

**MINUTES FROM A MEETING OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
August 16, 2022**

Members present: Pastor Karri Anderson, Colleen Guilfoile, Diane John (remote), Cathy Johnson, David Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Michelle Kok, Craig Martin, LeRoy Mitchell, Pastor Terry Nordheim, Gary Peterson, George Popa, Linda Popa

Members absent: Sherry Holt, Jackie Otte

Guest: Gail Seaver

Call to order

Craig Martin, president, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Devotions by Pastor Terry.

Approval of the agenda

- Linda Popa moved to approve the agenda.
Second by Cathy Johnson.
Motion carried.

Approval of minutes

- Colleen Guilfoile moved to approve the minutes from the July Church Council meeting.
Second by Linda Popa.
Motion carried.

Pastor's report

The Saint Paul Area Synod Bishop's Fall Theological Conference will take place in October.

Matt Mitchell has been working on setting up a kiosk for registration of worship attendance.

Linda Rambow is on vacation from August 16 through September 6.

New member classes are being planned. At this time there are eight people who are interested. Two new families were at worship this past Sunday.

- Mission Festival happens on September 11
- Confirmation and CIA orientation happen at 6:30 on September 14
- On September 18 we move to two services, and this is our new organist's first Sunday
- The dates for the Outerwear Fair has been moved up to September 29-October 1.
- A four-part stewardship series will be presented in October. The four parts are *Remember*,

Release, Reimagine, and Restore.

- An All Saints recognition for several senior members is being planned.
- Reformation Sunday will be Pastor Terry's last worship service. A single service is planned for that day.
- Trinity hosts *Path to Home* on October 9-16.

Associate pastor's report

Pastor Karri will do a preaching class as part of continuing education. It is 2-3 hours per day of classes.

Committee liaison reports

Colleen Guilfoile expressed concerns about committee responsibility for advertising expense. The Finance Committee feels that there is money in designated accounts. Colleen wants to know what designated accounts the Finance Committee is looking at. It is suggested that the Finance Committee recommend to Council which account should pay for advertising. Colleen would like to have more information on this.

The Building Committee will hold information meetings on the 17th, 21st, and 22.

- Colleen Guilfoile moved to accept committee reports, with the exception of a request for more information on the advertising expense.
Second by Michelle Kok.
Motion carried.

Treasurer's report

Total July budgeted income: \$43,280
Total July actual income: \$51,687
Total budgeted income through July: \$310,410
Total actual income through July: \$281,201

Total July budgeted expenses: \$45,583
Total July actual expenses: \$42,114
Total budgeted expenses through July: \$314,226
Total actual expenses through July: \$318,787

Trinity will transfer \$10,000 from the 2020 operation reserves to cover expenses. This is in compliance with a prior congregation vote.

Final audit reports have been mailed. Final copies will be distributed to Council members at the September meeting. It is noted that there are no significant findings. However, there will be some changes to current policies and addition of new policies.

The Executive Committee recommends that \$1,200 from the Hartford study go to the Leadership Training and Development dedicated account for leadership training of Council members. The Executive Committee would have spending authority over this money.

The Finance Committee recommends that the shortfall for the new organist salary be paid out of the Holmquist Bequest. Pastor Terry will send a thank you to the family.

The Finance Committee will be putting together a couple of draft budgets so the congregation can make an informed decision on 2023 pledges. Commitment Sunday is November 3.

Report from Gail Seaver who represented Trinity at the Churchwide Assembly in Columbus, Ohio, August 8-12, 2022

Gail Seaver reported on his attendance at the Churchwide Assembly. A synopsis follows.

- The theme of the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly was *Embody the Word*. There were approximately 900 Lutherans at the assembly.
- The assembly elected Imran Siddiqui as Vice President of the ELCA. Imran is a Senior Investigator for the United States Department of Labor. He became a Lutheran in 2011. He has been Vice President of the Southeastern Synod since 2018.
- The assembly set a goal to engage 1 million new people over three years and to commit 30% of time and resources to reach new people.
- The assembly voted on approximately 80 *memorials*. Gail listed the following:

Category A1: Diversity

Category A2: Nuclear weapons

Category A4: Greenhouse gas reduction (set a goal of reducing its 2020 greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050).

Category A7: Black migrant strategy

Category A9: Russian divestment

Category A11: Gun violence

Category A12: LGBTQIA+ welcome

Category A14: Roe vs Wade impact to pastoral counseling

Category B5: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) ELCA governance audit

Category C1: Renew social statement on creation care

Category C2: Child abuse and protection

Category C4: Social statement on homelessness

Category A8: Land back to indigenous peoples

More information on the assembly is available at www.facebook.com/Lutherans. Or go to the ELCA website and click on Churchwide Assembly.

Old business

Building renovation committee update

Bids from three roofing contractors have been sent out. One contractor has responded. Two have not responded. A fourth contractor will be contacted if one or more of the other contractors drop out. Trinity requested a bid package by August 25.

Three HVAC contractors have been requested to view our site and submit a bid. Two have placed a bid. One has declined. The committee will select one of the two bids on Thursday.

Three information meetings have been scheduled.

August 28 special meeting of the congregation

Council reviewed and discussed the agenda for the August 28 congregational meeting. It was noted that the vote on August 28 meeting is solely to approve or disapprove funding of Phase I work on the roof and HVAC repair and replacements.

Council agreed that the *Other Updates* agenda item will include presentation of plans for transition after the departure of Pastor Terry.

- Colleen Guilfoile moved to accept the agenda, with the changes pastoral transition, and to accept the ballot as written on the proposed meeting agenda.
Second by Cathy Johnson.
Motion carried.

Consensus is that we should use a written ballot for the motion.

Council discussed whether confirmation of membership should be verified before handing out a ballot. Consensus is that a statement of voting member qualifications is sufficient of for the August 28 meeting:

Voting members are confirmed members who have received Holy Communion and have made a contribution of record within the current or preceding year (Chapter 8, C8.02. c Voting, of Trinity's Constitution 2021)

Green Space Task Force

The Green Space Task Force Report was reviewed by Council. Gary Peterson noted that the Green Space Task Force regards its charge as having been fulfilled by delivery of the report.

- David Johnson moved that Council accept the Green Space Report.
Second by Michelle Kok.
Motion carried.

New Business

Hartford fund gift

\$1200 from the Hartford fund has been gifted to Trinity.

- George Popa moved to place the \$1,200 from the Hartford fund into Leadership Development. Second by LeRoy Mitchell.
Motion Carried.

Trinity organ status

Some of the functions of Trinity's organ are not functioning. The organ service company we use has inspected this and found that there are two systems. One controls the notes, the other controls the stops. They noted that the control boards are hand made, and that over time the boards fracture and then need to be rebuilt. The service company noted that we need to repair the system that controls the organ. For example, replace the *windchest* and do rewiring. At a minimum, this is 6 to 8 weeks of on-site labor plus parts. Anticipated minimum cost is \$60,000-\$80,000, but this rises to \$100,000-\$120,000 if we include the windchest.

It was noted that our organ still functions. Stops must be changed by hand (no advance presets). To replace the organ with a used organ is perhaps \$30,000 plus shipping and installation. Expect an 8-12 month lead time. Other options exist. A task force to address this issue might be formed at some time in the future.

It was noted that the previous repair was a temporary fix to the windchest for \$6,000. Typical organ lifetime is 30-50 years before repairs are needed.

A second opinion on our organ is being sought.

Fall congregational meeting

The fall congregational meeting will take place between services on October 9. The agenda will include

- Election of Council members
- Election of one person to the Endowment Committee
- Report from the Audit Committee
- Discussion and presentation of a preliminary budget

Council noted that the Nominating Committee for new Church Council members needs to be activated, and that it needs to identify candidates by September 9.

Pastoral transition

Council discussed the transition after the departure of Pastor Terry. The Executive Committee will meet with Justin Grimm (assistant to the bishop) next week regarding an orderly transition and an interim pastor.

Resignation of Children and Family Ministry Coordinator

Emmy Lundeen has resigned her position as Children's and Family Ministry Coordinator, effective August 26, 2022.

- Colleen Guilfoile moved to accept Emmy Lundeen's resignation.
Second by Craig Martin.
Motion carried.

Downstairs piano

Nancy Johnson noted that the piano downstairs has a note that is not working. She noted that it is a note that is used a lot, so it cannot be ignored.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Nancy Johnson.
Second by Michelle Kok.
Motion carried.

Submitted by Gary L. Peterson (Secretary)