



# Minutes of the Trinity Lutheran Church Congregational Assembly, Huntley, Illinois

## Call to order

A Congregational Assembly (Voters Meeting) was held at Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

## Attendees

Present and acting as directors were:

Larry Melman, Chairman

Norm Fossmeyer, Vice Chairman

Bridgid Furmanek, Secretary

Nancy Dvorak

Lou Ann Jensen

Ken Ladage, Parliamentarian

Chuck Yerke

## Also in attendance

Robert A. Hoffman, Pastor

Louise Johnson, Business Manager

## Single Agenda Item

The six month budget for Trinity Lutheran Church presented to the voting members of the congregational assembly for approval or disapproval. Budget must be approved as a whole.

## Call to order

Pastor Hoffman began the assembly with prayer. A motion to approve the six-month budget as presented was made by Donovan Johnson and seconded by Frank Swanson. The motion was open for comment and discussion by the Congregational assembly.

Chairman, Larry Melman, explained why the Board of Ministry Directors compiled a six month budget. The main objective is to transition to a new fiscal year which will begin July first instead of January first. In the past, the budget followed the calendar year but with Board of Ministry elections in November, plus preparations for the Christmas season, the directors felt that a fiscal year ending in June would be more efficient. TLC Preschool's budgetary needs are more adequately supported by this change as well. The new annual budget, beginning July 2018, merges TLC's budget with Trinity's budget.

Pastor Robert Hoffman, Louise Johnson, Chuck Yerke, and Ken Ladage answered the questions from individual congregation members. Voters had questions concerning line items 41, 50, 57, 78, 109, 120, 129, & 137. The last two lines represent the grand total and subtotal. One voter stated that the budget is way too high. Chairman Melman stated that although money is allocated,

it's not always spent. The budget estimates projected costs for a six month time period not actual expenses.

The business manager's position was explained and the necessity of employing a professional to manage Trinity's finances. The volunteer office of treasurer is no longer sufficient for the accounting responsibilities. The business manager reports to Pastor Hoffman, who in turn reports to the Board of Ministry Directors. The Board monitors Trinity's fiscal soundness and establishes parameters regarding Pastor Hoffman's financial authority, annual budget development, and control of assets (See 2.3.6 Board of Ministry Director's Policy Manual)

In addition, the Board may write additional policies to monitor the fiscal soundness of Trinity when a need arises. This includes the appointment of a new "Financial Advisory Team" to support both Louise and Pastor Hoffman.

Although \$3,000 is not a ten percent tithe from the total church income, the Board plans to raise this amount by 1 percent every year until we reach our ten percent goal. (See line item 50 under Trinity's First Fruits) This money goes to support our Lutheran synod and district.

Oktoberfest (line 57) raised \$3,700 this year! Trinity plans to continue this important community outreach and fund raising event in the fall of 2018.

## Vote by secret ballot

The sixth month budget of Trinity Lutheran Church passed (23 yes; 8 no votes).

Meeting closed by singing the Doxology.

**Adjournment:** 12:35 p.m.

**Next meeting:** June 2018

Bridgid Furmanek

Secretary

01/25/18

Date of approval