

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annual Congregational Meeting
May 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 10:30 A.M. by David Johnson, President.

OPENING PRAYER: Pastor Karri Anderson.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM: Cathy Johnson, Secretary, confirmed a Quorum of fifty-two voting members in attendance.

VOICE VOTE: Action--Action Requested:

MM by Sherry Holt to suspend rules of order related to paper ballot voting and allow voice vote on identified matters during this meeting. MS by Pam Lukens. MP.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Action--Action Requested:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2020 BUDGET MEETING AND OCTOBER 4, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING: Action--Action Requested:

MM by Larry Guilfoile to approve the February and October minutes as presented. MS by George Popa. MP.

INTRODUCTION OF PARLIAMENTARIAN AND REVIEW OF ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER--
Information:

Jeff Fuge said there will be a written election ballot to elect members of the Nominating Committee, the Endowment Committee, and Church Council. An individual will be recognized if he or she wants to speak during the meeting.

PASTORAL REPORTS: Pastor Terry and Pastor Karri--Information:

A big thank you to the staff for all of their hard work during the last year. They had to face many difficult challenges in dealing with Covid-19, the pandemic, and how to keep Trinity's ministry moving forward. A big thank you to the Congregation for partnering in ministry together by delivering bags of goodies to church members, involvement in the Calling Tree and reaching out to church members to maintain connection during the temporary shut down.

1. FINANCIAL BUSINESS:

- 2020 Year-end Budget Review--Information--The Treasurer Shall Present a Review of the 2020 Financial Statement:

Sherry Holt is presenting the report in place of Diane John who is on a mission trip to help open an orphanage in Mexico. Diane is staying in Texas and will return to Minnesota in about six months.

Sherry said that the financial report starts on page forty-four of the 2020 Annual Report:

1. Total income for 2020 was \$560,255.44.
2. Total expenses for 2020 were \$513, 977.64.

3. Trinity received Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funds of \$57,971 that were used for payroll. The loan was forgiven.
 4. Payroll increased due to the added position of Matt Mitchell for technology and multimedia, twelve months of salary for the part-time Interim Pastor, Karri Anderson, and twelve months of salary for the Children's Education Director.
 5. The Benevolence Giving in 2020 found on page forty-six was \$153,744.01. The congregation continues its generous giving.
- Audit Committee Report--Information--The Audit Committee Shall Present the Results of its Audit of the Church's 2020 Finances:
Paul Ives said the objective of the audit was to review financial reports and to see if they were presented properly and free of material mistakes. The conclusion was that the statements were presented fairly. The audit committee is independent, reviewed annual reports, reconciled cash, investments, endowment, debt, reviewed payroll, and computer systems. They found no variances, and they determined that financial statements were presented with no material misstatements.

David discussed having an external audit. He presented some "pros" and "cons" of having one done. A con is that it is expensive--a pro is that the church has large funds that should be looked at beyond the limitations of a review. The Council approved an outside, external audit, and it will take place this coming year. The Executive Committee and Council will work out the time.

- 2021 Budget--Treasurer--Presentation of the 2021 Budget--Questions and Clarification:
Sherry said the proposed budget can be found on page forty-eight, and she asked if there were any questions on the income portion. There were none. Under the expense portion, the personnel stays about the same except for a small budget for a potential Music Director. A member asked if the Youth Budget for 2021 is reduced? Sherry said the Youth receives funds from a member who gives directly to the youth dedicated account.
- 2021 Budget Vote--Action: Action Requested--Approve the 2021 Budget as Prepared by the Finance Committee and Approved by Council Until the Congregation Could Meet for Final Approval:
The Council proposed a continuing resolution budget when the Church could not meet because of the pandemic.

MM by Colleen Guilfoile to approve the 2021 proposed budget. MS by Pam Lukens. MP.

2. ELECTIONS:

- 2021 Nominating Committee Election--Action--Adopt Slate of Nominees as Stated on the Ballot:
MM by Leroy Mitchell to adopt the ballot as presented. MS by Larry Guilfoile. MP.

Question--David--"Are there any other nominations for the Nominating Committee?"
MM by Larry Guilfoile to close nominations for the Nominating Committee. MS by Leroy Mitchell. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for the Endowment Committee?"
MM by George Popa to close nominations for the Endowment Committee. MS by Katie Roche. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for a one year term on Council?"
MM by Pam Lukens to close nominations for a one year term on Council. MS by Leroy Mitchell. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for a two year term on Council?"
MM by Pam Lukens to close nominations for a two year term on Council. MS by Gary Moe. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for a three year term on Council?"
MM by Gary Moe to close nominations for a three year term on Council. MS by Sherry Holt. MP.

ELECTION RESULTS: All on the Slate were elected; write-ins will be contacted.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE--2021:

1. Colleen Guilfoile
2. Nancy Johnson

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE--2021:

1. Cinnamin Theisen

CHURCH COUNCIL--2021:

ONE YEAR TERM-

1. Sherry Holt

TWO YEAR TERM-

1. David A. Johnson

THREE YEAR TERM-

1. Heather Wehrenberg
2. Jackie Otte
3. Linda Popa
4. Gary Peterson

3. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Authorization of Formal Building Renovation Committee--Action:
Pastor Terry said the Capital Task Force was created in 2019. There were three phases of renovations to address, and the estimated pre-pandemic cost was \$762,098.

PHASE I:

1. Restroom update--bring upper bathrooms to ADA compliance.

2. Replacement of the flat roof over Fellowship Hall, offices, and hallway.

PHASE II:

1. Replace carpet in the sanctuary, balcony, and stairs.
2. Possible repairs or updates to the organ.

PHASE III:

1. HVAC replacements for the sanctuary.
2. Fire alarm system and security system.

The Bequest Task Force started in December 2019. Gail Seaver headed the Committee, and it established recommendations on how to use the Pearl and Elmer Nelson undesignated bequest dollars of \$718,795, the total as of December 31, 2019. They recommended that the funds be divided into five categories, one of which is the Building and Facility Needs in the amount of \$503,156. At a Special Meeting of the Congregation on December 4, 2020, there was a vote by written ballot on a motion to approve the BTF recommendations, and the vote was 100% positive for approving the BTF recommendations.

In February 2020, the Council put together a charge for a Building Committee. The action plan did not move forward because of the Church shutdown due to the pandemic. The Capital Improvement Committee paused, but is now working with the ELCA consultant.

Jolene Wille asked for the Congregation's vote to approve a formal Building Committee. The building needs updates in order to expand activities and share God's love.

MM by Jolene Wille to authorize the Church Council to create a Building Committee with not less than five members. MS by Larry Guilfoile. Discussion/Question: Q: A member asked if any people are stepping up? A: David--Yes. Q: A member asked if the Council will make sure that people appointed to the Committee are knowledgeable and not just people with desires? A: David--We have good professionals and people with experience available--answer well noted. MP.

- Mission Exploration Team Update:

The Team worked on a profile, as part of the hiring process, to identify the strengths and skills needed in a new, part-time, Associate Pastor. They held small group informational, question and answer meetings for church members. The Synod has confirmed that there is a big gap in people considering that position. During the pandemic, one-third of the clergy are resigning or retiring.

The Council and MET have renewed the covenant and call for another year with Pastor Karri Anderson. Trinity renewed Pastor Karri's contract for one year with the Synod's approval, and she is staying on staff at Trinity as the part-time Associate Pastor. The Council and Finance Committee will look at and address the salary and benefit package. MET is pausing and will not be submitting a Ministry Site Profile or a Call Committee.

- Music Task Force Update:
Trinity needs a Music Director. Mary Haglund said the purpose of the Task Force is to evaluate the needs of the music program at Trinity. Their charge is to:
 1. Review current and past history of Trinity's music program.
 2. Look at types of music.
 3. Prepare recommendations.
 4. Summarize skill sets for new positions.

In October 2020, they started to:

1. Canvas other congregations for information.
2. Speak with people from past music positions or involvement with music at Trinity.
3. Reach out to the Congregation via a survey about their concerns, likes, and dislikes. The MTF received one-hundred-seventeen results.

The majority of survey results from members agreed that:

1. Music is a vital part of Trinity.
2. Members prefer the organ over the piano.
3. The Contemporary Service draws younger people.

Dan Calhoun's recommendation is to hire a Music Director first and see what skills remain to be filled. The MTF is moving forward with its search for a Music Director and will start looking in June. David Johnson said that we need to prepare to pay more for these music positions.

During the summer of 2021, Trinity will have one inside service every other week and one outside service every other week. The inside service will be traditional music, and the outside service will be contemporary music. The MTF emphasized the importance of including youth in the music program.

- Annual Report Resolutions--Action:
MM by Katie Roche to adopt the Annual Report Meeting Resolutions. MS by Mary Haglund. MP.
- David reminded the Council members present that there will be a brief Special Council Meeting following the Annual Meeting to elect the four Executive Officers.

4. CLOSING PRAYER--Pastor Terry

5. ADJOURN:

MM by Larry Guilfoile to adjourn. MS by George Popa. MP. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Cathy Johnson, Secretary

