

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

Prepared by Bob Nida

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church Lounge

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

Absent: Donna Bowman.

Meeting called to order at 7:04PM

Pastor's Devotional: A reading to keep our eyes on Christ. Keep the main thing central.

Minutes: Sarah motioned to accept February minutes as amended. Steve seconded. Passed Unanimous.

Old Business:

New Business:

Executive Reports

- **President's Report.**

- Larry discussed the swing dance group every week beginning Tuesday, March 27th, 6:30PM-10:15PM. Shoes worn are typically athletic shoes or loafers. 40-60 people in attendance. Council discussed the topic of renting to for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. Geoff noticed that their website says they are a non-profit. Larry thinks they may have danced at the Ramada previously. Neal discussed if we could get references. Larry said we could use a contract blank prepared by David and do a trial period of about three months. Rent discussed bare minimum. Larry said they might want to have live music. David notified that we don't have much electrical capability in that space. Pastor said this helps meet the church's goal of making our space available to others in the community.
- Steven motioned to approve Swing Columbus use of the Fellowship Hall. Council President is empowered to work on contract with a 90 day out-clause and determine final pricing. Sarah seconds. Passed unanimous.
- Larry received a call from Columbus Männerchor, asking to use the church on May 20th, Sunday afternoon 3-8PM for kindercore. This will be a performance of about 10 children. They will not use our dishes, they will use disposable dinnerware. It is believed the calendar may be open, Alpha is over by that time. They will need the stove for cooking brats.
- Sarah motions to approve kindercore use of the fellowship hall and empower the Council President to work out price and final details with a \$200 minimum. Steve seconds.

Pastor warns of stretching our volunteers and a potential distraction from our mission. Passed unanimous.

- o Dr Mark Haig of Columbus Männerchor has a number of dates they want to use out facility. April 20th. Alpha conflicts with this date. April 15th is available. We discussed that we need a longer notice to commit to renting facility. Larry will notify that it is not available.
 - o Amethyst lease was sent to Amethyst. David Johnston is negotiating lease with them. Their estimated usage period is weekdays May 21st through August 31st. Close to final lease. Moving of Sunday school rooms is nearly finalized.
 - o Sarah asks if Office Assistant can gather these details of rentals for Council in the future. Steve will work on a fee schedule with Geoff's help.
 - o Steve brought up the proxy/absentee motion in Annual meeting. Pastor will research with Synod office to explore what is allowed within ELCA and Synod rules.
- **Vice President's Report**
 - o Neal will talk with Mayda about the LSS food pantry and the community centers they will be working from and when we will help.
 - o ELCA has contracted with a company that facilitates online giving.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - o Steve discussed February pledge and giving. Plate offering have gone up. Operating contributions are up. Overall summary, offerings are up \$364. Other incomes are down. Addressed that in reality, some budgets are spent earlier in the year, making the monthly look like it is exceeding monthly budget, like the insurance category.
 - o Still getting capital campaign money. Getting stained glass funds as well.
 - o Finance committee met with Jainy, manages money for some funds. Accounts are effectively not earning any money. Looking for recommendations to reinvest.
 - o David motions to accept Treasurer's report, Geoff seconds. Passed unanimous.
- **Pastor's Report**
 - o Pastor thanked Steve for managing finance well and presenting good reports.
 - o Pastor discussed some items in his report. Has a lot of worship opportunities.
 - o Pastor is seeing new visitors that are exploring membership. Pastor mentioned several individuals. Some are frequent visitors, but might not become members.
 - o Cheryl with Pastor might explore a sabbatical, potentially to pastor elsewhere during sabbatical.

Committee Reports

- **Community Ministry**
 - Pastor asked members to share their community ministry activities for Mayda.
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- **Congregational Life**
 - Emily reported that we need signups for the coffee cart.
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- **Evangelism/Communications**
 - Sarah sent a report. Cassy and Amy have been doing a great job help with Alpha.
 - Sarah Bender may help with setting up an Instagram account.
 - Put logos in the signage out front. Sarah is looking into new/supplemental signage.
 - Updated website with panoramic pictures. Would like to add a fee schedule to the website.
- **Property**
 - David reported quiet month for property. Some things will be scheduled in warmer weather. Organizing clean-up day on March 24th, 9-12.
 - Will work to find someone to replace light on back of church.
- **Spiritual Formation**
 - Geoff is exploring combining Spiritual Formation with other activities and programs offered or performed at Trinity. Integrating the Spring Cleanup with the intergenerational programming.
 - Discussed the topic of who (organizational body) would supervise the Nursery Attendant. We are looking for volunteers to take on that responsibility. It was discussed that the responsibility of finding a supervisor to Spiritual Formation, which can delegate to a volunteer.
 - Geoff thanked those committees that prepared meals for Alpha.
- **Worship**
 - Neal said Worship will be meeting next week to finalize Holy Week preparations.
 - Pastor reports that Holy Week worship preparations are going well.
 - Pastor reports that some visitors like our traditional worship and the friendliness of our members.
 - Reading preparation for Palm Sunday begins at 9AM.

Adjournment: Adjourn at 9:17 P.M.

Congregational Life Council Report March 2018

-Next Congregational Life team meeting has been moved to April 8th after church and we will plan out many of our spring events at this meeting.

-Lenten midweek lunches continue throughout this month; the last lunch will be after the Maundy Thursday service.

-Congregational Life provided a meal for the Alpha program on March 4th and we will provide two more meals in April.

-A new coffee cart sign-up sheet for 2018 is posted on the bulletin board in the lobby; please consider signing your committee up to help out with the cart for a month this year.

Communication & Evangelism Committee Report

- Alpha is going strong thanks to lots of hard work from our leadership team! Our committee is providing dinner this Sunday (3/18).
- Sarah Bender has offered her assistance in getting us set up on Instagram and also with some new signage/advertising so look for information about that in the next couple of months
- I updated the events tab on the website this month with pictures and descriptions of our available spaces
- The ELCA and RIC logos have been added to the sign case out front (many thanks to Dave Evinsky for cutting the lock for me)

Spiritual Formation Ministry Report – Month of February 2018

Submitted by Geoff Wilhelm on 3/13/2018

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

Next Ministry Team Meeting: April 8th, 12:00pm @ Trinity church

Children's / Youth Christian Education:

Christiane has a job description for the Nursery Attendant ready for review. A few open questions arose in last council meeting about supervision of this staff person and expectations for the role.

In addition to the job description, Christiane has also begun to detail out expectations, policy and procedural items that would probably be suited for an employment agreement. That has been shared with the Exec Committee.

We hope to approach Jane Nida to have a more formal conversation about the position, to see if there is a mutual fit. If not, we will post the position and will ask for as much help as possible to recruit for the role.

In the course of developing the job description, Christiane has surfaced potential areas of deficiency for our safety and security of our kids at Trinity. Wanted to raise up at least the concern as to whether we have updated and modern policies and capabilities. Christiane may request an agenda slot to present more details on the issue at a future Council meeting.

Youth & Family Ministry:

The Intergenerational 4th Saturday event on February 24th, was a good time and was focused on the resurrection and the season of Lent. Next 4th Saturday event will be held on Saturday March 24th, @ 9:30am with a theme of Palm Sunday and integrating with the Property Cleanup event that day.

In a broader initiative, Spiritual Formation has been working to develop a pattern of worship, education, fellowship, gathering, and sending that could very easily dovetail into other ministry activities, allowing us to bring into more of our gatherings the intergenerational focus. We would like to share this pattern and ask the ministry leaders if they would like to hear more about this?

Adult Study Group on Art and Faith:

Bob Ohrstedt has initiated a study group starting March 15th, to review Sister Wendy Beckett's excellent review of art history in light of our Biblical faith. The program is intended to go 4-6 weeks or so.

Adult Sunday School is on hiatus until further notice.

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

Alpha is going very well with consistent attendance and enthusiastic participation. We will take a break March 25th and April 1st for Holy Week. Back in session April 8th-May 6th, with April 15th scheduled for the “Day Away” at Camp Mowana. Attendees for the Day Away will not be in service on the 15th.

Thanks to **Worship, Exec Committee, Congregational Life, and Finance** for providing meals for Alpha and for making your presentations to the group! **Mary Roberts, Rebecca Roberts, David Warner, and John Starling** have been serving as discussion leaders faithfully – and are doing a great job. And, big thanks to **Amy Hehr** and **Cassy Miller** for covering all the meals prep and clean up.

If you see any of these Trinity family members, please take a moment to acknowledge their efforts and thank them for their ministry.