

## **HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MAY 21, 2018**

**Present:** Ben Martinez, Donna Scott, Katelyn Hollaway, John Sulzbach, Chris Engen, Bryan Kuzel, Michael Douglas, Judy Davison, Nicki Hines, Roberta Shaw, Juliann Breting Rohn

**Absent:** Ingrid Rasmussen, David Krig

**Call to order** by Bryan Kuzel

**Devotions:** Nicki shared thoughts on prayer and the Spirit.

**Checkin:** Bryan announced that Pastor Angela Khabeb has accepted the call as associate pastor, as voted on at the May 20 congregational meeting. Others shared news from their lives.

**Review of the congregational mission statement phrase "We assist and challenge people to address the issues of life and faith in the light of the biblical witness."** The Council discussed what this means and how it is or is not being done at HT. The volunteer fair was seen as a really positive action in this area.

*Minutes of the special council meeting of April 18 were approved.*

*Minutes of the April 18 Council meeting were approved, pending a few corrections.*

*Minutes of April 20 special meeting of the congregation to vote to call Pastor Angela Khabeb were approved, pending two typing corrections.*

**Vice President's Report:** The Council discussed the reports from the committees. Music in the Garden dates are June 10 (music by Kaia and Kelsey Porter), July 15, August 19, Sept. 9.

#### **President's Report:**

We will re-schedule the January meeting to the Thursday before or after, to avoid the MLK holiday. Bryan will consult with Ingrid about the best date.

July 16 meeting will be at Bryan's home. Potluck.

To ponder: ways that council can communicate to the congregation what we are working on.

**Secretary's Report:** Nothing to report.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

John presented the financial reports. *A motion was made and approved to accept the reports.*

**Lead Pastor's Report:** (read by Juliann)

Pastor Ingrid is attending the annual Festival of Homiletics in D. C. this week and will be on vacation next week, returning on Monday, June 4. Meagan McLaughlin will be covering all pastoral emergencies. If there is a death or crisis, she and I will be in contact about coverage.

While I am away, we have two member preachers. Jess Olson is one of our seminarians. She is preaching this weekend for Memorial Day. Please note there is only one service this weekend at 10 a.m. And on June 3, Randy Nelson will be the preacher.

On her return, Ingrid will meet with the board for the Trinity Housing Corporation. As I mentioned last month, that partnership is going through some changes. As we expected, Greater Minneapolis Housing Corporation recently resigned from the board, leaving just two partners--Community Housing Development Corporation and Holy Trinity. I've been in close contact with Elizabeth Flannery at CHDC. The two of us have yet to disagree on anything, so I am confident that the restructuring process will be a positive one. With Vicki and other staff members, I have done a review of the property lines, the costs related to upkeep of shared spaces, and staff time spent on apartment related activities. We are well-positioned to make some changes to our current partnership model--changes that will benefit both the apartments and Holy Trinity. More on this next month.

(Related to this, we did receive our 25,000 dollar asset management fee this month. It wasn't issued in April because of some of the aforementioned changes. It was issued in May.)

Holy Trinity did receive the Innovation Hub Grant that the Council authorized the congregation to apply for. We'll be working with the Innovation Hub at Augsburg University for the next three years. The first year, we'll be "given" a coach (someone between the ages of 21-29). This person will help us look closely at our engagement with young adults. They will also help us to create a project for years 2 and 3, for which we'll be eligible for 25,000-30,000 dollars! It's an amazing opportunity for us. Thanks to Nicki Hines for helping Meagan McLaughlin, Karen Kunze, Laura Bolstad, and Hannah Rector bring this grant to fruition!

The Personnel Committee asks the Council to authorize moving expenses for up to \$13,000 Pastor Angela Khabeb. This number was calculated based on an estimate that Pastor Angela received, an estimate that I received. Bryan Kuzel also spoke from his experience with moving costs related to his human resources work. Pastor Angela plans to move, sometime in June or early July. The moving costs will be billed directly to the church, so as to ease any burden on Pastor Angela. (It's easier for us, too!) Personnel would like Council to approve this expense and then task Financial Stewardship with finding the most appropriate undesignated fund for this one-time expense. [See below under "new business."]

(Related to this, Pastor Angela's family is looking for a rental home. Please keep your eyes open. And keep her and her family in your prayers!)

The Adult Education Committee approved the congregation's next international travel trip. We will be partnering with Edina Community Lutheran Church on a trip to Palestine/Israel. The trip will be November 6-16, 2019. It will cost approximately \$4,200/traveler. We need to submit a \$500 fee to "hold" our trip spot. This is an un-budgeted expense that Adult Education does not have capacity to handle in our current year's funds. Adult Education would like Council to approve this expense and then task Financial Stewardship with finding the most appropriate undesignated fund for this one-time expense. [See below under "new business."]

My final words are about Pastor Angela! I'm delighted by the congregation's decision yesterday. I feel like we had a good (and long!) discussion at the congregational meeting. Thank you to Bryan and to Lisa Martens for shouldering the questions and answers! I think the congregation got a very good snapshot of

who Pastor Angela is and what she can bring to the ministry at Holy Trinity. I anticipate a start date in August.

In the words of Bishop Michael Curry, love and fire to you this Pentecost season!

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Communities of Calling Grant Proposal:**

As part of the grant application process, Holy Trinity staff members Ann Schrooten and Meghan Olsen Biebighauser have suggested three ideas for engaging with this grant:

1. implementation of Our Whole Lives (amplified) curriculum/conversations around who we are called to be as embodied beings, for all ages in the congregation;
2. exploring our vocation as neighbors—using theological and prayerful discernment to Inform our roles as citizens, voters, and community members.
3. parenting for the public square—exploring how families can engage in our calling to Social and racial justice together.

Council members each wrote out their rankings for these three items. Results will be tabulated and passed along to Ann and Meghan.

**Congregational Goals:** After brief discussion, *the new congregational goals were approved.*

### **Nominating Committee Guidelines:**

Connie Adams, Teresa Rian, and Nicki Hines have worked hard on developing written guidelines for the Nominating Committee. Council reviewed the draft and made a few changes.

*A motion to approve the Nominating Committee Guidelines, pending the few changes, was approved.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Pastor Khabeb's moving expenses:** As brought to the Council by Pastor Ingrid, a *motion to authorize the expenditure of up to \$13,000 for Pastor Angela Khabeb's moving cost, with the decision on funding source to be passed to the Financial Stewardship Committee, was approved.*

**Holy Land Trip:** As brought to the Council by Pastor Ingrid, the Council *approved a \$500 deposit for the 2019 Holy Land trip, with the funding source to be determined by the Financial Stewardship Committee.*

## **DISCUSSION**

One means of informing the congregation about the Council's work is the practice of posting the minutes on the bulletin board in the cul-de-sac entrance. Roberta will write a short piece about this in Community Church, after verifying the procedure with Vicki Mann.

Signage group. Bryan will ask Ingrid about the status of signage discussions.

There was discussion of the status of the doctrine of discovery film. Since Holy Trinity is the fiscal sponsor for the trailer portion of the film's expense, the Racial Justice Group wants to have the producer speak at an forum. This needS to be communicated to the Adult Education Committee.

Nicki ended with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Next meeting will be on Monday, June 18, 7:00 P.M.

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