

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, February 19, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Bryan Kuzel, David Krig, Ben Martinez, Ingrid Rasmussen, John Sulzbach, Juliann Breting Rohn, Hans Lee, Katelyn Hollaway, Chris Engen, Donna Scott, Michael Douglas, Nicki Hines, Roberta Shaw. **Absent:** Judy Davison

Call to order: Bryan Kuzel called the meeting to order.

Devotions: John Sulzbach read from *Credo* by William Sloane Coffin and prayed.

Check-in: Each shared something that others might not know about them.

Holy Trinity Mission Statement: The council read the statement out loud. Throughout the next month, each person is encouraged to think about the first item, which we will discuss at the March meeting. It states: *We, the baptized people of Holy Trinity Lutheran church, are committed to bearing witness to God's creative and redeeming actions within the life of this community and world.*

Handbook for Members of the Church Council. This new document was discussed. One revision will be made: delete *"Relate to at least one committee or other small group of the congregation and serve as an informal liaison between that group and the council."*

Understanding Financial Documents. Pastor Hans, with input by Pastor Ingrid and John Sulzbach, did a tutorial on Holy Trinity's main sources of revenue, to give the Council a better understanding of monthly financial statements.

Minutes of the 1/15/18 meeting were approved.

Vice President's Report: Juliann led a discussion the committee reports.

President's Report: Bryan encouraged council members to feel free to speak our minds and to honor each others' opinions/thoughts. He also encouraged members to keep HT's mission in mind as we do our work.

Treasurer's Report: John Sulzbach presented the financial reports, which were approved by the Council later in the meeting (see below).

Pastor Ingrid's Report:

Ingrid and Randy Nelson are considering a change of format for the annual Johnson Symposium. More to come.

A planned giving brochure is being drafted and will be presented to the Council when it is ready.

Ingrid's installation as Lead Pastor will be on March 11. Bishop Ann Svennungsen will preach at both services and will install Ingrid..

Pastor Hans' Report:

Our Lenten focus is “Resistance.” To what do we say “No,” and to what do we say “Yes?”

Financial Reports were approved.

Secretary’s report: Roberta Shaw circulated a sheet to gather primary and secondary phone numbers for Council members. She also circulated a devotions and treats sign-up sheet.

Call Committee report: Michael Douglas, who is on the Call Committee, reported that their next step, coming soon, is the first round of interviews with potential candidates for associate pastor. When there is a final candidate, that name will be presented to the Council for approval before going before the congregation.

Nominating Committee: There was discussion of how this committee works. This group recruits people to be nominated for council. The committee is composed of the four council members in their final year plus four people elected at the annual meeting. Nicki volunteered to work with Connie Adams on the committee’s guidelines and job description.

Congregational Goals: The congregation has had the same goals for two years. At the annual meeting in January, congregants’ ideas were gathered as a first step in developing new goals. Sue Roberts categorized those suggestions and posted them on the community room walls. David Krig, Roberta Shaw, Katelyn Hollaway, and Ben Martinez will work further with these materials to bring proposed goals to the Council at the March 19 meeting.

Innovation Hub Grant: Augsburg University has received a Lilly Endowment grant for a study of how local congregations relate to people ages 20-29 in their neighborhoods. A trained young adult from Augsburg would work with the congregation on this 3-year study. April 15 is the deadline to apply. There is a potential of a \$20-30,000 grant in the second two years of the project. Nicki Hines will gather more details so that the Council can vote on this at the March 19 meeting.

Communities of Calling Grant: St. John’s Univ. has a Lilly Grant to look at How is God calling us (individuals and congregation) in our daily lives. Fourteen congregations are sought. Potential \$30,000 over 4 years. The application is due by July 5. Nicki will gather more details on this one also.

Doctrine of Discovery “Proposal for a Partnership”: A group of Native American filmmakers and others are planning a film exposing the Doctrine of Discovery. Through Holy Trinity member Mike Miller, they have asked if Holy Trinity would be a fiscal sponsor, allowing an initial \$10,000 contribution to the film to be sent through Holy Trinity as a 501(c)3 organization. (This would be similar to how funds were first gathered for Exodus Lending prior to their obtaining 501(c)3 status.) Wilma Mankiller Foundation has a donor lined up. Council members had many questions: Is there any liability for Holy Trinity? How much of our staff time would be required? What does our “partnership” mean? Mike Miller and another Holy Trinity member would be on the advisory committee, but how much “say” would they have as the project progresses? Is the advisory committee like a board, but accountable to the Holy Trinity Council? What is the film distribution plan (answered in part in the proposal? How will Holy Trinity’s name be connected with it? Are we aligned with the content? Any creative license for us? What are the benefits of our involvement? Ingrid will get answers to some of these questions, including timeline. We will then meet by phone or in-person to vote, maybe at the March meeting.

Synod Assembly: It will be held at Lord of Life in Ramsey May 4-5. The south Minneapolis conference meets on February 25. Let Ingrid or Hans know if you wish to be a delegate to either of these.

Closing devotions: John Sulzbach read a benediction.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Next regular meeting: **Monday, March 19, 2018 7:00 p.m.**