

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes  
June 12, 2018**

Prepared by Bob Nida

**Location:** Trinity Lutheran Church Lounge

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

**Absent:** Neal Coryell.

Meeting called to order at 7:05PM

**Pastor's Devotional:** Pastor read from 1 Samuel. We are always sinners, including our faith and secular authorities. While we might make errors, be mindful of what we're doing.

**Minutes:** Donna motioned to accept May minutes. David seconded. Passed with one abstention, Emily. Note: Those minutes were later updated to correctly reflect the name of an activity participant.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

David motioned to permit up to \$7,000 for chimney repair, with an expectation that the property endowment committee may also contribute funds toward that amount. Seconded by Donna. Passed unanimous.

Geoff motioned to extend a job offer to Jillian McCarter to fill the Childrens Supervisor position and to work through the end of the year. Sarah seconded. Passed unanimous.

## **Executive Reports**

- **President's Report.**

- Larry reported that the Dance group has had a few minor issues with some neighborhood residents. They will not have a dance session on July 3.
- Maennerchor dinner went very well.
- Larry motioned to allow TLC Women to rent our parking lot out on July 3, 2018. Emily seconded. Passed unanimous.
- Larry said we would cancel the July Council meeting.

- **Vice President's Report**

- Neal (through Larry) reported that Cropwalk would like to have an event in the Lounge on July 15 at 3PM. Then on August 18, team captain meeting at 10AM in the lounge. David motioned to approve motion, Emily seconded. Passed unanimous.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Steve reported that our offerings are up in recent months. Group discussion on multiple expense categories. Utilities might be more than budgeted, something to keep an eye on.
- Discussed electronic donation opportunity for non-members.
- Geoff motioned to approve the finance report, providing we look into some wayward expenses. Donna seconded. Passed unanimous.

- **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor reports he has continued making numerous home and hospital visits.
- Reviewed his written report. Reported that we have a lot going on at Trinity.
- Pastor reviewed the sabbatical policy from NW Ohio synod (Southern Ohio Synod policy not located online). It recommends 12-weeks in length. Intended to allow for education or pastoral refreshment at pastor's discretion. Pastor is considering the Fall of 2019.

## Committee Reports

- **Community Ministry**

- Mayda spoke of upcoming events.

- **Congregational Life**

- Emily discussed report.
- Edible Father's day gifts this Sunday.

- **Evangelism/Communications**

- Sarah reviewed report. Synod Assembly provided additional ideas on the topic of how to help members become producers of evangelism.
- Banners are being considered for the exterior of the building.
- SummerQuest coordinator has reached out to Sarah on some issues, like restriction of children from the yard/lawn. TLC staff may have referenced noise/disruption issues. Sarah and Pastor responded and spoke with some TLC staff and existing tenants. The tenants seemed to be supportive. It is a learning experience for all of us, we weren't sure what to expect initially. We will need to improve communication in future changes.

- **Property**

- David responded to some additional requests from Alvis group.
- Replaced many light bulbs lately. Researching new lights for parking lot.
- Dumpster is overflowing, David will continue to monitor for potentially additional pickups. These past few weeks Trinity has hosted many events.
- Might have found someone to repair the kitchen disposal.
- Wenger heating and cooling is being scheduled to correct the piping work of the boiler.

- **Spiritual Formation**

- Geoff reviewed report. June 23rd is the next intergenerational event at the Darby Creek Metro Park. July Intergenerational event may host Gary Pecuch.
- Alpha debrief and survey concluded and Geoff is planning for the next Alpha session begin in early January 2019.

- **Worship**

- Donna reported we had open flames in service without incident.

**Adjournment:** Adjourn at 9:17 P.M.

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio**  
**Pastor's Report for Church Council**  
**For May, 2018 (Submitted June 12th, 2018)**

**I. Upreach**

**A. Worship and Common Prayer**

- |   |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
| 1. Sabbath services each weekend in May | –Saturdays 5 p.m.<br>--Sundays 10:30 a.m. |        |
| 2. Midweek worship                      | --Wednesdays 12:05-12:35                  | Still  |
| prayer<br>& commems.                    | --Wednesdays 6:15-6:45                    | Feasts |
| 3. Worship and Music Team Mtg. 5/15     |   |        |
| 4. Prep for Pentecost                   |   |        |
| 5. Prep for Trinity Sunday              |   |        |

**B. Spiritual Formation**

1. Spiritual formation Team mtg. 5/1
2. Prepped for and participated in 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Intergen events 5/5 and 5/26
3. Alpha: Planning plenty of behind the scenes work
4. Alpha: 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sunday 5/6
5. Bob Ohrsted's Faith and Art Study 6:30-8:30 Thursdays, concluding 5/23
6. Alpha review 5/23

**II. Inreach**

**A. Congregational Life:**

1. March mtg 5/6
2. Before and after worship base-touching, as always.
3. Fellowship on Pentecost and Trinity

**B. Pastoral Care:**

1. Hospital, sick, & homebound: 5/1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 (x2), 20, 22, 24, 30
2. Pre-marital/Baptism/Funeral: 4/11, 14, 16, 17,
3. Various phone calls and notes weekly

**III. Outreach**

**A. Evangelism/Communication:**

1. A few Facebook posts
2. Streetwalking 2x/wk.
3. No mtg.
4. Met with Laura Sutter of Alvis

**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. Southside Progressive Action: dna in May
3. Interfaith Justice Table 5/18
4. Ohio Poor People's Campaign at the Statehouse: 5/21, 28

#### IV. Downreach (Support Teams, Civic Relationships, and Personnel)

##### A. Staff:

1. Mary—variously through the week
2. Lori—occasional base-touching
3. Dr. Tom multiple times, in prep for Pentecost and Trinity

##### B. Property:

1. Several discussions w/ David Huskey
2. Trash pick-up through the churchyard weekly

C. Finance: A few contacts through the month w/ Steven Mayer

D. Council 5/8

##### E. Trans-congregational:

1. Pericope study w/local pastors, Wednesdays 8:00-9:30
2. Central OH Conference of SOS—5/10
3. SOSCO 5.5 Cluster 4Did not attend

#### V. Professional & Personal Development, Time Off, Reimbursements, etc.

##### A. Scholarship, study, and teaching

1. Submitted “Philipp Melanchthon” for *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (Published by Degruyter), due May 24th.
2. Enrolled in a creative writing correspondence course through Image Journal

##### B. Time away 2017-18

1. Continuing Ed. taken in 2017:
  - a. Total offered per year: 10 days, including 2 Sundays
  - b. **Taken in 2018: 10 days, incl. 2 Sundays**  
Spanish Lang. course: 2 Sundays (1/ 7 & 14) + 2-4, 6, 17, 18, & 20
3. Vacation
  - a. Total offered per year: 4 weeks (20 workdays, including 4 Sundays)
  - b. Taken in 2018
    - i. Language & Culture Trip in Mexico: 3 days, incl. 1 Sunday
    - ii. Science of Consciousness Conference: 2 days (April 4-5)
  - c. Planned yet for 2018
    - i. Visit to my sister Holly in Minnesota: 6/24-29 (3 days, no Sundays)
    - ii. American Academy of Religion: 3 days, including 1 Sunday
    - iii. Unplanned for vacation remaining: 9 days, including 2 Sundays)
3. Reimbursements & payments:
  - a. Submitting for pastor’s discretionary fund
    - i. \$150 from Cook and Sons Pally (Thelma Schumacher’s Funeral)
    - i. Check for \_\_\_\_\_ (Cynthia Griffin’s funeral)
  - b. Please transfer \$114 from Pastor’s discretionary fund for Paschal Candle)
  - b. Mileage to be reimbursed: 747 miles (x \$0.545/mile) = \$407.11

#### VI. Remarks: Proudly posted this on Facebook today:

Ever wonder what’s going on within the walls of this 160+ year old building? Take a minute to read this post. Because this is God’s church, it’s here for this community and for you!

We hope you'll gather with us to be refreshed with the love of God in Jesus at 5:00 on Saturday night and at 10:30 on Sunday Mornings when we worship. On Wednesdays the church is open at noon for silent meditation, we offer evening prayer with Holy Communion at 6:15 p.m., and a faith discussion at 7:00 (this

week we're looking into how the Biblical and scientific worldviews are both consistent and complimentary). Our ministry teams meet throughout the month, especially on Sundays after worship and on Tuesday evenings. Our chancel and bell choirs meet on Thursday evenings (they are currently on summer break).

Everyday a number of our--and your--neighbors experiencing homelessness come to Old Trinity for help getting a state ID card, a bus pass, a sack lunch, or some other basic goods. It's a blessing to be forming closer relationships with Leroy, Jeff, Ricky, Eric, and many others!

We host an Overeater's Anonymous group on Fridays at noon, and a Narcotics Anonymous group (especially LGBTQIA+ friendly) on Saturdays at 7:00 p.m. For decades we have given office space to the Downtowners Campus ministry, serving students at half a dozen post-secondary training and educational schools across town. We rent space to Jill Crist's Suzuki cello school and to B.R.E.A.D. (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity), the premier faith-based community advocacy organization in Columbus. On Tuesday nights over fifty people gather at Old Trinity for a fun evening of dancing with Swing Columbus. Each weekday until Labor Day, Summerquest Day Camp of Alvis, serving kids in families recovering from addiction, is meeting in our Sunday School classrooms. Last Sunday night we hosted Schnitzel dinner fundraiser for the Columbus Maennerchor, a German language chorus. We host a number of concerts throughout the year as well as dinners, meetings and rehearsals for groups like Church World Service (which organizes the CROP walk against world hunger) and the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus.

Our mission is: "Sharing the Word of God Through Worship and Teaching, With Love and Service, In Our Congregation and Our Community." We hope you'll join us in this life-giving service, powered by God's unconquerable Spirit of love for ALL. If you belong to a faith, service, community, or social group whose work is consistent with ours, let's see how we can work together for the good of the world God loves so much!

## Congregational Life Church Council Report June 2018

### Past events:

-Passed out a gift of flowers to all mothers after the services on Mother's Day weekend -Held the first Lemonade on the Lawn of the year on May 20th. During LOTL we had a CD and DVD exchange, bakeware exchange, and plant exchange which went really well. I donated the rest of the items that were leftover from the exchange to Goodwill. -May 20th was also Pentecost Sunday. We sold 30 pots of red geraniums to beautify the sanctuary and planted the geraniums outside the church after Lemonade on the Lawn. -Hosted a reception after church to celebrate Trinity Sunday on May 27th. -Had a committee meeting on June 3rd

### Upcoming events:

-We will be hosting a Father's Day breakfast before church on June 17th and will distribute a gift to all fathers after services that weekend. -Next Lemonade on the Lawn will be June 24th. -We plan to organize a group outing to a Columbus Clippers baseball game on the evening of Thursday July 19th.

**Tuesday, June**

**12, 2018 Communications & Evangelism Report June 2018**

I attended Synod Assembly June 1-2. It was interesting and rewarding to hear about all the great ministry happening within our wider church body. I attended sessions on Human Trafficking and most related to my council role, Evangelism. I picked up some good ideas of how to encourage our members to participate in faith sharing that I hope to utilize

I am still working on the signage for the outside of our building. Hopefully by next month I'll have options for us to look at.

The website has been updated with the council meeting minutes through April 2018.



## **Spiritual Formation Ministry Report – Month of May 2018**

*Submitted by Geoff Wilhelm on 6/12/2018*

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

*Next Ministry Team Meeting: early July TBD*

### **Children's / Youth Christian Education:**

Children's Minister: In last month's council meeting, we approved the role and direction for the Children's Minister position.

#### **RECRUITING INTENTIONS:**

Jill McCarter has begun working "ad hoc" since May 27<sup>th</sup>. Amy has contacted references and is finalizing those checks and the background check report that Jill has recently gotten for another job. Jill has also attended a couple extra-curricular Trinity events and has been social with the kids and other members.

They have negotiated pay rate of \$15/hour and will be roughly within the budget range we had discussed previously with the additional Christ Ed teaching adding a little more time for the second half of the year.

At June Council, Geoff will present Jill McCarter as the candidate for hiring on as the official Children's Minister. We have her commitment through the end of the year and would anticipate continuing with her assuming there is mutual interest.

#### **Recap - SUPERVISION:**

In day-to-day activities, the Children's Minister will report to Amy Hehr, who has taken on the supervisory function and will handle communications with all parties. Any Christ Ed teaching will be done under supervision of Pastor and Spiritual Formation.

### **Youth & Family Ministry:**

The Intergenerational 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday event on May 26<sup>th</sup> on Bees and including the Franklin Park Conservatory was a wonderful time for many. Next 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday events will be:

**JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup> - Theme:** Outdoor field trip, nature, God's creation

**JULY 28<sup>th</sup> – Theme:** Faith Webbing

**AUGUST ?? – Theme:** Tie in to the Amethyst program ending and the church picnic. Details TBD

### **Community Group Study**

Art & Faith Study concluded on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Adult Study Groups will take a break the week of Memorial Day.

Starting Weds June 6<sup>th</sup>, we began a 4 week faith study group on Environmentalism and the Biblical basis for stewardship of the natural world.

In July, we will take a break the week of 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Then, will begin a mixed study on Ephesians, looking at the lessons from the month, in a bible study format and will begin the series with a Pub Theology gathering on the topic of Grace.

### **Alpha – Planning for the Future**

Wrapped up this Alpha series with a leaders debrief at end of May. We began planning to host a new Alpha series in early January 2019. Our goal will be to encourage as many people as possible to get the word out to friends, family, and the community around us.

### **Confirmation Classes**

Pastor Chuck is beginning to meet with Carlos Pagan and Robin Garujal to participate in confirmation study. Pastor plans to reorganize the routine of meeting with Carlos and Robin to enable more consistent progress.

## MAY 2018 WORSHIP MEETING

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

We finalized plans for Pentecost, the third great festival of the church. Thanks to the imagination and creativity of Amy Hehr and assistance of the Spiritual Formation team, the altar was decorated with doves, the Baptismal fount was highlighted with flames and doves, and the children participated in the processional carrying wands with (ribbon) flames. Carlos Pagan made his debut as Crucifier and Hector Pagan was the banner bearer. We sold more geraniums this year than in past years and Jeff Forney arranged them as well as decorating the pew ends. Once again we had a bowl of flames, and once again did not set the church on fire.

The congregation responded well with requests for more than 55 favorite hymns and there were few duplicate requests. These will be sung throughout the summer. As usual we will have a pickup summer choir, probably the last Sunday of each month. The bell choir played arrangements by Tom Wells for both Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

During the summer we will be using a new penitential rite, with sung responses, based on an Orthodox church service.

We have purchased a handbell repair kit, eliminating the need for service calls.