

**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, Steve Mayer, Donna Bowman, Geoff Wilhelm, Emily Godshalk, David Huskey and Bob Nida.

Absent: none.

Meeting called to order at 7:03PM

Pastor's Devotional: Matthew 25.

Minutes: October's Council minutes were distributed. Minor adjustments were made. Pastor motioned to accept, Steve seconded. Motion carries with two abstentions.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Geoff asked council to consider that TLC host it's own Alpha program in the next year, potentially beginning in February.

Executive Reports

- **President's Report.**

- Larry wants to consider who would like to step into opening council positions in 2018.
- Sarah motioned that the executive team nominate and appoint members for the Nomination team. David seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Larry reported Maennerchor has a rehearsal on November 28, their concert is on December 3.

- **Vice President's Report**

- Neal had nothing additional to report that wasn't already discussed.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Discussed the October financial reports.
- Discussed the draft 2018 General Operating budget. The staff cost-of-living increase was removed, but he would like to consider it be put back in. Changes at Trinity Lutheran

Seminary will be changing/increasing insurance costs for Pastor Peterson and spouse. Flower expenses and reimbursements and funding sources were discussed.

- o About 30 members have submitted pledge cards.
 - o November 28th council and committee chairs will get together to work on budget.
 - o Pass out budget to members on December 3rd.
 - o Congregation approval tentatively scheduled for December 10th.
 - o 2 budgets may be proposed to the congregation, one with no cuts to services, one with cuts to services.
- **Pastor's Report**
 - o Pastor spoke of the Alpha program.
 - o We got three new members to our congregation.

Committee Reports

- **Community Ministry**
 - o A successful mid ohio foodbank tour.
- **Congregational Life**
 - o Planning advent meals on condition of gas coming on.
- **Evangelism/Communications**
 - o Sarah reported that she and Pastor visited the high school nearby. Next committee meeting on December 20th.
- **Property**
 - o Elevator repaired again.
 - o Columbia Gas might finally instal gas meter this Wednesday.
 - o He is still coordinating with Winger to install a pump with the proper flow rate for the BREAD room.
 - o David proposes putting off the significant boiler work until Spring, as we are already into freezing weather. He wants to have Winger look at the boilers once they can be put back into operation to see if they might be able to make it through the season.
 - o TLC needs to have an inspection of the building performed and submitted to the City of Columbus by the end of December or face fines.
- **Spiritual Formation**
 - o December 2nd will be the next Intergenerational Event for the congregation.
 - o Would like for our congregation to consider the Alpha program.
- **Worship**
 - o Donna was very pleased with the help from many different congregation members with the 500th Anniversary Celebration.

Adjournment: Geoff motioned to adjourn, Donna seconds, passes unanimous.

Congregational Life Committee Council Report November 2017

- Hosted a reception after the Reformation Concert on October 29th which was well-received -Held a reception for Stewardship Sunday and new member Jack Greene on November 5th after church
- Committee meeting on November 5th after the reception -Setting up and cleaning up the coffee cart for the month of November

Upcoming events:

- Congregational Life and Spiritual Formation are partnering to organize a holiday bake sale. We plan to make and sell buckeyes, assorted chocolates and chocolate pretzels, fudge, and assorted nuts. The children of Trinity will be involved in the sale and will help with dipping buckeyes and pretzels in chocolate on the next 4th Saturday event scheduled for December 2nd. We will distribute and collect order forms from now until December 3rd and will distribute the bake sale items on December 10th and 17th. All proceeds from the sale will go towards the campership fund. -Advent midweek lunches will take place on Wednesday December 6th, 13th, and 20th. -The Holiday Smorgasbord is scheduled for December 17th after church.

Communication & Evangelism Report

Committee Meeting held on October 17th

- Visited Columbus Downtown High School. There are opportunities for us to support and engage with the students there through utilizing the cafe, print shop, and cosmetology departments. Our building is designated as their off site evacuation destination.
- Discussed visitor packets. Waiting on pens to be ordered and materials to be printed.

Alpha at Trinity?

- A large group of Trinity members have been attending Alpha at Scotty's Cafe for several weeks. It's been a positive experience for both faith building and faith webbing, in my opinion. Pastor and I hope to connect with everyone who has attended and gauge their interest in helping to run an Alpha course at Trinity beginning in February.

Village Lights December 3

- We will again open Old Trinity to the public through Village Lights. This is a great way to invite the community in in a non-churchy way and show them what we have to offer.
- Sign up sheets are on my committee bulletin board to help with set up and cookie making

Website Photos have been Updated

- I finally figured out how to upload new photos and have removed the outdated photos. We feel this is an important change as it will show potential visitors that we are an active congregation. I will continue to work on adding current photos over the next couple of weeks and as we hold events.

Committee Meeting Scheduled for December 20 at 11am

Spiritual Formation Ministry Report – Month of October 2017

Submitted by Geoff Wilhelm on 11/14/2017

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

Children's / Youth Christian Education:

Volunteer nursery supervisors continue to cover the nursery during service. We continue to put effort into keeping a list of signed up volunteers.

We intend to propose a budget item to fund a part-time nursery supervisor for 2018.

Youth & Family Ministry: Our October monthly Intergenerational activity centered on Luther, the printing press, and the 95 Theses (which are hanging up on the door of our church).

November and December Fourth Saturdays will be combined on December 2nd, with candy making and awareness activities toward camping and the Campership Fund. Candy will be sold at the Dec 17th Smorgasbord event.

Adult Sunday School:

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

The “Alpha” with St Catherine’s continues to go well. Last Alpha session is on Nov 29th. We intend to conduct a retrospective discussion with the folks who attended to get feedback on what worked well and what could have been improved.

Our hope is to organize a team of enthusiastic participants to conduct Alpha in early 2018. Right now, looking at Feb 18th through May 27th as tentative schedule.

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.

Community Group Study:

At end of August, we hosted Sarah Bender for a presentation on her recent trip to Europe, where she followed the pilgrimage route that Martin Luther took as a young monk. It was a great evening of interesting info and fellowship.

Stewardship Season:

Much appreciation to the Finance team and to council for doing a great job with “Rally Season”!

OCTOBER 2017 WORSHIP COMMITTEE

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

The Worship Committee has added a new member, Sarah Bender who has also joined Altar Guild and we have several new worship leaders, Melissa Seibert as a lector and Gretchen Brandt as an usher, worship assistant and tower bell ringer.

The October meeting was short and most of the discussion focused on tying up loose ends for the Reformation Day concert. 254 people were there, including participants, and we collected \$501.01 in freewill offerings, proving yet again that Protestants have no talent for raising money. Dr. Ward expressed some interest in having the OSU Men's Glee Club perform at Trinity again and Cecily will be playing on December 17.