

Holy Trinity Council Meeting Notes

April 16, 2024

6:30 – 8:30

Attendance: Pastor Luther, Erlinde Beliveau, Judy Evans, Tom Bernth, Ed Mallon, Russ Hilliard, Dan Scammon

Online: Cristina Dolcino, Julie Anderson

We Gather in God's Name

Welcoming of New Members

Opening Prayer

Devotions Schedule - Russ

- Passage from Micah 6: traveling through mountains, seeing eclipse
- 1-8 Trial where God sues Israelites for going against Commandments
- related it to his job as lawyer and to the retreat

Blessings

- Confirmation kids time with council at retreat
- Pastor: Thanks everyone for sharing heartfelt stories at retreat
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Thank you notes

Minutes of March 19, 2024 reviewed, edited, and approved online

Follow-up Discussion

- Constitution and By-laws revisions and update
- Constitution:
 - C9.21 Erlinde was wondering about changing it, but Russ says that it is mandated and cannot be changed
 - C9.14 Erlinde questioned the secretary part about records but the asterisk means that it was mandated by ELCA and cannot really be changed
 - Russ went over mandates again which are highlighted and has the asterisks
 - C13.03 changed to annual and changed to up to 3.
 - C14.01 ministry teams kept consistent throughout document (Erlinde)
 - 15.02 confusing- should say 2 rostered ministers (includes Deacons) - disciplinary procedure - Russ will make changes
 - Chapter 16 on amendments have more changes
 - Erlinde made a motion to accept the Constitution and Tom seconded motion - all agreed
- By-Laws:
 - Discussion focused on 5.01 and 5.02. Changes were made in sequence of sentences and some wording.

We Celebrate and Give Thanks for the Past – reports to be posted in the drop box

- Pastor's Report
- Treasurer Report - Q & A
 - Review a section of the in/out funds designated by Dan
 - Wants to put something out to congregation quarterly that is simple and understandable for congregation
 - Ed thinks other categories should be added in because it is our income from other funds, like interest. Dan had concerns.(against this). Keep this in mind for next meeting due to having a team needing to be put together.

- There are many categories where money needs to be spent as they keep increasing.
- Erlinde: Redesignate it to some kind of Beautify Fund instead of flowers so it could be for flowers, linens, etc.
- Keep flower line and make sure that there are flowers on the altar every Sunday and those that want to donate some still can.
- Dan will email Christine about Social Ministry line items
- lost connection so not sure what was said after this
- Secretary Report - Q & A
- Ministry Team Reports
 - Serve the Lord – Cristina Dolcino
 - Grow in Faith – Tom Bernth
 - Come Together – Ed Mallon
 - meeting with Betty Smith and she had great ideas with hospitality that some people will find very exciting, and she agreed to take us on

Follow-up Discussion

- Tanzania Update – Meeting on April 16th
 - explore interest of congregation on June 16th
- Safe Church – Russ will review.
- Review of Council Structure/Responsibilities postponed
- Choir Director position update
 - Judy working some connections
 - Erlinde working on some at a college
- Steeple Renovation
 - David is looking for approval which comes within budget
 - Erlinde makes a motion to approve the contract to rehab the steeple. Ed seconded it and motion was passed unanimously. (renovate steeple- not sure who seconded it but it passed with all in favor)
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We Seek God’s Direction for our Church – New Business

- Motion to formally discontinue use of “Employee Handbook” (located in dropbox)
 - Erlinde makes a motion that we no longer use employee handbook- Russ seconded and all were in favor
- Summer Schedule and attendance of a Council representative for each Sunday
- Retreat Outcomes
 - Charts- 1st one was updated from last Fall, 2nd one is a draft- take a look at it and ask Erlinde any thoughts or questions
- Prayers in Offering Plate – Tom
 - cards where people add name and then a prayer, prayer requests would read them at the altar
 - Possible prayer group in the congregation once a week - all the names in bulletin and prayer requests
 - Julie: Possible Facebook group where people can join and leave prayers
- Ikenbono Flower Group Meeting Dates on Friday mornings outdoors under the tent:

4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/14, 6/28, 7/26, 8/9, 8/23, 9/13, 9/27, 10/11, 10/25
Nancy Hanson is part of this group and they use the outside area
First time is free and anyone is invited

We Seek God's Direction for our Church – Long term Follow-up

- Cross and Altar Linens/Paraments for Sanctuary - Tom
 - Julie was possibly getting a quote; however, this is on hold until she recovers. Pastor Luther volunteered to call

Future Planning:

- Next Council meetings: May 21, June 11
 - Adult Forum: Review of Constitution and Bylaws revision and Safe Church policy and Finances: May 5th
 - Mid-Year Meeting: June 23rd
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Closing Prayer