

Trinity Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2022

Reporting: Rita Gibbs, using notes from others

Present: Sarah Nelson, Kayla Siewert, Rita Gibbs, Jeff Feder, Jim Timmerman, Nancy Kruger, Carolyn Dobler, Meredith Young, Alie Hermanson, Pastor Joy Ekstedt, Pastor Nikoli Falenschek

Absent: Cathy Carlson, Rita Gibbs

Devotions:

A. Business Discussed:

1. Pastor Joy's Report

- Pastoral care – visits with member at care facilities. Met with members for pre-marriage sessions, for pre-baptism conversation and for conversation regarding other matters.
- Led funeral for Adeline Asleson. Led burial service for Bob Meeks.
- Led devotions and Holy Communion service at Benedictine Court.
- Had conversation with Sarah and Kayla about renewing Trinity's mission and re-engaging members.
- Attended special council meeting and disclosure meeting for the congregation.
- Corresponded via email with our missionary, Philip Knutson about his visit to TLC. Made arrangements for his overnight stay.
- Trinity Scholarship awards.
- Staff met to post events on the calendar for the months of September through January.
- Met with Julie Carlson for her 3 month review. Julie is doing great work on behalf of Trinity!
- I will be on vacation beginning July 11 through July 25. Will be part of the Council meeting July 12 via Zoom. Thankful to Finance Committee members for moving their meeting a week earlier to accommodate my vacation time.

2. Pastor Nikoli's Report

- **Vacation:** I am planning vacation for July 26-28.
- **Summer Bonfire Worship:** We've only had one bonfire service as of yet, but it was great! We blessed our Youthworks group and assembled bouquets of flowers in response to a Song of Songs text. Upon returning to MN from SD, I got sick and had to postpone the second bonfire service until July 13.
- **Camp:** We have two students making their way to Christikon in July, and a few students heading to GLLM at the end of the month.
- **Mission Trips:** Kristie and I accompanied two middle school students to a Youthworks site in Rapid City, SD. The trip itself was wonderful, full of ups and downs but all in all an experience none of us will soon forget. We will be announcing the next trip destination in early September. Also, we will hopefully identify an upcoming Sunday for both the Rapid City and Christikon students to share a bit about their experiences.
- **VBS:** Our week of VBS went very well! I'm proud of and grateful for Kristie and our volunteers. This year we decided to try a different curriculum that was a bit more theologically appropriate for our congregation. While the new curriculum was free, we were unable to order décor or other support materials. This meant that Kristie especially had lots of extra work to do!

3. Treasurer's Report

- Offerings through June were \$170,959.
- Offerings are down \$20,308 from last year.
- Total expenses through June have been \$250,290.74
- The Controlled Savings Balance was \$153,393
- The Bank Balance at the end of May was \$12,159

4. Finance Committee Report

- See attached Endowment Report.

5. Committee Reports

- Property Committee: No report.
- Community Life: No report.
- Children, Youth and Family: No report.
- Worship, Music and Arts: No report.
- Mission: No report.
- Adult Education: No report.
- Stewardship: No report.

B. Items Discussed:

- The A.R.T. group is changing their name to D.E.I.B which stands for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.
- There is interest in some type of community meal with simpler fare like soup and sandwiches for a meal. This would be to fill the void from The Kitchen.
- The Fern Martinson Scholarship was discussed and what to do about the proposed endowment request for Eva Kracht.
- The Wednesday Bonfire will be a send off for Kristie Olson who has resigned. Based on the budget constraints we may not be able to fill this position.

C. Actions Taken:

1. None

D. Next meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 6:30 pm