life and mission of the congregation, and that mission is the first priority--it is why we focus on the building blocks of faith.

Pastor Terry said that Pastor Karri Anderson is forming a Mission Exploration Team to establish the wishes and desires of the congregation to help with the calling of a new part time Associate Pastor.

David Johnson also reiterated that there will be several informational meetings this year about the building renovations.

- B. 2019 Year-End Budget Review--Diane John, Treasurer, presented a slide presentation review of the 2019 financial statement. Diane began by thanking those whose help is so important: Twyla-bookkeeper, the audit committee and the finance committee. The 2019 current assets are \$2,033,993 and the 2019 fixed assets are \$2,878,452 for total assets of \$4,912,445. As a reminder, Diane said \$1,810,866 of the current assets are a direct result of the generosity of Elmer and Pearl Nelson.

The amended 12/31/2019 receipts were \$541,029 compared to the 12/31/2018 receipts for \$532,545. The amended 12/31/2019 disbursements were \$514,448 compared to the 12/31/2018 disbursements for \$559,037. The main reason for less disbursement in 2019 was a temporary decrease in staffing.

In 2019 \$27,733.54 was transferred from the Annuity Fund as voted on by the congregation for a 1% bonus for staff and to fund an Interim Pastor, leaving \$41,244.30 as of 12/31/2019.

- C. Audit Committee Report--Paul Ives, 2019 Chairperson, was not present, so David Johnson summarized the committee's report. There is a need for a detailed audit of church inventory in 2020 for the insurance policy. The last inventory was done in 2009. The house rental is now off of the books, and the green space there is now part of the church property for tax purposes.

The audit committee has agreed to serve another year through 2020.

A member said there should be documentation for the Youth Director's mileage. Pastor Terry explained that there is documentation provided by the Youth Director for tax purposes and can be given to the church.

Pastor Terry also gave a thank you to Ron Holt for all of the work he did on this committee. He will be missed. David Johnson gave a thank you to Twyla Mitchell for her hard work.

MM by Terry Hogenson to accept the 2019 report as submitted. MS by LeRoy Mitchell. MP.

- D. 2020 Budget--Treasurer, Diane John

1. Presentation of the 2020 Budget--Diane presented the budget in a slide format, and it can also be found in the 2019 Annual Report. The 2020 balanced budget proposed income is \$537,764, and the 2020 balanced budget proposed expenses are \$537,764, both of which are down slightly from 2019.

Pledged income for 2020 is \$380,000 and is slightly higher than it was for 2019. Proposed non-pledged income for 2020 is \$82,567, only slightly lower than 2019. The numbers for 2019 and 2020 are very close.

Diane said we have budgeted using Pearl and Elmer Nelson annuity funds as income to help fund full staffing including funding for a part-time Associate Pastor and a 2% raise for staff which is budgeted from health insurance savings. A member asked if the 2% salary increase is a full 2%. David said the 2% is part of a base salary increase. The balance of the annuity by 12/31/2019 was \$41,244. This annuity money will be gone by the end of 2020.

The proposed benevolence going to the synod in 2020 will be reduced from \$35,000 to \$30,000 to help balance the budget. A member asked what happened to the \$5,000. She doesn't want the funds reduced going to the synod, and asked if there could be a special appeals to help fund that? David Johnson explained that the \$5,000 drop is made up by Trinity's additional benevolence that helps fill other needs. But he also said that the synod is very important. Coleen Guilfoile said we are supporting the synod through Second Sunday offerings. A member asked how the dollar amount to the synod is determined. Pastor Terry explained that, before, it was based on how many baptized members there were in the church, and now the congregation is making decisions on its own. The member also asked if we are giving comparable amounts, and Pastor Terry said that as far as giving goes, we fall in the middle

for a church our size. Another member asked where the money comes from for mission work out of the gifts given to the synod? Pastor Terry said 50% of the money we send stays within the synod.

2. Bequest Task Force Update--David called Gail Seaver, Chairperson for the Bequest Task Force. Gail acknowledged the members of this committee. Gail said they will be discussing how to dispense the remainder of these funds. They will present suggestions to the council. The committee has met four times since December of 2019 and with more meetings coming up. They have talked about how much, and how to allocate the funds. He said the capital building fund needs will require major consideration, and they will present those needs to the council for approval in the spring when more congregants will be around.
3. Capital Improvement Final Report-- Jolene Wille--Jolene said they will secure funding to complete the work in phases. An architect was hired to draw up plans to update the bathrooms to be ADA compliant, and the plans are done. The Building Task Force will manage the building needs, and the committee will be educational and transparent. Pastor Terry said that in mid-May, there will be a special congregational meeting to approve a building committee created for the capital improvement renovation.
4. 2020 Budget Vote--MM by Larry Guilfoile to approve the 2020 budget as prepared by the Finance Committee and recommended by Council. MS by LeRoy Mitchell. MP.

ELECTIONS: Written ballots were handed out for elections.

- A. 2020 Nominating Committee--the 2020 Council Nominating Committee: Rachel Carlson, Jim Jordal, Terry Hogenson, and Kim Anderson.
- B. 2020 Endowment Election--Paul Bodmer
- C. 2020 Council Election--three year terms--Leroy Mitchell, Nicole Smith
MM by Diane John to accept the slate of candidates for the Nominating Committee, Endowment Committee and Church Council vacancies. MS by Jeff Fuge. MP.
Election held by written ballot, and candidates were elected.

Annual Report Resolutions--MM by Sherry Holt to approve the 2020 Annual Report Resolutions. MS by Larry Guilfoile. MP.

Pastor Karri--Pastor Karri said that Trinity Lutheran Church has outstanding outreach programs and acts of benevolence that have truly inspired her.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT:

MM by Terry Hogenson to adjourn. MS by Kathy Hogenson. MP.

Submitted by Cathy Johnson, Secretary