

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2018

Prepared by Bob Nida

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church Lounge

Present: Larry Faelchle, Sarah Evinsky, Neal Coryell, Pastor Peterson, Donna Bowman, Emily Godshalk, Steve Mayer, Geoff Wilhelm, David Huskey, and Bob Nida.

Absent: None.

Meeting called to order at 7:04PM

Pastor's Devotional:

Minutes: Donna motioned to accept January minutes. David seconded. Passed Unanimous.

Old Business:

New Business:

Executive Reports

- **President's Report.**

- Larry asks that committees submit reports to the office so they may be prepared for Annual Membership meeting.
- Larry sent the contract prepared for Amethyst to Amethyst for their board to review and approve.
- Narcotics Anonymous requests an additional key to the building. Pastor and Larry report that they have always left their spaces clean. Larry motions to give another key to the Narcotics Anonymous, Donna seconded. Passed Unanimous.
- Larry asks that people keep Mary (Office) informed about scheduled events.
- Larry committed Council to provide one meal for Alpha.

- **Vice President's Report**

- Neal Coryell and Sarah Evinsky will be able to attend the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly as voting members.
- Andrew Gifford from Crop wanted to use Trinity as a planning site on Wednesday March 14th. About 4-5 will attend this planning event.
- Columbus Gay Men's Chorus sang at a Bluejackets game, he played a video for council.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Steve presented December 2017 Operating Fund Summary, and discussed YTD values. 2017 final is still accumulating income.
- The budget discussion led to discussion of First English. Pastor reports they are still operating, learning about how to minister to new residents.
- Only 15 people request envelopes. Might promote other donation options.
- Additional pledge cards have been submitted for 2018 and therefore income might be over original budgeted income values.
- Pastor motions to accept January 2018 Treasurer's report, Donna seconded, passed unanimous.

- **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor was gone for much of January. Pastor thanked all who helped at Christmas, Pastor Buuck for covering for us in January, and Geoff and Sarah for their Alpha preparations.
- Pastor presented in report his 2018 time away schedule.
- Pastor is aware of some new frequent visitors.

Committee Reports

- **Community Ministry**

- Super Bowl raised \$315. David was thankful for Gretchen's help with it.
- Westside pantry is closing soon. Champion is also closing. Food will be dispersed from Rec Centers.
- David reports that TLC has handed out 24 meals a week in January.

- **Congregational Life**

- Emily reported that soup preparation is lined up for Wednesdays.

- **Evangelism/Communications**

- Sarah reported that Alpha is beginning on the February 18th and there are 15 entrants and potentially a few more.

- **Property**

- David thanked for those people that have shoveled snow.
- Kitchen furnace broke down and has been repaired.
- Looks for the Church to figure out the rooms leased to Amethyst.
- David has suggested updating the carpet of the nursery. Moving the nursery was discussed. Geoff wants to discuss the nursery at March 6th in the Spiritual Formation meeting.

- **Spiritual Formation**

- Geoff reports that the Nursery Supervisor might be looking for a few short term personnel to work the position.
- Geoff asked who does the Nursery Supervisor report to, who do they call if they needed to call in sick? This may be a matter to be determined. Larry reported that Executive

Council will meet on March 13 at 6:00PM. Larry will reach out to thank the parents that covered the absence of the Nursery Supervisor.

- **Worship**

- Donna reports that Pastor is making first Alpha soup.
- Donna wants volunteers to read Passion on Palm Sunday. She handed out roles.

Adjournment: Pastor motioned to adjourn at 8:56 P.M. Donna seconded. Passed Unanimous.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio
Pastor's Report for Church Council
For December, 2017 and January, 2018
Submitted February 11, 2018

I. Upreach

A. Worship and Common Prayer

1. Sabbath services 12/2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 30-31 and 1/27-28
2. Midweek worship: --Advent 12:05 and 7:00 p.m. 12/6, 13, & 20
--Evening prayer, eucharist, 7 p.m. 12/27; 1/24, 31, (and 2/7)
3. Christmas Eve 7:00 and 11:00
4. Prepped bulletins and found sub for 1/6-7, 13-14, and 20-21
5. Worship and Music 12/19(??) and 1/30
6. Prep for Ash Wednesday and Lent
7. Decorated for Christmas 12/20

B. Spiritual Formation

1. Spiritual formation Team mtg. 12/5
2. Prepped for and participated in 4th Sunday Intergen event 12/2, 1/27
3. Alpha Planning 12/6,

III. Inreach

A. Congregational Life:

1. Team Meeting (?12/3?)
2. Smorgasbord 12/17

B. Pastoral Care:

1. Hospital, sick, & homebound: 12/4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 19(x2), 21(x3), 26, 27, 1/27, 30,
2. Pre-marital/Baptism/Funeral: None
3. Various phone calls and notes weekly
4. Other member mtgs 12/28

IV. Outreach

A. Evangelism/Communication:

1. A few Facebook posts per week
2. Streetwalking 2x/wk.
3. Maennerchor concert & Village Lights 12/3
4. Magpie Consort concert 12/10

B. Visitors and Prospective Members:

1. Lots of phone calls to regular members & friends
2. Notes, emails, or calls to visitors weekly
3. Individual mtgs 12/6

C. Community Ministry:

1. Regular contacts through Samaritan Ministry
2. Southside progressive action ?
3. Hunger Advocacy at Statehouse 12/5
4. Faith in Public Life mtg. ?

V. Downreach (Support Teams, Relationships, and Personnel)

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 12/12

E. Trans-congregational:

1. Pericope study w/local pastors, Wednesdays 8:00-9:30
2. Central OH Conference of SOS 12/14

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. concluded 12/11
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: In December: 348 (x \$0.535) = \$186.18
In January: 35 (x \$0.545) = \$19.07
 - b. Continuing expenses for Language study in Mexico: \$2522.18

VII. Remarks

1. Thanks to all for all the hard work on and around Christmas, and for keeping things humming in my longer absence. Special thanks to Pastor Buuck for doing such a fine job at the pulpit and altar!

2. I am cheered by the excellent participation we've had and that we have scheduled for Alpha. We've got around 12 people from Old Trinity signed up for the spring course, bringing the total # who have participated at Old Trinity to around 32.

3. I am also excited to think that Bob Ohrstead, a member of Old Trinity is working to establish a post-basics study group.

Community Ministry

Held "Souper Bowl" luncheon to raise funds for Mid-Ohio Food Bank and LSS Food Pantry. Thanks to Gretchen for organizing!

Continued our usual assistance to our neighbors who knock on our door. Thanks Mary!

Congregational Life Council Report February 2018

-Lenten midweek lunches begin this week on Ash Wednesday after the noon service and continue on Wednesdays throughout Lent with the last meal being on March 21st. I have volunteers to make soup and dessert for each of the meals. -I plan to hold our next committee meeting after church on March 18th due to schedule conflicts on the first Sunday of February and of March. -Congregational Life will assist with making a meal for the Alpha course on March 4th and will help make two additional meals as needed.

Communication & Evangelism Committee Report

- Alpha begins this Sunday, February 18. We have 15 participants registered and all leadership roles have been filled. Hallelujah!
- This month I'll be working on getting promotional materials ready for Holy Week Services
- Next meeting will be February 21 at 11am

Property

Snow, snow, snow. One Source has done a fine job of keeping the lot clear.

Volunteers continue to maintain the sidewalks.

Had Wenger Heating and Cooling repair the furnace located between the kitchen and archives room.

Replacement bulbs for sanctuary ceiling are in and will be installed as schedule permits.

Need to replace leaking water supply line to sink in upstairs ladies restroom.

Spiritual Formation Ministry Report – Month of January 2018

Submitted by Geoff Wilhelm on 2/13/2018

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

Next Ministry Team Meeting: March 6th, 7:00pm @ Trinity church

Children's / Youth Christian Education:

The nursery supervisor we thought might work out as a permanent candidate did not work out. She was unable to be consistent enough for us to continue with her. We are considering a short term engagement with Jane Nida, but will continue to look for a long-term candidate to fill this role.

Christiane has a job description in process, expecting to have that ready by the end of February. We will post the position and will ask for as much help as possible to recruit for the role.

Youth & Family Ministry:

The Intergenerational 4th Saturday event on January 27th, was a wonderful time and well attended by a broad cross-section of the congregation. The kids' candle crafts are on display in the sanctuary, on the window sills and on the altar. Next 4th Saturday event will be held on Saturday Feb 24th, @ 9:30am.

Adult Sunday School:

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

Alpha – Spring Session (Feb 18th – May 6th)

We are set with a group of 9-12 participants with broad representation across the congregation.

To participate, contact Sarah Evinsky! @ sarah.evinsky@gmail.com

To join the team as a helper or leader, contact Geoff Wilhelm! @ geoffwilhelm@yahoo.com

Alpha Planning Meetings - Sarah, Amy H, Pastor Chuck, Geoff

Met weekly on Sundays after service on Jan 14, 21, 28 (approx 12:00 noon). Other than filling some remaining meal provider slots, all plans are finalized and we are ready to go.

Alpha Leader Trainings - had a group of 4 host/helper session leaders attend two trainings earlier this month.

Feb 4 Lutheran Theology Guidance (Pastor Chuck) was provided

Feb 11 Small Group Facilitation (Geoff W) was provided

SESSION SCHEDULE for Meal Volunteers:

February 18: [Worship committee](#)

February 25:

March 4: [Congregational Life](#)

March 11: [Finance-Pizza and/or subs, with salad and dessert](#)

March 18: [Communications/ Evangelism](#)

March 25: PALM SUNDAY - NO SESSION

April 1: EASTER – NO SESSION

April 8:

April 14: DAY AWAY Camp Mowana: [Spiritual Formation](#),

April 22:

April 29:

May 6:

Amy Hehr continues to coordinate the meals schedule – please contact her if you have not already. Congregational Life has graciously agreed to provide meals for 2 additional weeks beyond March 4th. This leaves 3 open weeks for ministry teams to chip in. The earlier sessions would be better, as those weeks we are asking the ministry teams to give a 5 minute talk to the group – ideally looking for volunteers for Feb 25th, April 8th, & April 22nd particularly. Please contact Amy ASAP!

JANUARY 2017 WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee members: Pastor Peterson, Sarah Bender, Katie Brandt, Neal Coryell, Shirley Griffin, Beverly Speasmaker, Tom Wells, Donna Bowman, chair

We reviewed the services for Advent and Christmas and decided that, at this time, no changes need to be made for Christmas 2018.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14 and the theme for this year will be exploring The Lord's Prayer. As usual we will have two midweek Lenten services: at 12:05 with a simple lunch to follow provided by Congregational Life and at 7. Following requests by several members of the congregation we will be praying the Stations of the Cross on Friday at noon.

Lenten and Easter devotional materials have been ordered for children and adults. We have ordered palm branches from Eco-Palms, part of Lutheran World Relief, a fair trade program. We will be selling Easter lilies and other spring flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter.

Traditionally, on Palm Sunday, we have members of the congregation read the story of Christ's Passion and the committee thought it would be appropriate to have members of council read this year.

At the suggestion of Terry Tucker, Donate Life will make a presentation to the congregation about organ donation in April during National Organ Donation month. Terry is our own miraculous proof of the value of donating organs.

We are looking for some more contemporary hymns to add, on occasion.

We will be hosting the coffee cart in February as well as the Alpha dinner on February 18.