

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2017

Prepared by Bob Nida

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church Lounge

Present: Larry Faelchle, Pastor Peterson, Sarah Evinsky, Neal Coryell, Donna Bowman, and Bob Nida.

Absent: Steve Mayer, Geoff Wilhelm, Emily Godshalk, David Huskey.

Meeting called to order at 7:05PM

Pastor's Devotional: John, 1. John worked to focus attention to Jesus and away from himself.

Minutes: November Council Minutes were discussed. Motion to approve by Donna, seconded by Sarah. Passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Larry proposed in email on Nov 30 that we will offer Jill Christ a one time \$100 reduction on her rent for January 2018 providing that she is available and willing to play cello at our Christmas Eve service.

Motion passed with 7 for the motion, one against.

New Business:

None proposed before reports.

Executive Reports

- **President's Report.**
 - Larry updated on Männerchor concert. Had about 260 in attendance.
 - He has 2 members accepted to work on the nominating committee. Looking for one more. Planning for the annual membership meeting to be held on March 4, 2018.
 - Narcotics Anonymous is interested in continuing to use our fellowship hall into the next year. Larry will be setting up a new contract for the extended term. Pastor reported that hosting them is good as it fits with TLC's mission.
 - Larry brought up that a local group was looking to the potential of a summer day-care. He and Sarah will get back with them and explore it further.
 - Discussed open positions to be up for vote at the 2018 Annual Membership Meeting.
 - Discussed sending a few members to the Synod Assembly.
 - Jill will perform for our Christmas Eve service.

- **Vice President's Report**

- Neal will talk with Synod office about volunteering.
- Neal reported about a product called Realm, it might be a potential replacement for Church Windows.
- Neal reported that CGMC would like to use the sanctuary all day Saturday through 4PM, Feb 3, 2018 and 7PM-9PM Feb 26th. Neal motioned to allow CGMC to use the sanctuary for their rehearsals on these dates. Pastor seconded. Passed unanimous.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Discussed a few committee expenses and the past months building expenses relating to heating/gas system repairs.

- **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor notified of his planned trips of continuing education and vacation. This includes 21 days in January 2018.

Committee Reports

- **Community Ministry**

- We've adopted a family for providing gifts and assistance. All but one of the gift tags had been picked up.
- We cancelled the TLC furniture build as we did not get enough volunteer commitments.
- Pastor has been meeting with community groups and elected representatives.

- **Congregational Life**

- Had many signups for the smorgasbord. Many snacks have been sold for the campership fund.

- **Evangelism/Communications**

- Had volunteers help set up village lights. Will need add'l volunteers next year to support a longer day.
- Visitor packets have been prepared.
- Sarah is talking with United Way who has sought the potential renting space for a special event of there's. This is still in exploration.
- Discussing the potential of hosting Alpha. Roles needed to be filled, potentially 10 roles. Estimated payment to Alpha could be about \$500. Estimated beginning Feb 18, 2018.

- **Property**

- Larry reported that Dave had Winger come in again, they replaced a corroded valve, made adjustments to others.

- **Spiritual Formation**

- Pastor reported Fourth Saturday event in December went well. Might skip January.

- **Worship**

- Donna said that Tom was exploring having student recitals in the sanctuary. This will not be an event which will charge attendance. Donna motioned to make sanctuary available for Ohio State University musical student recitals on Sunday evenings, each date subject to council approval. Seconded by Neal. Passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Larry motioned to adjourn.

Pastor's Report for Church Council
For October, 2017
Submitted December 12th, 2017

I. Worship and Common Prayer

- A. Led 2 worship services and preached 11/4-5, 18-19, 25-26
- B. Midweek worship each Thursday @ 6:15 11/2, 9, 16, 30
- C. Prepped Women's Thank offering 11/11-12
- D. Thanksgiving Eve service 11/22
- E. Worship and Music Team 11/21
- E. Bob Weld's Funeral 11/18
- F. Prep for Advent and Christmas
- G. Hanging of Greens 11/26

II. Spiritual Formation

- A. Spiritual formation Team mtg. 11/7
- B. Prepped for and participated in 4th Sunday Intergen event 12/2
- C. Alpha @ Wed. 6:00-9:00 Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29
- D. Affirmation of Baptism prep John Starling and Jack Green 11/1&4

III. Inreach

- A. Congregational Life:
 - 1. Team Meeting 10/1?
- B. Pastoral Care:
 - 1. Hospital, sick, & homebound: 11/4, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 21, 28, 30
 - 2. Pre-marital/Baptism/Funeral: 11/17 & 18
 - 3. Various phone calls and notes weekly
 - 4. Other member mtgs 11/4, 30

IV. Outreach

- A. Evangelism/Communication:
 - 1. A few Facebook posts per week
 - 3. Streetwalking 2x/wk.
- B. Visitors and Prospective Members:
 - 1. Lots of phone calls to regular members & friends
 - 2. Notes, emails, or calls to visitors weekly
- C. Community Ministry:
 - 1. Regular contacts through Samaritan Ministry
 - 2. Bus ticket for Angel 11/21
 - 3. Southside progressive action 11/12
 - 4. Faith in Public Life mtg. 11/
 - 5. Served at Faith Mission 11/26

V. Support Work

- A. Staff:
 - 1. Mary—2x weekly (ca. 15 minutes @)
 - 2. Lori—occasional base-touching
 - 3. Dr. Tom Multiple times, in prep for Advent, Christmas, Thanksgiving

- B. Property:
 1. Several discussions w/ David Huskey
 2. Trash pick-up through the churchyard weekly
- C. Finance: A few contacts w/ Steven Mayer
- D. Council 11/14
- E. Trans-congregational:
 1. Pericope study w/local pastors, Wednesdays 8:00-9:30
 2. Central OH Conference of SOS 11/16

VI. Professional & Personal Development, Time Off, Reimbursements, etc.

- A. Scholarship, study, and teaching
 1. Teaching “Religious Foundations and the Bible” (UC 220-11, 3 credit hours) at Capital University M & F 12:00-1:15 p.m.
 2. Working on “Philipp Melanchthon” for *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (Published by Degruyter), due March 1, 2018
- B. Time away 2017-18
 1. Continuing Ed. taken in 2017:
 - a. Total offered per year: 10 days, including 2 Sundays
 - b. Taken in 2017: 10 days, including 2 Sundays
 2. To be taken in 2018: Spanish Language and Mexican Culture
 - a. 10 days, including 2 Sundays
 - b. Sundays Jan 7 & 14
 - c. Non Sundays: Jan/ 2, 3, 4, 6, 16, 17, 18, 20
 2. Vacation
 - a. Total offered per year: 4 weeks (20 workdays, including 4 Sundays)
 - b. Total taken in 2017: 17 days, incl. 3 Sundays.
 - c. Planned for 2018: 19 days, including 4 Sundays
 - i. Language & Culture Trip in Mexico: 3 days, incl. 1 Sunday (Sunday 1/21: other days 1/ 23, 24)
 - ii. Science of Consciousness Conference: 5 days, incl. 1 Sunday (April 3, 4, 5, & 7, plus Sunday 4/8)
 - iii. Glen creative writing event: 5 days, including 1 Sunday (July 30, August 1, 2, 4, and Sunday 8/5)
 - iv. American Academy of Religion: 3 days, including 1 Sunday (November 15 & 17, and Sunday 11/18)
 - v. Visit to my sister Holly in Minnesota 3 weekdays, tbd, in the summer
 3. Reimbursements:
 - a. Mileage: 184 miles (x \$0.535/ mile =) \$98.44

VII. Remarks

1. Alpha wrapped up beautifully and we are hard at work planning for an Alpha at Old Trinity, 6-8 p.m., beginning the first Sunday of Lent (February 18), to be completed sometime around Pentecost (May 20)
2. I enjoyed teaching at Capital, though the circumstances were less than ideal. I’ll be open to teaching again (this time with opportunity to prepare!) in the fall of 2018.
3. I am preparing for Trinity Seminary’s “Spanish for Ministry” trip to the Cemanahuac language institute in Cuernavaca, Mexico. This will be a long time away—from January 2-22nd or so.

- a. Pastor Libby Buuck has agreed to supply at altar and pulpit in my absence.
- b. I believe I'll have internet access, and I suspect I'll be working out Alpha details through my time there.

Congregational Life Council Report December 2017

-Had a committee meeting on December 3rd -Advent midweek lunches are taking place on December 6th, 13th, and 20th after the noon Advent services. -Holiday Smorgasbord will be on December 17th after church. We will be distributing all of the campership bake sale items that were ordered in advance at the Smorgasbord and will have additional items for sale as well. -Volunteers are needed for the coffee cart for 2018. Please consider signing your committee up for a month if your committee has not recently taken a turn being in charge of the coffee cart.

Communication & Evangelism Committee Report

- Village Lights was December 3. We didn't have too many visitors (maybe a dozen), but it was a fun time for fellowship!
- Visitor packets have been assembled and are on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Mary took care of ordering pens for the packets!
- I designed and printed promotional materials for our Christmas services and for Alpha. Hard copies are on the table at the back of the sanctuary.
- Committee meeting is scheduled for December 20. We will be meeting with the people from United Way (10 am) and then discussing Alpha and assembling more visitor packets.
- I've begun compiling photos from Trinity weddings over the years. I've added them to the website as a way to hopefully attract more outside weddings.

Spiritual Formation Ministry Report – Month of November 2017

Submitted by Geoff Wilhelm on 12/12/2017

Committee members: Amy Hehr, Brad Smith, Carol Smith, Christiane Buuck, Geoff Wilhelm, Pastor Chuck

Children's / Youth Christian Education:

We were blessed with an anonymous donation for the nursery supervisor. Praise God! We will now need to begin the search process to find good candidates.

Youth & Family Ministry:

On December 2nd, we held the combined Nov-Dec Intergenerational 4th Saturday gathering, with candy making and awareness activities toward camping and the Campership Fund. Candy will be sold at the Dec 17th Smorgasbord event. Pre-Orders have exceeded 50 orders including in- and out-of congregation orders!

Adult Sunday School:

Adult Sunday School is on hiatus through the end of this year.

Last Alpha session concluded on Nov 29th. We conducted a retrospective discussion with the folks who attended to get feedback on what worked well and what could have been improved – about 17 people participated in the discussion.

Thus far, we have a cross-ministry group of 6 people to help organize an Alpha program in February 2018.

We recognize this would be a significant commitment of the congregation and would like to propose that we jointly pursue this ministry program.

As this would provide modest planning time as we sit here at mid-November, the team is thinking that we would make this first Trinity Alpha more of an internal & Friends and Family focus so we can get some experience providing the program. After this run, we would be looking to promote a public, open Alpha participation in the future.

All this being said, we will be asking Council if each member would be willing to organize and provide 1-2 meals during the Feb-May timeframe Alpha would continue.

November 2017 Worship Committee

Committee members: Pastor Charles Peterson, Sarah Bender, Katie Brandt, Neal Coryell, Shirley Griffin

Bev Speasmaker, Tom Wells, Donna Bowman, chair

We reviewed the Reformation concert and once again thanked Tom for all his work. Dr. Ward would like to schedule an OSU Men's Glee Club concert at Trinity at some time in the future. Cecily, the early music group will play at the December 17 service.

As Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year, we discussed whether to cancel the Saturday service or the 11 pm Christmas Eve service so as not to have four services in two days. After much discussion, it was decided to continue with both services as the Saturday congregation would be upset if there was no service and the 11 pm service has a long tradition at Trinity and is much enjoyed by those who attend.

Because the Maennechor is singing on December 3 the schedule for decorating the sanctuary for Advent was advanced one week. The sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas after the morning service on December 24.

At least through December, we will continue serving Communion using only the chalices. In addition to being the preferred way to serve Communion we are using less wine and grape juice by not using individual cups.

Advent calendars for the children, and those who are still children at heart, will be ordered.

Although no particular event has been scheduled, Tom has asked that we consider making the sanctuary available to OSU music students who are performance majors to present recitals required as part of their course work. The recitals would be in the evening, most likely on a Sunday. As with other events, council would have approval of each recital.