

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes - November 16, 2020

Call to Order: 6:31pm Klingfus

Establish Quorum- Present: Hanson-Busch, Klingfus, Berger, Mackenthun, Smithson, Pastor Ben, Pastor Alicia, Schoenecker, Schoenebeck, Hemann, Dittberner

Guests: Kim Gassner, Paul Newton - Risk Management Team

Approve Agenda: Motion by Berger to approve as presented, Second Mackenthun, motion passed

Approve October 2020 minutes: Motion by Mackenthun to approve as presented, second Smithson, motion passed

Devotions: Robyn Smithson - Hymn: "In The Garden"

Risk Management Team Report: Paul and Kim gave personal reflections on how and why we are making decisions regarding our worship and use of our building. They included factual data from the MDH and other public health sources that show increased infections and spread. Our approach is from Faith and Facts. They recommend we remain in Phase Two of our current plan, which continues online worship and some outdoor social distanced ministry opportunities with masks, as we are currently doing.

Pastor Alicia Report

- Advent season preparation is underway along with Christmas Season preparation
- New Member gathering this last week. Three households joined.
- The Christmas Tea will be virtual this year.
- Thanksgiving bag meals will be done this year as a drive-thru pickup event November 21, 2020

Motion by Mackenthun, second by Smithson to approve the use of \$2350 from the Endowment fund as requested by Donna Galvin - Hospitality Coordinator, for the Thanksgiving Food Bag donations this year, motion passed.

- The plan for the annual meeting in early 2021 is a remote meeting electronically via Zoom. By MN law, we can hold meetings in this manner. Since our constitution currently does not include wording to include virtual remote congregation meetings, guidance from the synod suggests adoption of a continuing resolution to support them.

Motion by Hemann, second Dittberner to adopt the following Continuing Resolution:

"This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. Notice of all meetings may be provided electronically"

- Regarding all financial accounts we have with the local bank, St Paul Foundation and Shannon Brusseau Wealth: our accountant, and treasurer are noted as those who can sign documents, and the chairs of committees, pastors and council president can discuss financial matters.
- 110 pledges thus far with Stewardship Drive, 19 new pledges, current budget process continues

Pastor Ben Report:

- Staff reviews completed.
- Confirmation service this past month along with three funerals for members.
- Advent Season approaching will have home devotionals, also have Advent Log kits with candles for people to pick up and an Advent season mailer will be sent to all households.

Treasurer Report

- The expected \$35,000 bond maturity was reflected as revenue in the general fund statement with a corresponding expense as a transfer to the capital reserve fund.
- Adjusted for this, revenues in October were \$45,000 down from a budget of \$53,000. Adjusted YTD revenues were \$388,000 or 11.9% below budget.
- Adjusted expenses in October of \$38,300 were \$12,800 lower than budget mostly due to lower personnel teams and operating costs. YTD adjusted expenses show \$452,000 versus a budget of \$502,000
- Net revenue over expenses for October shows a surplus of \$6700 versus a budgeted surplus of \$2000 for the month. YTD, there was a net deficit of \$64,500 through October versus the budgeted deficit of \$61,700
- Combining Balance sheet reviewed.

New Business

Leadership nomination form discussed. Council encouraged to offer names for open committee positions.

Old Business:

- Construction Update: indoor work being done, flooring installation and planning for the ceiling in the fellowship hall with considerations for acoustics.
- Congregational Survey review: Discussion of the process, the results and the plan to present the summary to members in some fashion.

Closing Prayer: Karla led a prayer of Thanksgiving

Motion to adjourn 8:01pm, Dittberner, second Schoenebeck, motion passed

Next Meeting: December 21, 2020 via Zoom, Devotions: Pastors Ben and Alicia