

## Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Monday, November 20, 2017

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Monday, December 18, 2017 at 6:30 pm**

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**Present:** *Council members:* Hans Lee, Theresa Rian, Bryan Kuzel, John Sulzbach, Melanie Townsend, Juliann Breting Rohn, Judy Davison, Michael Douglas, Chris Engen, Dave Krig, Andrea Martin, and Roberta Shaw.  
*Guests:* Vicki Mann and Sue Roberts. *Absent:* Cliff Brown and Ingrid Rasmussen.

**Call to order:** Theresa Rian called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

1. **Devotions:** Andrea Martin led us in devotions with singing in the Bartsch Room together.
2. **Check in:** Those present shared important events from the past month.
3. **Review congregational goals:**
  - (1) Deepen our commitment to creative, inspiring, inclusive, and culturally competent worship services and the accompanying music program for all ages.
  - (2) Grow in competence related to issues of race, class, and gender in our congregational life, and be led by community partners and communities of color working at these intersections.
  - (3) Together with the whole church seek to build the commonwealth of God through welcoming the stranger, accompanying the vulnerable, and caring for creation.
  - (4) Assist members of all ages in connecting Christian faith with life in the public square.
  - (5) Create space for new members to share their gifts and build relationships.
4. **Approve minutes from previous Council meeting:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from October's meeting. Motion carried.
5. **Communications task force update – Sue Roberts**
  - a. A few recommendations were made by the task force in regards to the church's website including: changing the URL to holytrinityminneapolis.org, reordering the list under "Visitor Center" so that "What does the church believe" is first and "Where do I park" is last, changing the shape and color of the buttons to reflect the logo, add more photos to the website, make the mission statement and tagline visible on the home page, and improve information under Justice and under Worship.
  - b. *The Community Church* will be printed on larger paper and with a color letterhead. In addition to the print copy, a weekly email will be sent out to members. There is consideration of changing the name of the newsletter—eliciting suggestions from the congregation in the coming months.
  - c. Worship participants will receive reminder emails a week prior to their scheduled service time. A worship participant schedule may be posted in the Community Room so people can see the schedule and find others if needed to trade responsibilities.
6. **IDI Discussion:** Those present met in pairs to share goals with one another and how we're progressing to meet those goals.
7. **Reports:**
  - a. *Vice President*
    - i. Committee Reports – Bryan asked those present to share something that interested them about the reports that were submitted this month.

ii. The Personnel Committee sent out a charter for Council review and approval. Tabled for further discussion at a later time.

*b. President*

Nothing to report.

*c. Secretary*

The next Council meeting scheduled for Monday, December 18 and is meant to be a holiday celebration. We plan to meet at Gandhi Mahal at 6:30 pm.

*d. Treasurer*

- We continue to be financially stable. Nothing notable or out of the ordinary was noted. There has been a slight drop in attendance compared to this time last year by about 10 people.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

*e. Pastor Hans*

- The Johnson Symposium was a fantastic event, with 300 attendees.
- Pastor Ingrid will return on December 1.
- The Stewardship breakfast went well.
- The Call Committee should have some news to share within the next few weeks regarding the process.

**8. New Business**

*a. Action item from Racial Justice Group*

The Racial Justice Group suggested we have a more welcoming banner visible on the church. It was decided to wait until Ingrid's return to discuss more specifics, in addition to including the Communications Group regarding the logo or imagery to be used on the banner.

*b. Visiting other Congregations*

In alignment with the Council's overall IDI goals, David Krig volunteered to visit Redeemer Lutheran Church and Roberta Shaw volunteered to visit All Nations Church and report back to the Council about their experiences before the current Council term ends.

**9. Old Business:**

*a. Budget*

From the Growing in Hope campaign, we can reasonably expect \$479,000 for next year's budget, which represents 10-12% growth overall. Pledges are still coming in.

*i. Personnel Priorities:* In preparing the budget for next year, the Council will need to weigh in on benefit eligible positions, keeping in mind the needs, goals, and values of the congregation.

**10. Discussion:** No further discussion.

**11. Closing:** Andrea Martin ended the meeting with a poem.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Townsend