

## **Minutes of the Annual Congregation Meeting – 1/25/09**

The Annual Congregational Meeting was called to order at 12:26 p.m. by President Bob Frymoyer. Pastor Hardy opened the meeting with prayer and led the congregation in reading Psalm 16 responsively.

Head teller Ms. Betty Sawyer established that a quorum was present.

Mr. Tim Trissler moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2008, Annual Meeting. The motion carried.

Mr. Jim Kriebel moved to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2008, Special Congregation Meeting. The motion carried.

Mr. Bill Bishop moved to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2008, Special Congregation Meeting. The motion carried.

President Frymoyer recognized Mr. Bill Foos to report on Trinity's Visioning/Mission Development Process. Mr. Foos opened his report by reading Acts 9:1-22. Mr. Foos thanked the congregation for their participation in developing the revised Visioning/Mission Statement over the past months. The Strategic Planning Team will bring the Mission Statement to the congregation for ratification at a special congregation meeting tentatively scheduled for March 1, 2009.

Mr. Foos introduced the members of the Strategic Planning Team: Doug Bonsall, Fred Bohls, Pastor Nancy Easton, Pastor David Fisher (Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod), Bob Frymoyer, Joe Hunter, Bob Frymoyer, Mike Schwalm, Debbie Wilson, George Wirt, and Arlene Corso.

The goal of the Strategic Planning Team is for Trinity to work to help all people on their spiritual journey in becoming disciples of Christ, with the intent to seek out and provide outlets so that these spiritual gifts can be shared as Christ would have us share with others. The Team looks forward to the special congregational meeting to ratify the final document for implementation.

Mr. Frymoyer thanked Mr. Foos and indicated that the Strategic Planning Team has worked very diligently first toward the goal of determining what to do with the property at 1915 Market Street. The scope of the committee was then expanded to a fuller ministerial and visioning process.

Mr. Frymoyer recognized Mr. Doug Bonsall for the purpose of making a motion.

**MOTION:** As approved by Congregation Council, Mr. Bonsall moved to place in nomination for Congregation Council Lorraine Graybill, Ryan Hannigan, Betsy Knarr, and Dave Miller.

Mr. Bonsall indicated that Betsy Knarr has served a one-year term and is therefore eligible to serve a full three-year term according to our bylaws.

President Frymoyer asked for additional nominees from the floor. No additional candidates were nominated. Hearing none, Mr. Trissler moved to close the nominations. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Erdman moved to elect those nominated to three-year terms on council. The motion carried.

Those elected were congratulated with applause.

Pastor Hardy asked the outgoing members of council to come forward. Those completing their terms are Bob Frymoyer, Joe Fidler, and Maria Hegedus. Pastor Hardy thanked the three outgoing council members, their families, and their employers for supporting them in their service. He thanked them for their commitment to Christ, their service to Trinity, and all that they have done to help us in our mission and ministry. Small tokens of appreciation were presented to each outgoing council member. The congregation showed their appreciation with applause.

President Frymoyer gave his closing remarks. "What a year we've had in our faith journey with Christ at Trinity. With the Holy Spirit guiding us, we brothers and sisters in fellowship with Christ here at Trinity Church have continued ministries to ourselves, our neighbors and the world." He continued by citing several highlights of the year: development of a proposed new mission statement; expanded our volunteer service ministries with the hiring of Spiritual Gifts Coordinator Judy Collins; partnered with Zion Lutheran Church in downtown Harrisburg; established a long-term mortgage to address our remaining \$1.3 million capital debt, and initiated a new capital campaign in honor of Pastor Hardy's ministry; made progress in the demolition of the property at 1915 Market Street; celebrated the 25 anniversary of Pastor Hardy's ordination, and began planning for his retirement in January of 2010. He continued with thanks and recognition of the staff, music and youth programs, Frank Leber and Shaun Eisenhauer for their legal expertise, and a strong leadership team on council. He also thanked his wife for her understanding and support.

He acknowledged that the troubled economic times have not missed Trinity. Trinity was forced to freeze salaries and reduce committee budgets by 10%. This was not done without impact on our ministries. Yet despite these cut backs, Christ's message through Trinity church and the community we foster, can increasingly become a respite, guiding light, and comfort for us all.

Mr. Frymoyer indicated that he was humbled to serve as president as we

carry on Christ's work. He ended by reading a list of ten characteristics that he believes speak to what Lutherans truly are and especially what Trinity is to him.

The congregation then sang the hymn "Here I Am Lord."

President Frymoyer turned the meeting over to President-elect Doug Bonsall.

Mr. Bonsall expressed appreciation that the congregation elected him to council, and that the council elected him to be vice-president and then president.

Trinity will certainly be faced with changes through the next year. Not only the new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles, but also as Pastor Hardy prepares for his retirement and the congregation seeks new pastoral leadership. In these times we need each member to join the team of disciples of Christ and expand the effectiveness of our many ministries. His pledge is that he will continue to work next to the volunteers. He challenged council members and committee chairs to take on their respective rolls more effectively and work more diligently than ever before.

Teamwork is important and he introduced Mr. Craig Erdman as the new vice-president. He and Craig have met with all the committee chairs and presidents of the auxiliary organizations to open new lines of communication to help develop that team spirit. He pledged that the work of the council will continue to enable the ministry to flourish.

More than anything else what he hopes will be most evident is a renewed vigor for all program committees as their work leads in worship, challenges us to examine our faith journeys through study and prayer, spreads the good news both in this community and around the world, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, comforts the sick, visits the prisoner, and welcomes the stranger into our midst. After all, isn't this what the church should really be about – that everyone of us at Trinity will together be Disciples in the Making, Making Disciples.

Mr. Bonsall asked if there were any comments for the good of the order. Hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Joe Hunter moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was closed with the praying of the Lord's Prayer, and was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

*Maria Hegedus, secretary*  
*Nancy Martin assistant to the secretary*

