

Trinity Lutheran Church Congregation Council Minutes

January 27, 2015

Welcome –Paul Parsons, President

Devotions – Marty Swinehart

Roll Call 7:12 p.m.

Number of Voting Members Present: 12

Number of Voting Members Needed for Quorum: 8

Declaration of Quorum

Term Ends 2016

Y Cynthia Breitinger

Y David Burow-Flak

Y Jane Schreiner

Y Matt Hernes

Term Ends 2017

Y Christine Cawby

Y Erma Eichhorn

Y Mike Kinsey

Y Marty Swinehart

Term Ends 2018

Y Norm Amundsen

Y Becky Lutz

N Paul Mache

Y Paul Parsons

Y Pr. Jane Aicher, Interim

Y Barb Herzinger, Deaconess

N Michael Renehan, Treasurer

Guests: Call Committee members – Mike Delliquadri, Lu Krieger, and Kris Lopez

Remarks from Call Committee – Mike updated the council on past interviews and continual concerns regarding Trinity's package for compensation, benefits, and professional expenses. The council was asked to reconsider the package and to add \$5000 to the \$80,000 package which would add flexibility to offer professional expenses such as mileage, continuing education, etc. (see December email motion at end of these minutes)

Call Committee excused themselves from meeting.

There was Council discussion regarding the request. The council voted to add \$5000 to line item I85 of 2015 proposed budget which would change pastoral leadership to \$85,000. The increase will allow flexibility to offer a candidate professional expenses such as mileage, continuing education, etc. **MSC**

Consent Agenda

- † Call Committee
- † Trinity Lutheran Church Congregation Council Minutes – November 25, 2014
- † TLCP Profit and Loss Statement
- † TLCP Balance Sheet distributed
- † TLCP Happenings
- † MEF Minutes

MSC

Pr. Jane' Report

1. She is doing well following cataract surgery
2. She presided at Evelyn Lightcap's funeral January 8.
3. She has presided at three funerals recently.

Motion: Due to the uncertainty of timing in calling and installing a new pastor, Pr. Jane Aicher requests council approval to be involved in Laura Nietert's May wedding ceremony. She has already started pre-marriage counseling. In the event a called pastor is present at Trinity at that time, he or she could preside. **MSC**

Deaconess Barb's Report –

1. Youth Quake is in Chicago January 23-25 – Trinity will have 20 youth and 6 adults attending
2. Youth Chili Supper fundraiser raised \$455
3. VBS with Luther Road scheduled for August 3-7, 2015.
4. Barb emailed VBS students who indicated they have no church home to invite them to Christmas worship. No responses of which she is aware.

New Business

1. **Motion from MEF:** The MEF Committee recommends that Mike Kinsey be appointed to the Committee for a three year term to replace outgoing member William Nicholson. Dot Pakan is recommended for reappointment for a three year term. Each appointment would begin January 2015. **MSC**

2. **Motion from MEF:** The MEF Committee recommends that \$1883.05 in unspent funds be distributed in the following manner:
- a. Karin Kost (seminarian during 2014-2015 academic year) \$1,000
 - b. Adam Cook (seminarian spring semester 2015) \$883.05
- Note: Funds are paid directly to the academic institution.

Due to a change in the balance of remaining 2014 grant funds, the above grants were changed and motion amended accordingly:

Karin Kost \$1000
Adam Cook \$700

MSC

3. **Proposed 2015 Budget** – reviewed budget as submitted by Finance Committee. Finance Committee submitted to the council those numbers that were given to them by the respective committee chairpersons and/or those responsible for submitting that portion of the budget. The council voted to revise the following amounts:

- I28 Choir Director Wages: \$4800 to \$4442
- I29 Choir Director FICA: \$367 to \$340
- I30 Handbell Choir Director Wages: \$2500 to \$2315
- I31 Handbell Choir FICA: \$191 to \$177
- I52 Adult Forum: \$400 to \$100
- I54 Sunday School: \$750 to \$500
- I59 Total Youth Ministry (Line name changed to Youth Ministry Trips & Programming): \$2300 to \$1700;
- I67 Future Ministries (under Congregational Life): \$200 to \$100
- I85 Pastoral Leadership \$80,000 to \$85,000.
- I74 Synod benevolence was calculated to be \$30,811.
- I147 Total budget expenses for 2015 totals \$338, 919. **MSC**

Either a council representative spoke with those who submitted the areas where the budget(s) was changed or the person submitting their portion of the budget was present at this meeting. While it was noted the 2015 budget is slightly below the 2014 budget, a calculation error occurred in the 2014 budget and line item H123(\$4442 Total Trinity Support to Preschool) was not added to the total expenses which would have made the expenses higher.

9:00 p.m. Motion to extend meeting for 15 minutes. **MSC**

4. **Nominating Committee** – Norm Amundsen, Becky Lutz, and Paul Parsons have agreed to seek a second term on the council. Laura Odom has consented to have her name added to the ballot.

9:15 p.m. Motion to extend meeting for 15 minutes. **MSC**

Thanks to Cayley Schnick, our youth rep, for her year’s service on the council.

Annual Meeting – January 25, 2015 – 12:15 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Next regular Council meeting, January 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Library; Devotions: Marty

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn **MSC**

Minute’s addendum: There were two email motions between the November and this meeting:

- 1. (Email to council dated December 1, 2014) As Council liaison (Erma Eichhorn) to the Call Committee, *I just received a phone call from Mike Delliquadri. He had just heard from Pr. Rudy who had what he felt was a strong candidate for interview at Trinity. However, the candidate has a \$20,000 Portico package and is concerned about there not being a continuing education and car allowance. I remember we had several discussions on the effect a higher Portico package would have on other benefits.*

Pr. Rudy was apprehensive about sending the name forward without knowing if we had any flexibility in our \$80,000 budgeted package. Unfortunately, he wants an answer from Mike by 1 p.m. EST tomorrow.

Mike and I determined the council should be aware of this phone call so he can answer Pr. Rudy tomorrow. Which of these options should he give Pr. Rudy? Only list one in your return email. Option C is a vote to increase package.

Option 1: *The Finance Committee will present the 2015 budget to council on December 16. We will discuss at that time and inform Pr. Rudy. Note: With this option, the name will probably be forwarded elsewhere.*

Option 2: *The number will remain at \$80,000. Please continue to find someone in that range.*

Option 3: *This is a vote to increase the package to no more than \$85,000 which would include continuing education and car allowance. The council can do this constitutionally with a majority vote of members.*

Option 1 selected my majority of email vote 12/16/2014

2. The Property Committee requests a collection basket be set out at Fellowship Hour to accept donations to replace the plumbed Bunn coffee maker in the FH kitchen. The basket will remain until funds are received to cover the cost of the unit. **MSC 12/16/2014**

Respectfully submitted,
Erma Eichhorn, Council Secretary
January 15, 2015