

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

January 19, 2023 – 6:30 pm

Conference Room

Members present: Troy Zander (President), Bob Baumann (by Zoom), Bev Cross, Chris Berglund, Kyle Gebhardt, Sue Kolling, Matt McMerty, Dean Natwick, Colleen Peterson, Londa Rodahl, Danette Welsh and Pastor Mark Narum.

Devotions were given by Londa Rodahl.

Approval of Agenda: Danette Welsh moved approval of the agenda with two additional items. Second by Bev Cross and carried.

Acceptance of Consent Agenda: Kyle Gebhardt moved acceptance of the Consent Agenda. Second by Colleen Peterson and carried.

Financial Report: Kyle Gebhardt reported December revenues of \$90,602.40, expenses of \$67,614.88, leaving a balance of \$22,987.52. Year-to-Date: revenues \$773,842.55, expenses \$746,293.47, balance \$27,549.08, which doesn't include the December benevolences that were paid this month. Our year ended with \$11,640 in the black. The Christmas offering brought in \$7,610 for Ministry on the Margins. Sue Kolling moved that the Council received the financial report. Second by Chris Berglund and carried.

Old Business:

Fire Detection/Alarm Task Force Update: Colleen Peterson noted we'll have a second presentation to the congregation on the proposed upgrades to the fire detection and alarm system. These will be held following the services on January 29th and February 1st in the Community Center. These presentations will also update where we are with the capital campaign.

New Pastor Update: Sue Kolling reported she, Bev Cross and Matt McMerty had found members willing to serve on a task force to welcome Pastor Martha HarriSon. Colleen Peterson moved that we appoint Julie Leer, Paula Schilling, Teri Seibel and Kelly Spilman to the task force to welcome and mentor Pastor Martha HarriSon. Second by Danette Welsh and carried.

Grace Lutheran, Driscoll – Pastor Mark reported we have a signed agreement to provide pastoral duties for/with the Grace Lutheran Church congregation in Driscoll, ND.

New Business:

Letter received: Pastor Mark noted we received a letter from an attorney representing a member who recently fell outside. Our insurance company has been contacted.

Easter Special Offering: Discussion was held of possible recipients for the Easter offering. Colleen Peterson moved that our Easter offering be given to our *Loaves and Fishes* fund. Second by Kyle Gebhardt and carried.

Dakota Pro Musica Concert: We have been asked by Jason Thoms, director of Dakota Pro Musica, if Trinity would be willing to host an oratorio in conjunction with the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony. The event will be October 6th marking 25 years since the beating death of Matthew Shepherd in Wyoming by two young men because he was gay. Trinity has hosted two previous events by Pro Musica. This oratorio will include a chorus, soloists, orchestra and narrator. Matt

McMerty moved that we approve of Dakota Pro Musica holding the “Considering Matthew Shepherd” oratorio on October 6, 2023. Second by Dean Natwick and carried.

Building the Annual Meeting Agenda: Council felt we need to make the congregation aware of the: maintenance issues of the facility; basic information on how serious the safety issues are with the fire detection/smoke alarm system to bring the building up to code; that we are welcoming to the issues of mental health and substance abuse; and that the Council put value statements with Trinity’s mission statement.

Revisit the 3-year deferred maintenance plan: We should consider having another walk-through of the whole facility as was done a couple years ago. This will allow us to see if any items should be added or adjusted. We can then keep maintenance ongoing rather than neglecting things and ending up where we are now with the capital campaign to fix many issues/problems.

Lenten Soup Suppers & Ministry on the Margins: Pastor Mark noted we will again be offering soup suppers during Lent. He suggested we make an extra pot of soup and take it to Ministry on the Margins each week and the Council agreed. Volunteers are needed to help make and serve the soup.

Lord’s Prayer: Kyle Gebhardt moved that we return to using the traditional Lord’s Prayer for all services. Second by Dean Natwick and carried.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted,
Londa Rodahl, Secretary