

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes – August 4, 2021

Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others

Welcome by President Brian McNeill at 7:00 PM. Members present were Adam Kolander, Diane Schuerman, Toni Lindstrom, Jason Anderson, Jason Heinzig, Maureen Erdman, Robert Neuman and Jodee Erickson. Also present were Bill Hoberg, Byron Giese and Laura Hulterstrum.

Devotions by President Brian - A prayer for our congregation.

Pastor's Report – No pastor's report.

Additions to the agenda – None

Reports

Secretary Jodee Erickson – The July minutes were reviewed and approved by email.

Financial Secretary Pam Anderson – Motion by Toni to approve with second by Adam. Motion carried.

Treasurer Bill Hoberg – July income was \$6,888.54 and expenses were \$4,041.50. Checking account balance as of July 31, 2021 was \$24,919.79. Motion made by Diane to approve with second by Maureen. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Call Committee – Byron and Laura reported there are no available pastors on the Synod list. They asked that if anyone knows of a pastor who may be available, please share that name with a member of the call committee.

Board of Education and Youth – Rally Day will be on September 12. The theme for Rally Day will be "Rally Day – Welcome Home!" Our plan is to have a fun-filled event to celebrate the beginning of our Sunday School year and a party for all ages to energize our whole congregation for a new year. We are planning to have an inflatable, yard games, popcorn, cotton candy and an ice cream truck. We will be serving grilled hotdogs, chips, coffee and lemonade for lunch. We plan to send out letters to the congregation announcing this special event. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for more details. Time will be from 10:00 – noon, with the meal starting approximately 11:15 AM.

Sunday School format and curriculum – Jamie Moe will be returning as Sunday School superintendent. She reached out to churches in nearby towns for information and ideas about how they conduct SS and VBS. The information was helpful. We will continue with our 4-week rotational style of lessons. Jamie will look for curriculum materials and recruit teachers. We need four teachers for two younger age groups and a teacher for grades 7-9.

Outreach and Community Relations (B.A.C.K. pack program) – The program has received donations to help sustain it. Shelf stable meals have been packed for Seniors, also. The volunteers love what they are doing.

Property and Grounds – Items to be discussed under Old Business.

Stewardship and Finance – Did not meet.

Worship and Music – Choirs - Nathan Pederson is not able to direct Bell Choir; Shelly Mikkelson will be directing Senior Choir; Kelly Michaelson – we will be checking to see if she will be able to direct the Youth Choir. Concern was expressed whether we would need to wear masks again. Members working with making slides wanted to let the council know that they like the Pro-Presenter 7 program that was purchased for their use. No recording of services will be done for now. Licensing must be shown on every slide used. There was a discussion on promoting events at church, whether it could be on the church Facebook page, website or other media. They liked the weekly announcements on the screen. Those need to be on Google and then switch to Pro-Presenter for the rest of the slides.

Discussions

Communion – Communion will be on Sunday, August 15, with Toni and Brian assisting. It will be offered at the rail in the traditional manner or there will be the option of using the prepackaged communion kit.

Shared Google Documents – Trinity Shared Folder – Brian explained how information that he has compiled could be shared with council members to keep us up to date.

COVID Guidelines & Mask recommendations – We need to keep going as we are, but listen to any CDC guidelines that may come in the future. Members will have the option of wearing a mask and using hand sanitizer if they wish.

Parsonage Prep – Walls in the living room will need painting. All walls in the other rooms look good. Screens on the front living room window need to be replaced. Carpets need cleaning on the first floor. Kitchen looks good. In the basement, cleaning needs to be done and the washer and dryer should be replaced. The dehumidifier should be turned on. Upstairs looks good. Overall, cleaning the parsonage should be done and most windows need coverings. The garage needs to be cleaned as well as removing some items that have been stored there. Screen room on the back of the garage needs cleaning.

Old Business

Tree removal bid decision - Bids were received on removal of ash tree, maple tree and birch stump with no clean up. Motion made by Jason H to accept the bid of Mitch Koosman with a second by Maureen. Motion carried.

Gutters on church and parsonage – Wait with gutters on church to see how the metal roof handles the rain water and make a decision at that time. Gutters on metal roof could be damaged if too much snow and ice slide down. We will not need leaf guards on the parsonage gutters since the two large trees will be taken down.

New Business

Interim Pastor Decision – Pastor Dale Degner was interviewed by council members on July 26. Brian followed up with the references provided. The financial package was discussed. Pastor Dale and his wife would also like to live in the parsonage. After conversation, a motion was made by Jason H to approve Pastor Dale Degner as Interim Pastor with a compensation package totaling \$75,000 (including salary and benefits) per year with a second by Robert. Motion carried. Brian will make the offer and discuss moving expenses with a start date of possibly September 5.

Further discussion on readying the parsonage - It was discussed where to move the quilting supplies currently at the parsonage. Maureen will talk to Lois. Maureen volunteered to meet Pastor Dale and Gwen at the parsonage one day soon to discuss what color to paint the living room walls. The washer and dryer will be replaced. Robert will remove the old set. Maureen and Diane will look into purchasing replacements locally. Maureen will call Captain Clean to schedule the main floor carpet cleaning.

Updates – There were no updates.

Announcements – September newsletter articles are due August 19. The Next Church Council meeting is September 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Adjourned by President Brian at 8:20 PM

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Jodee Erickson, Council Secretary

