

## MINUTES FROM 111<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING, JANUARY 25, 2015

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Olsen Biebighauser at 12:39 p.m., after he declared a quorum was present to conduct business.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Laura Bolstad reported that the minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting were approved at the February 17, 2014 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. She noted that HTLC gained 15 net new members in 2014.

### COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jeff Olsen Biebighauser reported on moments from the past year that made him proud to be part of Holy Trinity, including Peace with Justice's Windsource project, the Nurturing Committee's Grief ministry, the Building Committee's mosaic project, and more.

### PASTORS' REPORTS

Pastor Carlson thanked those involved in putting together the annual meeting. He reported on highlights from 2014, including developing a great working relationship with Pastor Rasmussen and how David Sims has been enriching ministry at HTLC. He thanked the congregation for being open to change. Pastor Rasmussen thanked the congregation for loving her and forgiving her through her mistakes. She sees God's grace coming in and filling the cracks of our brokenness, and feels the world could really benefit from the story we have to tell.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Gerry Berglin 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 despite increasing the budget significantly in 2014 we ended the year with a positive budget balance of \$230. The new boiler has been paid for, and our assets increased by \$110,000 in 2014. He reported that our 2014 special funds appeal was successful, and the special appeals recommended by Council for 2015 are the Broadway School and World Hunger. Upon request, the Treasurer clarified that the church is still accepting donations towards the African Pastors Fund but it is not an official special appeal.

A motion was made and seconded that the congregation accept the balance sheet as presented. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Broadway School and World Hunger as the 2015 special appeals. Motion carried.

Lee Kampinen then gave a brief explanation of the endowment funds, reporting that we have significantly over one million dollars in total endowment funds. In 2014 the endowment funds provided approximately \$84,000 in investment income, making it the second largest budget receipt to support our general budget. The endowment funds come from estate gifts, and he welcomed the congregation to consider the many flexible options for setting up an estate plan that would help support the church.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Members of the 2014 Nominating Committee were introduced: Anna Brelje, Andrea Hansen, Mark Hiner, Peter Johnson, Jody Liedholm, Drew Lindorfer, and Randy Nelson. Jeff introduced the five individuals identified by the Nominating Committee and noted that their biographies were on pages 11-12 of the Annual Meeting program. The nominees for three year positions were Cliff Brown, Theresa Rian, Melanie Townsend, and Gerry Werth. Linda McMahon was nominated to serve the remaining term of a vacated position. 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 five candidates for the 2015 Church Council be elected by acclamation. Motion carried. The slate for the 2015 Nominating Committee was presented: Carol Berg, Deb Sodt, Sean Gosiewski, and Joyce Peterson, in addition to outgoing council members Josh Becker, Kari Kleven, and Jeff Olsen Biebighauser. A motion was made and seconded to accept this slate for the Nominating Committee. Motion carried.

## PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015

Treasurer Berglin called attention to the proposed 2015 budget, located on page 15. The budget proposes a 2.9% increase in the budget. He called for questions and received none. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2015 budget. Motion carried.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports were given. President Olsen Biebighauser called for questions about the committee goals, and was asked if there are any major new initiatives beyond what we have done in the past. President Olsen Biebighauser highlighted the goal for improving the sound system in 2015 to help people with hearing problems. We received approximately \$24,000 in donations for that purpose and met with a sound company last week. The goal is to complete the sound system improvements by Easter. The proposal will be going to Council in February. A motion was made and seconded to approve the committee goals. Motion carried.

President Olsen Biebighauser called attention to the reporting info located on pages 20-21.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Report from Building Project Working Group

Liz Blood provided a report from Building Project Working Group. She highlighted the project's guiding principles of security, accessibility, providing a clear welcome for visitors, and offering flexible meeting space for groups of varying sizes. During the listening campaign conducted over the last year in partnership with the consulting group Kairos and Associates, we found that members of Holy Trinity are very supportive of moving ahead with building improvements, especially the relocation of the offices to the main floor and the re-designation of the current office and library space to more useable meeting and education space. As a result, the Council appointed a building working group to select an architectural firm. The group has requested and received proposals from six firms, and they hope to have a recommendation for council vote in March, and for congregational vote at a subsequent special congregational meeting. Anyone with ideas for the project is welcome to contact David Krig, Randy Nelson, Liz Blood, Lynda Nordholm, Pastor Ingrid, or Pastor Jay.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Introduction of bylaw changes

Committees and Council have been working hard to update the bylaws to make sure the written document reflects our actual practices. Such changes include establishing a Working Group for Neighborhood Issues (currently

known as the Parish Organizing Team), and replacing the Christian Education committee with a Children and Family Ministry committee and an Adult Education Committee. A draft of the proposed changes is available.

#### Intercultural Development Fund

President Olsen Biebighauser introduced a proposal to redesignate the Latino Ministry Fund under the wider category of an Intercultural Development Fund. The funds had been originally raised years ago, and after it was determined that it would not be feasible to start a Latino Ministry/Congregation at HTLC 75% of the funds were given to the Synod for St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Approximately \$10,000 remain in the fund. A motion was made and seconded to approve repurposing the Latino Ministry Fund as an "Intercultural Fund" designated for Holy Trinity programs that increase our own intercultural competency and address racial injustices in our society. Motion carried.

Attention was called to the upcoming pancake breakfast, the accomplishments of South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels (served over 10,000 meals in 2014), and Bethany Lutheran Church's upcoming decision on whether to stay open. Thanks were offered to Kathy Hollander for organizing today's meal.

As there was no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The annual meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bolstad, Secretary