

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

January 19, 2014

MINUTES OF THE 110TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Olsen Biebighauser at 12:53 p.m., after he declared a quorum was present to conduct business.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Drew Lindorfer reported that the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting were approved at the February 18, 2013 Council Meeting. A motion was made and seconded for the congregation to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- She then called attention to the parish statistics on page 5 of the Annual Meeting program. It was noted that numbers are up from the previous year and that average weekly attendance surpassed 200 during 2013.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Jeff Olsen Biebighauser reported on the listening campaign that Kairos Consulting will be helping with over the next year.

PASTORS' REPORTS

- Pastor Carlson thanked those involved in putting together the annual meeting. He reported on highlights from 2013, including calling Pastor Rasmussen and thanked the call committee.
- He then noted that changes to various committee responsibilities and new bylaws should be expected in the next year.
- Pastor Rasmussen reported on the areas she has focused on in her time at Holy Trinity, including lay communion and relationships in the congregation.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Pam Blomgren called the congregation's attention to the congregational financial statements and accountant's report on pages 8 and 9 of the Annual Meeting program, noting that we were under budget on receipts, but even farther under budget on expenditures. A motion was made and seconded that the congregation accept the balance sheet as presented. Motion carried.
- She then gave a brief explanation of the endowment funds. Comments were made about the possibility of divestiture from fossil fuel companies.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

- Members of the 2013 Nominating Committee were introduced: Carol Berg, Pam Blomgren, David Broberg, Mary Engen, Mark Holm, Rodney Johnson, David Moe, and Dennis Nordholm..

- Jeff introduced the four individuals identified by the Nominating Committee and noted that their biographies were on page 11 of the Annual Meeting program. They were: Gerry Berglin, Laura Bolstad, Sean Gosiewski, and Sara Jensen.
- He called three times for additional nominations from the floor and, receiving none, declared the nominations closed.
- There was a call for a voice vote. A motion was made and seconded to amend procedure. Motion carried.
- A motion was made and seconded that the slate of four candidates for the 2014 Church Council be elected by acclamation. Motion carried.
- The slate for the 2014 Nominating Committee was presented: Jody Liedholm, Andrea Hansen, Mark Hiner, and Peter Johnson, in addition to outgoing council members Anna Brelje, Drew Lindorfer, and Randy Nelson. A motion was made and seconded to accept this slate for the Nominating Committee. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE GOALS AND TASKS FOR 2014

- Worship and Fine Arts: Dennis Ormseth presented on behalf of the committee. He noted that the committee will carry over its goals from 2013. Highlights included that the mosaic process should begin once the weather gets warmer, the committee may look to develop gallery resources and programming around visual arts, and that bulletin cover art is still welcome. He also noted that Mary Ellen Olson and Martha Mueller are leaving the committee and new members are invited to join.
- Christian Education: Randy Nelson presented on behalf of the committee. He noted that the committee has not been particularly involved with educational activities involving children and youth, and that the committee will revisit their role in this area during the next year. He highlighted that a trip to Germany is being planned in 2016 for the anniversary of the Reformation, and that Nadia Bolz-Weber will be the speaker at the Johnson Symposium this fall. The committee is looking for input on the Symposium and invites congregation members to fill out the survey on their tables.
- Outreach: Mike Mann presented on behalf of the committee. He discussed the new committee structure, which is more project-oriented and focused on relationship building as opposed to meetings. He highlighted committee-supported activities, including Fare for All, Music in the Garden, LVC, and the Theatre Circle. Questions were raised regarding sponsorship of the Midtown Market and those were answered from the floor.
- Peace with Justice: Dave Moe presented on behalf of the committee. He reported that the committee would have two major goals this year: 1) to advocate and organize for solutions to climate change, including strengthening the creation care team; and 2) to work with the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition to advocate and educate for budget priorities that reflect Christian values, including payday lending reform and raising the minimum wage. He urged congregation members to approach the committee with issues they are passionate about.
- Nurturing Fellowship: Meagan McLaughlin presented on behalf of the committee. She highlighted the committee's eight goals for the year, indicating that new member welcome will be a particular focus, as will exploring how to support members in different types of transitions. She reported that the committee is looking into a new meeting schedule to get more people involved and that Nancy Moe will chair the committee this year.

- Youth: Linda Jury presented on behalf of the committee. She highlighted a number of activities the committee is working on, including the winter retreat. She reported that Pastor Jay will now have more time to focus on the children, youth, and family area since Pastor Ingrid joined the congregation. She gave special acknowledgement to those who had acted as confirmand sponsors this year. Finally, she reminded the congregation that the pancake breakfast was coming up February 23rd and that they still needed someone to coordinate the bake sale.
- Housing and Social Services: Joy Nelson presented on behalf of the committee. She highlighted the work being done with Holy Trinity Apartments and Trinity on Lake.
- Property: Dennis Nordholm presented on behalf of the committee. He highlighted recent work that was done to the property, including the Bartsch Room elevator and Sky Room window updates. He indicated that efforts toward solar electric would resume due to available funding from the State. He also gave an update on the new boiler, which will be installed this year.
- Personnel: Phil Jury presented on behalf of the committee. He highlighted the significant staffing changes and policy changes that occurred during 2013. In particular, Julie Lindorff's retirement has left the committee with a difficult task to fill the gaps she left in both music and worship planning. The committee is working on a new job description for the organist position. He also stated that the committee would be looking at long-term staffing plans and how the committee relates to the rest of the congregation.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the nine committees' goals and tasks as presented in the Annual Meeting program . Motion carried.

- Financial Stewardship: Gary Johnson presented on behalf of the committee. He presented the 2014 budget, highlighting increases necessary to support staffing changes and noting that funds dedicated to future staffing from the Pafko Estate will help offset the increase in expenses for several years of transition. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2014 budget. Motion carried. He then discussed the committee's other goals, including authorizing World Hunger and Exodus Lending as the special appeal funds for 2014. He discussed the boiler appeal and showed a brief video to entice additional giving. A motion was made and seconded to accept the final four goals of the Financial Stewardship committee. Motion carried.
- Parish Organizing: Meghan Olsen Biebighauser briefly described the work that would be done on payday lending in the coming year, including forming Exodus Lending as an independent organization and work with the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition. She referred the congregation to the Annual Meeting program for additional information.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Thanks were offered to Sue Roberts and Sara Wieben for the work they did on Julbord.
- It was noted that Joyce Peterson and Jess Olson were omitted from the list of Sunday School teachers.

- Thanks were extended to the executive committee and to all for the ways they serve this community of faith, particularly to those who are leaving council and those who served as committee members.

As there was no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The annual meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Lindorfer, Secretary

END OF MEETING NOTES