

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Monday, August 15, 2016

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, September 19, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Present: *Council members:* Jay Carlson, Ingrid Rasmussen, Sara Jensen, Theresa Rian, Melanie Townsend, Gerry Berglin, Cliff Brown, Judy Davison, Sean Gosiewski, David Krig, Martin Raabe, Roberta Shaw, and Gerry Werth. *Guest:* Vicki Mann.

Absent: Laura Bolstad, Julie Cahoy, and Chris Engen.

Call to Order: Sara Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

1. Devotions: Melanie Townsend shared devotions.

2. Check in: Members shared important events from the past month.

3. Reports:

a. Vice President:

Nothing to report.

b. President

Nothing to report.

c. Secretary:

- Minutes from the June 2016 meeting were approved at the potluck gathering in July.
- Financial reports were approved at the potluck gathering in July.
- Next meeting will be Monday, September 19 at 7:00 pm. Gerry Werth will be providing devotions and Judy Davison will be providing refreshments.

d. Treasurer (Vicki Mann reporting for Laura Bolstad)

- On the YTD comparison worksheet, budget receipts were a bit behind. This is the end of summer and something we typically see at this time of the year.
- We sent out a letter of appeal for world hunger and refugee resettlement. Those funds are quite a bit higher than they were last month.
- The Opening Doors building campaign has received \$319,726.47.
- Average attendance is up by 5.
- On the budget comparison worksheet YTD, we are a little under in offerings. In the interest and earnings category we are over, mainly because we budgeted lower. We don't want to depend on interest and earnings so it would make us hesitant to use those funds.
- Personnel has been under consistently every month, but now it will start to pick up, since Ann Schrooten will now be serving in capacity as the Children and Family Coordinator and receiving benefits.
- A motion was moved and approved to accept the financial reports. The financial reports were accepted.

e. Associate Pastor

- Lutheran Volunteer Corps volunteers have arrived and moved into a clean, well-stocked house. There are six members and they will be introduced during next week's service.
- The Fall Retreat at St. John's in Collegeville 9/30-10/1 has filled with 25 people.

- The Racial Justice Workshop for the Minneapolis and St. Paul synods 10/7-10/8 has filled with 415 people registered and 40 people on the waitlist.
- The Johnson Symposium 11/4-5 brochures are in press.
- Pastor Ingrid will be on vacation August 23-September 6.

f. Lead Pastor

- The middle schoolers had a great trip to Christikon in Montana. Ann Schrooten, Troy Davision, and Pastor Jay were the adult chaperones. The high school group went to Amnicon and had a lot of paddling practice. Both groups had positive experiences on their trips.
- We hosted a baptism workshop last weekend; three families attended.
- Funerals: John Karsko and Paul Moreen this week.
- Wedding: Allison Johnson will be getting married soon.
- The ELCA Church wide assembly was held in New Orleans last week; there were 980 attendees. Our synod's memorial about the "Doctrine of Discovery" was approved by a large majority. There was also a motion approved to continue to work with the Roman Catholic church. A new church-wide Vice-President was elected, William Horne.
- Rally Day will be September 11 and Ann Schrooten has been working very diligently to get materials prepared for that. Registration will be streamlined; one form can be filled out for each family either on paper or online.
- Payday lending update: Meagan Olsen-Biebighauser presented a forum on payday lending yesterday at Holy Trinity. If we want to keep working on this issue as a congregation, we may want to consider partnering with Isaiah, as our coalition has decided not to make this a special focus for this legislative session. She would like to build a team of Holy Trinity leaders to decide priorities, negotiate relationships with partners, and other efforts in this endeavor.
- September 24-October 5 Pastor Jay will be on vacation.

4. Committee and Task Force Reports:

Building Design and Funding Teams (Pastor Jay reporting)

- Today there was a cement truck here and they began the process of leveling the floor in the entry way.
- Excavation is expected to begin tomorrow.
- Waterproofing on the side of the building will also take place soon.
- Once the lobby tiling is complete, then the offices can move down (expected September 8-9).
- Doors are expected to be installed the first week of October.
- Dedication is scheduled for October 16.
- We are within budget, but our contingency has shrunk to about \$3k. However, the underpinning work is not expected to cost as much as budgeted.
- The funding team is meeting on Wednesday to determine next steps, as needed.
- The total pledges and gifts for this project is currently \$743,000.

5. Unfinished Business.

No unfinished business.

6. New Business:

a. Action Item from Outreach Committee: Discussion of Institutional Racism.

Outreach committee asks council to begin discussions on ways that institutional racism may be occurring within the council and church, preventing full engagement of all people and to report back to Outreach with themes and ideas.

We began discussing institutional racism including such things as understanding the concept of timeliness, urgency, and perfectionism. The Executive Committee will be compiling a formal response to the Outreach Committee after a few months of dialogue with the council.

7. Discussion

No further discussion beyond the topics outlined above.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Townsend