

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, April 16, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Devotions: Chris Engen read a passage from the book “Walk in a Relaxed Manner” about a pilgrimage on the 500 mile Camino del Santiago in Spain.

Review of Congregational Mission Statement: "We proclaim the Good News of Jesus the Christ through Word and Sacrament".

Minutes of the 3/19/18 meeting were approved, with the following changes:

- Lines 4 and 5 after Public funding sentence ... “funding is limited by funds available”
- Strike “No lenders ... “ sentence.
- Change last sentence where it is “to cede our share” to “we are exploring the option of giving away our one third of the property”

Reports:

Vice President’s Report: Juliann led a discussion of the committee reports. There was discussion about reaching out to Augsburg students who may be hungry.

President’s Report: Bryan asked if there are suggestions for making the meetings more effective or a better experience. Has anyone used the Google Drive? He asked for suggestions for how to organize it. Notes are kept in one folder per meeting.

Secretary’s Report: Nicki Hines will give devotions and also provide treats at the May meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: John Sulzbach presented the financial reports. Part of the large increase in giving for the month of March was families paying their entire year contribution in that month. This may be due to IRA withdrawal rules, for example. John noted that the average attendance was also up. *A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion carried.*

Lead Pastor Ingrid’s Report:

- Holy Week was very meaningful. Thanks to staff members for their help with this.
- Pastor Hans’ interim with us ended on Easter.
- Meagan McLaughlin started in the Pastoral Assistant position the week after Easter.

- Meagan, Nicki Hines and others have completed and submitted the Innovation Hub grant application. HTLC spent \$200 for the video that went in with the grant. At Ingrid's request, *a motion was made and carried to authorize the Financial Stewardship Committee to find a funds for the video.*
- Plans are moving forward on the change of ownership terms for Trinity Apartments.
- The Adult Education Committee is working to partner with Edina Community Lutheran Church on trip to Israel/Palestine in 2019.

Unfinished Business:

Communities of Calling Grant:

Nicki called the pastor to talk about the inward vs outward. How does that work? This would be more of an inward-looking than outward-looking grant. It requires leadership from inside the church. This is an international opportunity. Would we make the application the topic of an adult forum? The grant application is due July 1, 2018. There was discussion about next steps in order to reach a decision about pursuing this grant. Ingrid will bring it to staff, and the Council will make a final discussion next month.

Congregational Goals: Katelyn presented the goals to the Council. She described the process that was taken to discern the main themes to be included in the goals. The goals will, hopefully, grow and stretch the congregation.

The themes focused on 1) Racial Justice and moving from awareness to action to continue the work that has been done, 2) Gender and Sexuality and 3) Nurturing our Faith (spiritual renewal for the people of the church who are action oriented). Each goal also included a "We could fulfill this goal by" statement to make it clear that they are intended to be measurable.

Ben and Nicki answered questions about the Our Whole Lives sexuality curriculum being proposed for education in the church.

Katelyn recorded notes to make changes to the goals. Council will send the nurturing faith goal back to the working group for word-smithing with tacit approval of the goals. *A motion to approve the goals, pending the editing of the third goal, was approved.*

New Business:

Racial Justice Statement: Ingrid introduced the HTLC Racial Justice Statement. A 2016 synod assembly resolution proposed that each church create a racial justice statement and then live into it. Council approval is needed to move the process forward to the committees and rework the draft as a penultimate statement the congregation would vote on at the annual meeting.

Bryan called for *a motion to authorize the racial justice statement and bring it forward to the committees. Motion was approved.*

Banner Proposal: The banner proposal is to make sure that there is a more welcoming signage than just the Holy Trinity English Lutheran Church words over the front entrance to the building. There was discussion about alternatives to a sign such as improving the website or other more effective means of drawing people in. There was discussion of moving the focus of signage to a signage committee that could also address lack of signage on Lake Street. Proposing people from the various committees to create a signage committee.

A motion as made to form a committee to focus on signage. Motion was approved.

Nominating Committee: Nicki reported that the nominating committee guidelines are ready. They will be reviewed by the Council at the May meeting.

Other Business:

Call Committee report:

The committee will have a single candidate for associate pastor to present to the Council within a week. The Council will meet on meet Apr 25th Wed 6:30-7:30 to meet the candidate by Skype.

Discussion Items: (Open Floor) No discussion.

Closing devotions: Chris Engen read a pilgrimage prayer to close the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Next regular meeting: **Monday, May 21, 2018 7:00 p.m.**