



**Council Meeting
Monday, May 19, 2025**

Call to Order: 6:35 pm

Establish a quorum/present: Pastor Ben, Pastor Alicia, Lindsey Cornell, Sharon Steinhoff Smith, Dan Bishop, Dan Jacobson, Debbie Church, Jackie Lee, Brian Gieseke, Dennis Tietz, Laura Magnuson, Karen Taylor, and George Winn

Devotion by Laura Magnuson

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda and April Meeting Minutes by Steinhoff-Smith, second by Magnuson. Motion approved.

President's Report:

- Transition Plan/Update – After interviewing the Synod Interim Pastor candidates, the Executive Team is pursuing Synod confirmation to extend an offer to Pastor Joy Bussert.
- Farewell Service – Jackie Lee and Laura Magnuson reported, all is ready.
- Synod Assembly follow-up – Lindsey shared a summary of the assembly theme, Church Together.
- Communications Team – Karen Taylor provided an overview of the weekly communication, digital, print, and A/V activities of the 4-person team that works approximately 25 hours a week. Report attached.

Treasurer Report:

- NEXT Campaign Pledges:
 - 2023 Pledges Received: \$42,700
 - 2024 Pledges Received: \$715,725
 - 2024 Unpledged Received: \$241,651
 - 2025 Pledges Received: \$179,345
 - **Total Received: \$1,179,420**

PLEDGES as of April 30, 2025	NEXT Campaign 2024 thru 2026
Total Pledged	\$1,252,399
Total Received	\$ 937,770
Remaining Pledges	\$314,629

Unpledged Gifts	\$241,651
Organ & Chairs	- \$196,000
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Remaining Gifts	= \$45,651
Land Proceeds	+ \$84,000
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Total Add'l Funds	= \$129,651

Finances as of April 30, 2025	April Budget	April Actual
Revenue	\$54,216	\$37,464
Expenses	\$59,660	\$55,881
Revenue – Expenses	-\$5,444	-\$18,417

YTD Finances as of April 30, 2025	Year-To-Date Budget	Year-To-Date Actual
YTD Revenue	\$221,677	\$239,901
YTD Expenses	\$229,743	\$225,616
YTD Revenue – Expenses	-\$8,066	\$14,285

MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report by Church, seconded by Gieseke. Motion approved.

Pastor Alicia's Report:

- Mission Investment Fund Construction Loan for \$600k - On March 18th, a second extension was requested and granted as we continue waiting to receive the certificate of occupancy from the city. The construction period is extended to 07/01/2025. Reminder that the final draw will have to be made by 06/07/2025 if necessary.
- Endowment Team requests for funding.

Motion to Approve the following Endowment Team applications for funding by Steinhoff-Smith, second by Magnuson:

- HTLC VBS Swag and Evening Meals, \$675 for T-shirts and \$1050 for meals
- Czech Out New Prague Event registration fee, \$200 and giveaways \$200
- HTLC School Supply Give Away, \$2500
- HTLC Hospitality Team Summer Manna Bags, \$1000

Motion approved.

Pastor Ben's Report:

- Transition: Pastor Ben thanked HTLC for the resounding support received from the congregation and the ability to “end well” as they depart for their new call. This time has been busy with staff get-togethers, exit interviews, meeting with the prospective Interim Pastor, and culminating with the May 21 Service of Blessing. Their last day in the office at Holy Trinity is May 22. Finally, Pastor Ben also shared with the Council a framework for pastoral transitions, describing ways to support the success of the next Pastor for HTLC.

- Seminary Students: Kate Kienow will continue to pursue her Certificate in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry this next year. Kiersten Dahl-Shetka and Nate Kahnke have been accepted into Luther Seminary.
- Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly: Pastors Alicia and Ben, along with Dan Smith, Christie Will, Pete Shuster, Kiersten Dahl-Shetka, and Evan Cornell, all represented Holy Trinity on May 3.
- Churchwide Assembly: Reminder that Luke Friendshuh will be representing Holy Trinity and the Minneapolis Area Synod at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix from July 28-August 2nd.

Old Business:

- Door 2 Entrance/Kitchen Update – Laura Magnuson is working with Langer Construction to close-out without the certificate to close the loan within the final draw date of 06/07/2025.

New Business:

- Ribfest – Donations and volunteers are needed for the event.
- Debrief Road Update - George Winn reported at the end of 2025, there will be updates to regulations associated with the outstanding street project for curb, gutter and parking since the 2017 task force. If the Council decides to support the project, the Winn's will pay for the street.

Lindsey to communicate with George the next steps to request the engineer drawings, while communicating with the city on the project.

On May 20, council follow up via email to define project support by designating Dan Bishop as the council point of contact for the road project.

Motion to accept the designated donation from George and Joan Winn covering the cost of the removal and disposal of the necessary trees that are currently in the path of the 1st St. South Road extension, completed by Deutsch Construction Company. Motion made by Norwege, second by Bishop. Motion approved.

Communicate to members that any member questions/concern can be sent to council email for reply.

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Motion to Adjourn by Church, second by Steinhoff-Smith. Motion approved

Adjournment of Meeting: 8:24 pm