

Trinity Lutheran Church Congregation Council Minutes

March 24, 2015

Welcome –David Burow-Flak, President

Devotions – Deaconess Barb

Roll Call 7:02 p.m.

Number of Voting Members Present: 13

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

Y Madi Mayerik

Term Ends 2017

Y Christine Cawby

Y Erma Eichhorn

Y Mike Kinsey

Y Marty Swinehart

Term Ends 2018

Y Norm Amundsen

Y Becky Lutz

Y Paul Mache

N Paul Parsons

Y Pr. Jane Aicher, Interim

Y Barb Herzinger, Deaconess

Y Michael Renehan, Treasurer

Consent Agenda

- + Trinity Lutheran Church Congregation Council Minutes – February 24, 2015
- + TLCP Profit and Loss Statement
- + TLCP Balance Sheet
- + TLCP Happenings
- + Mission Endowment Fund Committee Report

MSC

Pr. Jane's Report - written report distributed at meeting (on file)

1. In addition, it was agreed the committee structure of the church will be discussed at the next council meeting.
2. Pr. Jane will confirm any updates in the Reconciling in Christ statement with Social Ministry Committee.

Deaconess Barb's Report – written report distributed at meeting (on file)

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Updates were made to the Ministry Site Profile for the Call process. Under section 16 which refers to compensation, the four areas which include auto/travel reimbursement, professional expenses account, first call theological education, and continuing education were changed from NO to YES. The comments portion was changed to read *"The maximum amount for defined compensation, benefits and any professional expenses is up to \$85,000 based on experience and qualifications. Seminary student loan debt relief is available."* **MSC**
2. Following discussion concerning an incentive for a pastoral candidate a motion was made: Trinity will offer up to \$3600 per year for three years for seminary student loan debt relief for a pastoral candidate from the Mission Endowment Fund. **MSC**
3. **Recommendation from Social Ministry:** The Open Arms Shelter time has been extended to April 30. It still falls under the allotted time allowed by fire marshal. That will be 28 with 30 days allowed. We would like permission to go the extra 2 weeks to go along with the other churches to keep the shelter open until May, when the ladies will have an apartment for the summer. **MSC**
4. **Grants from the Mission Endowment Fund (total available grant funds - \$35,000) recommended by the Committee are as follows:**
 - a. **Help for the homeless at Blackbird Café -- \$300**
To purchase Blackbird Café gift cards for use by the homeless women who go there during cold winter months. The Blackbird lets them stay there while waiting for shelters or other facilities to open.
 - b. **Seminary Scholarship for Adam Cook -- \$300**
This would be added to last year's grant of \$700 which has not yet been distributed.
 - c. **National Youth Gathering -- \$710**
To cover \$360 for the hotel room and \$350 registration fee for the National Youth Gathering to be held in July.

d. Dayspring Summer Shelter Program -- \$2,000

To help fund an overnight shelter program during the summer (6 months) when the Open Arms Overnight shelter is closed. Costs included: 1) an apartment for up to 10 women and children, 2) utilities for the apartment, 3) an on-call case manager.

e. Stephen Ministry New Leader Training -- \$2,050

To send one person for training to become an additional Stephen Ministry Leader. In order for this vital ministry to continue to grow, it is important to regularly add new Leaders to meet the demand of both initial training and on-going training and supervision for Stephen Ministers.

f. Vacation Bible School: "Luther Road Project" -- \$3,000

Funding to cover the cost of "Luther Road," a team of 5 college-aged staff who bring a "summer camp program on wheels" to Trinity to lead our VBS children in singing, prayer, Bible stories, games, arts & crafts, and recreation. Vacation Bible School is an outreach ministry to children in our community.

g. Phoenix Center Children's Healing Garden -- \$1,500

The Phoenix Center is designed for children and teens in grief due to death. The Healing Garden is outside space designed to offer beauty, quiet, rest, peace, and an environment for meditation. Activities or "work" for healing are assigned by the Phoenix Center staff. Because this garden adjoins the VNA Hospice Center, family members of Hospice also often choose to visit the garden.

h. Repair damaged organ pipes -- \$4,000

The resonator tubes for the lowest 8 pipes of the 8' trumpet have collapsed due to an inadequate support system. The pipes have been removed to prevent further damage. The quote for repair includes 1) transporting the pipes to a pipe shop in Ohio, 2) rebuilding the resonators, 3) reinstallation of pipes with additional support to prevent future problems. The work would need to begin in June and end in August to fit the schedules of both the organ tuner and the pipe shop. 50% of the cost is due before work begins. Total cost of project \$7,420. No other funding has been secured.

i. Building Security Upgrades -- \$18,140

Upgrades would include: 1) installation of electronic locks on appropriate doors, 2) a Video Entry System, 3) new panic bars and latches on appropriate doors, 4) a passive monitoring system to alert the office when a door is open. Total cost of project \$18,900. No other funding has been secured.

j. Feed Your Faith & Family -- \$3,000

This project is a ministry of Faith Lutheran in Southeast Fort Wayne. Faith is a redevelopment/mission church in the IK Synod. This project provides a weekly worship service and meal to the residents of southeast Fort Wayne. Total cost of project \$11,900 (annual cost). Other funding secured \$5,500 (grants from IK Synod and ELCA).

Grants recommendations approved by council. Regarding #8 organ repairs, there was concern expressed regarding any possible warranty or insurance coverage. Will be investigated.

Finance Report – Presented by Michael Renehan. Reports **MSC**

Date of next regular meeting, April 28, at 7:00 p.m. Room 103 (library)

Devotions – Marty

Closing prayer

Adjournment 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Erma Eichhorn, Council Secretary
April 7, 2015