

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018**

**Present:** John Sulzbach, Pastor Ingrid Rasmussen, Michael Douglas, Vicki Mann, David Krig, Ben Martinez, Chris Engen, Donna Scott, Judy Davison, Bryan Kuzel, Roberta Shaw

**Absent:** Nicki Hines, Juliann Breting Rohn, Pastor Angela Khabebe, Katelyn Hollaway

**Devotions:** David led in a responsive Maori prayer.

*Minutes of the October 14, 2018 were approved.*

**REPORTS**

**Vice President:** Pastor Ingrid highlighted that the Israel Palestine trip has been officially cancelled. There was brief discussion of other items in the reports.

**President:** The December 17 Council meeting will be off-site. Bryan again asked if there would be schedule conflicts if we moved the meeting another day of the week. There were several who could not easily change at this point. This will be discussed later if necessary.

**Treasurer:**

Average attendance is up by 12 people over last year at this time.

Opening Doors is on track. The mortgage extends over 5 years. We might be a bit short at the end of 2019, and there are possibilities for making up this difference.

Youth committee was over budget because there was a larger than normal confirmation class (12), and more youth than expected went to Heifer Ranch.

*The Council passed a motion to accept the financial reports.*

**Pastor Angela:**

Recent activities—meetings with various community organizations; a VOA lunch at All Square Cafe; Robert Bowman funeral (please keep the family in our prayers); served a meal at Trinity Apartments with confirmands; a baptism class on Sunday for three families; an enjoyable dinner with confirmands, sponsors, pastors, Ann Schrooten and Linda Jury.

On Wednesdays in Advent, there will be a book discussion of *I'm Still Here* by Austin Channing Brown.

She expressed her thankfulness to God for placing her in the Holy Trinity Community. "My cup runneth over."

**Pastor Ingrid:**

She is assisting the Minneapolis Area Synod World Hunger Committee in reviewing applications for ELCA domestic hunger project grants. Maybe Holy Trinity will want to consider such a grant.

She, Ann Schrooten and Deb Anderson attended (at St. John's University) a gathering of the 14 U.S. and Canadian congregations that have received **Communities of Calling** grants. Attendees were a group of vital, multi-denominational church folks. The first of three years will be a period of discernment by the congregation on vocation and calling in our lives. In 2019 we can apply for funding for particular projects—risk-taking encouraged!

Advent coming is coming when we look forward to a new year. This year's Advent theme is **Reflected Light** (Christ's light reflected in our lives and in others' lives).

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Nominating Committee:** David reported that four nominees have accepted. Tom Cahoy, Kathy Ohler, Amy Froiland Parada, Steve Murray.

*The Council voted to approve the recommendations from the nominating committee for church council.*

**Bathroom renovations:** Ingrid met with the "old" design team. They reviewed the plans which were scuttled during Opening Doors project (due to lack of funding at that time). The first step would be to engage an architect. For the short term, two first floor bathrooms could be designated as all-gender on Sunday morning. Needs to be clearly communicated by signage and other communication.

*The Council approved a motion to direct the building staff to convert the doors on the first floor bathrooms to make the bathroom single-use for Sundays and as needed.*

The **Stewardship campaign** has been successful. As of today, with not all pledges received, there have been as many pledges received as were received by December 31 last year.

**Proposed bylaw changes** to replace the bylaw items on Committee on Peace with Justice for all Creation (item 6) and on Working Group for Neighborhood Issues (item 14), to Committee on Public Voice and Organizing. The Committee on Public Voice and Organizing will support the work of the committees and working groups as they take on various justice projects.

*The Council approved a motion to recommend moving the proposed bylaw changes to a congregational vote, with clarified language in bullet point four.*

**Worship Furnishings:** Regarding the Council's October question about the need for another processional cross, the Worship and Fine Arts furnishings sub-group felt that most processional crosses were given to us by individuals, and they now want to explore creating something that would represent a communal sense of the congregation's understanding of the cross. With that rationale given, the RFPs will move ahead.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Job Description Review:** The Personnel Committee has drafted new job descriptions for office administrative duties. These follow best practices that separate out the two financial aspects (incoming and outgoing) of the role. The new positions would be:

Accounts Receivable Coordinator—two hours per week

Financial Administrator—four hours per week

Communications and Congregational Coordinator—full time

*The Council approved the administration succession plan as proposed by the Personnel Committee.*

**Abuse prevention and Child Protection Policy**

The policy, approved in June, 2014, is to be reviewed every year.

The Council reviewed the policy, including updates. Ann Schrooten will be asked to clarify the language of section VI.A about adults being trained to pass on the abuse report. Council members will review the policy prior to the December 17 meeting and discuss again.

**Closing:** Council members shared what they are grateful for in this Thanksgiving week.