

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes – October 6, 2021

Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others

Welcome by President Brian McNeill at 6:58 PM. Members present were Adam Kolander, Maureen Erdman, Diane Schuerman, Jason Anderson, Jason Heinzig, Toni Lindstrom, Robert Neuman and Jodee Erickson. Also present were Bill Hoberg and Pastor Dale Degner.

Devotions by President Brian – Object lesson on how Christians are like pumpkins. He compared how much alike they are. Each is hand selected. We are selected by God – John 15:16. Pumpkins are wiped clean and the blood of Jesus washes away our sin 2 Corinthians 5:17. He gives us a Smile Psalm 71:23 and He Shines through us Matthew 5:16 and John 1:5. Be thinking about what sins you need to release. Or what sins do we have that we need the Lord to scoop out of us? Think about how we are a vessel of light representing our Lord.

Pastors Report – Pastor Dale and Gwen are now settled into the parsonage. Pastor Dale met with the Worship and Music Committee. It was helpful to understand what was expected of him.

“Learning names of people and who they are as people of God – After one month, I am convinced that this is a wonderful place to be and that God has given me a group of loving and caring people with whom to serve. Thank you!”

Brent and TaiAnna Moe and family have become members of Trinity. At some point, All Saints Day perhaps, we can have a welcoming Sunday for them and other new members. He met with Confirmation parents and students. It was decided that confirmation class would meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 PM. Pastor Dale will begin calling families to introduce himself and ask one question: “If there was just one thing that would make Trinity Lutheran Church a place that you just had to go to on a regular basis, what would that be?” Pastor Dale will be attending Theological Conference (mandatory for pastors in SWMN Synod) on October 11 and 12 and a class the morning of October 13. He has requested vacation days for December 27 through January 2.

Additions to the Agenda – Parking lot snow removal and Outreach donation.

Reports

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

Financial Secretary Pam Anderson – Motion by Jason H to approve with a second by Toni. Motion carried.

Treasurer Bill Hoberg – September income was \$11,201.97 and expenses were 12,501.40. Checking account balance as of September 30, 2021 was \$26,313.42. Motion made by Diane and a second by Maureen. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Board of Education and Youth – Sunday School is going well. We will be meeting soon to discuss the Christmas program. President Brian thanked the committee for all of the planning and working at Welcome Home/Rally Sunday.

Outreach and Community Relations (B.A.C.K. Pack Program) – The committee recommended that we give a donation to the Kelly Aeikens family for medical expenses. Motion made by Jason A to donate \$500.00 with a second by Robert. Motion carried.

Stewardship and Finance – Did not meet, but will discuss the Endowment Fund which is under new business.

Worship and Music – The committee met with Pastor Dale. The organist and Pastor Dale discussed the order of service. Laura Rear is working on an operations manual to be used with the Pro-presenter program, camera operation, etc. for slides and videos. The two pianos have been tuned. The yearly check on the audio system will be done. Suggestions were made as to what could be done regarding offering envelopes that have not been picked up. Also, the use of Facebook and the church website to post messages welcoming everyone to church each Sunday would be a good idea. Recording of services could possibly begin again.

Discussions

Church Life – There are several events that have become tradition such as Salad Luncheon, Advent Tea, Lasagna Dinner, etc. We would like to think of new activities to involve more people. As Pastor Dale asked in the October newsletter, what would draw you to church? It was suggested that Pastor Dale ask the confirmation students for ideas. It could be something just for fun. A thought was to invite a few people to individual homes to meet Pastor Dale and just visit. Another thought would be a game night or other activity such as a bonfire. We need to keep thinking of new ideas.

Church Janitor – Karen Nelson needs to take a little time off from cleaning the church to take care of family matters. It would be helpful for any groups using the kitchen or other facilities to take home recycling and garbage during this time.

Parking Lot Snow Removal – The Razinks will no longer be doing the church parking lot snow removal. We need to find someone else who has large equipment to do this. Robert was going to see who does snow removal for the school. Another suggestion was to ask various businesses who they hire to remove snow. We should have a little time to find someone.

Old Business – The repair of the stool upstairs in the parsonage and installation of new thermostats in the church has still not been done. Maureen was going to contact Craig's again. It was also discussed that we need to install outside vents for the bathroom and kitchen plumbing in the church.

New Business – Endowment Fund Distribution – The funds for 2019 and 2020 have not been distributed. A change of authorization needs to be done and new committee members appointed by the council. The committee, consisting of four members plus one council member, makes recommendations to the council. The council then makes the decisions for distribution following the

bylaws of the endowment fund. Bill Hoberg and Hans Helgensest will bring the endowment fund up to date through the end of this year. The funds will be paid out after the first of the year and continue each year moving forward. Funds have been given to Global Health (which will continue to be done), Trinity Quilters, Trinity TIDES and Prairie Five. Other considerations are ELCA Hurricane Relief and ELCA Earthquake Relief. This will be tabled until the update is done.

We welcome Brent and TaiAnna Moe and family as new members of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Announcements – November newsletter articles are due October 18. The next Church Council meeting is November 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Adjourned by President Brian at 8:50 PM

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Jodee Erickson, Council Secretary