

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes – August 3, 2022

Grow Faith, Serve God, Love Others

Welcome by President Brian McNeill at 7:00 PM. Members present were Hans Helgenset, Jason Heinzig, Robert Neuman, Maureen Erdman, Toni Lindstrom, Diane Schuerman and Jodee Erickson. Also present were Bill Hoberg and Pastor Dale. Absent was Jason Anderson.

Devotions by Pastor Dale were from Hebrews 11. Live by faith. There has been a lot of change during the pandemic. It's time to take risks. It's okay to fail. We have a God who resurrects us. Faith or risk; what is the difference for this church? If you have ideas, speak up. God is there always. What could we do someday?

Pastor's Report – Pastor Dale attended St. Olaf's Convention for Worship, Theology and the Arts. It was a time to gather for worship, learn, sing and see art surrounding the theme of "Scatter the Imagination of our Hearts", Luke 1:51. New member recognition service was done for our new members. Pastor Dale made six + visits. There was one wedding and one baptism. He is gathering materials for confirmation this fall. Plans for the confirmation this year are: Having mentors for each student of their own choosing; catechism will be taught at Sunday School; students will be involved with different committees and groups at church so they know what goes on in the church besides just worship. An attempt to have students more prepared to do things and not just be spectators at best; students will read at church and do the Prayers of the People. They will be more active at worship. Are there any suggestions for this? There will be twelve students this next year. There will be eight young women and four young men. These numbers could change. Bonfire in the church parking lot – People had a good time, but he would like to see more people come. There will be another one on Wednesday, August 10. Bible studies to begin in the fall: One is a Bible study doing Matthew using the spiritual practice of Lectio Divina and one study will be using the ELCA's study for the next week's gospel lesson.

Additions to the Agenda – Parking lot and Lutheran Disaster Response request

Reports

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

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

Treasurer Bill Hoberg – July total income was \$9,492.76 and total expense was \$10,618.80. Checking account balance of July 31, 2022 was \$30,068.78. Motion made by Toni to approve with a second by Diane. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Education and Youth – The committee met on July 14. Present were Marlene, Julie, Maureen, Anne, Mark and Holly, Pastor Dale and Jodee. Jamie was present by phone. We started our discussion with

the topic that our youth need to be able to know how to locate books of the Bible and find a verse when asked by their Pastor or Sunday School teacher. How can we help them learn to do this? It was suggested that we could look in to "The Story" which we could use as a church. It is the Bible written more as a novel for easier reading. There is Sunday School curriculum that goes with it. There are four lessons a month. The congregation could study along with the theme. The kit to go with it is about \$100.00. Another idea was to put Bibles back in the pews. Parents, grandparents, etc. could help children find the Bible verses in church for that Sunday. Other topics: Could we have incentives for memory work such as learning the books of the Bible, The Apostle's Creed, The Lord's Prayer? Thank you prayer at the end of each SS session; Sunday School is part of confirmation. What are the expectations of confirmation? There should be more participation in church. Part of confirmation is that students should be in church and Sunday School. We need to find a way to get our young people to want to come back to church. We discussed ways to find teachers to work with our youth. Mark will be teaching catechism for the 7th through 9th grades. Rally Sunday, which is September 11, would be a good time to explain what we would like to do. The committee will meet again to discuss curriculum and Rally Sunday. Marlene ordered one book of "The Story", study guides and Sunday School curriculum for us to look over.

Outreach and Community Relations (B.A.C.K. pack program) – Did not meet. Lutheran Disaster Response sent a letter asking for a donation. It was decided not to send a donation at this time.

Property and Grounds – Robert contacted two more possibilities for parking lot quotes, but they did not respond back. Bill spoke to Molden Concrete. It was suggested that we could put concrete in, a section at a time, as it will be a costly project. The current concrete could be removed and covered with gravel; then the first section closest to the church building could be done. The possibility of tiling the lot was discussed. Robert will inform Don's Building Center that their bid was accepted by the congregation for installing basement windows and the front window at the parsonage.

Stewardship and Finance – The church office has been working with Pastor Art to get his name removed from the Visa Credit Card that the church office uses for ordering. The possibility of changing to a debit card was discussed.

Worship and Music – The committee met. The problem with the wireless microphone was discussed. New Life Communications in Willmar was contacted to see what could be suggested for our current system. One possible problem could be the cord between the ear piece and the battery pack may be bad. After checking on the model number that we have, it was determined that the model is out of date. T-Mobile owns the air space and the current microphone will not work properly with it. Quotes were requested for new headsets; a quote for two headsets and a quote for one headset. Quotes were not received in time for the Church Council meeting. Pencils with Trinity Lutheran Church information and 150th Anniversary printed on them will be ordered. More t-shirts will be ordered as people request the sizes that they will need. Liturgy for fall and special music was discussed. A slide will be created to let members know that a children's choir director will be needed as Anna will be off to college this fall. The bulletin was discussed. Rally Sunday is September 11. Marlene will create a consent form to send to members for the use of any pictures that are taken at church events and used on slides.

Old Business – Picture Directory – The committee needs to have current addresses, phone numbers and email addresses for church members. The question was asked if it would be possible for the church office to put the information on a flash drive for them to use. It needs to be correct for the directory.

New Business – There was no new business.

Announcements – Next Church Council meeting is September 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Adjourned by President Brian at 8:15 PM

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Jodee Erickson, Council Secretary