

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

**MINUTES OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING  
November 10, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Bob Frymoyer.

The following council members were present:

Daryl Ackerman  
Pastor Brock  
Craig Erdman  
Roland Freund  
Maria Hegedus  
Mike Schwalm

Reuben Balasundram  
Judy Collins  
Joe Fidler  
Bob Frymoyer  
Tim Koch

Doug Bonsall  
Christopher Couch  
Bill Foos  
Pastor Hardy  
Betsy Knarr

Nancy Martin, assistant to the secretary, was also present.

**Gathering in God's Grace:**

**Opening Devotions and Lighting of the Unity Candle:**

Ms. Knarr lit the candle and there was a moment for silent prayer. Mr. Freund opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Hymns 376 and 669 were sung.

Roll Call and action on requests for absence: Mr. Erdman moved to excuse Ms. Eavey and Mr. Fox per their request. The motion carried.

Recognition of visitors: Mr. Craig Staller, Mr. Joe Hunter, Mr. Fred Bohls, Mr. George Wirt, and Ms. Deb Wilson were present.

Approval of minutes: Mr. Freund moved to approve the minutes of October 13, 2008. The motion passed.

**Agreement on Agenda:**

President Frymoyer asked that council members be prepared to suggest names for next year's council to be placed in nomination at the December meeting. He explained the process for ranking the nominations.

**Offering of our Gifts and Talents**

Petitions and Communications:

President Frymoyer received a letter from Ms. Collins accepting her call as an Associate in Ministry.

Committee Emphasis:

Educational Ministry Committee: Mr. Couch spoke on behalf of the Education Committee. He informed council Mr. Jack Bush was appointed committee chair. Mr. Couch distributed a listing of committee members and the committee agenda indicating what is being considered at their meetings. Questions were asked regarding the Senior High Sunday School class. Currently, there are only a few students coming to that class and they are deciding how to proceed with that group.

Missions Committee: Mr. Craig Staller spoke on behalf of the Missions Committee. He distributed an outline of 2008 events and the upcoming events for 2009. He mentioned Mr. Murnyak's visit Trinity and thanked the council members who attended the luncheon. He also mentioned Pastor Prois' visit in January and the trip to Our Savior Lutheran Church at Rocky Boy Indian Reservation in June.

#### Staff Reports:

Reports were received from Pastor Hardy, Pastor Brock, Pastor Easton, Christopher Couch, Tim Koch, Peter Fox, Debbie Wilson and Judy Collins. Each attending person was asked by President Frymoyer to provide one highlight of their report to the council members.

Pastor Hardy stated even though the report appears light, he had a very heavy load. He stated that pastors have much more pastoral work that cannot be report. He is indebted to the staff for their care and their ministry.

Pastor Brock is pleased that they now have running water and a new well.

Mr. Couch expressed gratitude for Jack Bush's chairmanship of the Educational Ministry Committee.

Mr. Koch highlighted the second paragraph concerning the American Boychoir concert, and thanked all the people who made the concert run smoothly.

Mr. Schwalm reported that the youth pasta night fund raiser was successful.

Ms. Wilson mentioned that she has been doing double duty this time of year because of Advent and Christmas.

#### President's Report:

Mr. Frymoyer reported the Sup and Study classes have gone very well, and thanked the participants. The financial sessions have been very good. He also reported that the committee planning Pastor Hardy's retirement recognition events has been meeting.

#### Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee took two actions. They approved the purchase of a new freezer at a cost of \$3400 plus delivery. This matter required attention in order to have the freezer in place for the Thanksgiving Dinner.

President also reported that Ms. Betsy Knarr has served only one year term, since she was filling the vacancy left by Arnie Greenlund's resignation. The Executive Committee gathered consensus to submit Ms. Knarr's name for consideration as one of the four nominees for next year. Ms. Betsy Knarr agreed to have her name placed in nomination, and has agreed to continue to serve as the chair of the Evangelism Committee.

Reports of Special Committees:

Capital Campaign: It was noted that the Capital Campaign debt, on Page 10 of the Treasurer's Report, continues to be paid down.

Strategic Planning Committee: Mr. Foos' and Mr. Bonsall's report is on file.

Mr. Foos listed the members of the committee; Mike Schwalm, Pastor Easton, Debbie Wilson, Fred Bohls, George Wirt, Joe Hunter, Bob Frymoyer, and co-chair Doug Bonsall. Pastor Dave Fisher from the Lower Susquehanna Synod provided assistance.

Mr. Foos gave a presentation outlining the origin of the committee and reviewed the process used to gather data, which was then analyzed, reviewed, and developed into the vision and mission statement as presented. The next step is for council to vote to support the presentation of this material to the congregation. Members of the committee read scripture passages which challenge all of us to think about our individual purpose in light of the Great Commandment.

Mr. Bonsall stated that they want to make sure everyone understood and had enthusiasm about this via forums prior to the annual meeting. Mr. Schwalm mentioned putting something in the *Trinity Parish*. Mr. Frymoyer suggested taking the vision, mission and guiding principals to the various committees so they begin to "own" it. He stated that it will be only effective if we own it.

Pastor Hardy suggested the mission, vision and guiding principals be presented to the congregation via small group forums and internet for discussion. Mr. Foos suggested placing the vision, mission and guiding principles in the bulletin followed by a temple talk each week. Pastor Hardy suggested that we follow up with a forum to discuss the presentations further. Additional discussion was held with a variety of suggestions on how best to proceed.

MOTION: Mr. Ackerman moved that council authorize and support the Strategic Planning Team to present the draft vision, mission statement, and guiding principles to the congregation for consideration and comment, prior to council approval and subsequent presentation to the congregation at the annual meeting in January, 2009. Motion carried.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee: Mr. Ackerman's report is on file. Mr. Ackerman said we have a very small net income primarily due to the balance carried forward from last year. In addition, expenditures are lower than expected. Membership envelope income is not where it should be and overall giving is down.

Budget information for 2009 has been received from most committees.

Administration and Personnel Committee: Mr. Erdman's report is on file. Pastor Brock attended the last committee meeting and was able to report on issues with which he has been dealing. Other staff members or committee chairs may be asked to attend in the future.

Arts Committee: Ms. Haar's report is on file. Ms. Hegedus reported that the committee is considering the purchase of new choir robes.

Church Property Committee: Mr. Foos' report is on file. The committee would like to develop a directory of businesses owned by congregation members so that they may be afforded the opportunity to bid on work as needed. Ms. Knarr suggested that this directory be made available to members of the church.

Mr. Foos also referred to the motion made at the Property Committee's November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting requesting a new committee be established to address and manage all the audio visual and information technology for the church. Mr. Frymoyer asked the Administration and Personnel Committee to give guidance into the establishment of such a committee.

Mr. Foos discussed the survey that is needed for the York County property in order to sell it or otherwise dispose of it.

MOTION: Land Survey Mr. Foos moved for authorization to spend up to but not to exceed \$5,000 to cover the cost of conducting a formal survey of the church owned property located in York County near Pinchot Park. Funds to come from undesignated memorial funds.

Concern was expressed about using undesignated memorial funds, so Mr. Foos changed his motion changing the last sentence to Funding source to be determined by the Finance Committee. The seconder of the motion was in agreement with the change, and the motion carried.

Educational Ministry Committee: Mr. Bush's report is on file. The committee plans to sponsor a gathering to invite people who are or have been involved in the Koinonia program, or would like to be part of a Koinonia group.

Evangelism: Ms. Knarr's report is on file. During Advent, the committee will be conducting a door-to-door campaign in the neighborhood of Trinity to invite neighbors to come to worship. Two other similar campaigns will occur during Lent and the summer months. They will be hanging bags on door knobs but not talking to people.

Fellowship Committee: Ms. Henderson's and Ms. Wilson's report is on file. They are working with the Arts Committee for the reception on December 14. Mr. Bonsall reported that there are limited tickets available for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner. In addition to feeding the congregation, they will be delivering meals to folks involved with the Meals on Wheels program, and our own shut-ins. Mr. Ackerman said that people are to bring canned food to the dinner for New Hope Ministries, and all left over food will go to the Bethesda Mission.

Missions Committee: No Meeting.

Parish Ministry Committee: Ms. Sprowls's report is on file. Mr. Schwalm informed council the tape duplication machine is no longer working. He also noted Ms. Jo-an Eckert has resigned as the CPR/AED trainer.

Publicity and Communications: No Meeting. Mr. Balasundram noted the committee will meet in early December to look at the various forms of communications, especially in light of the visioning process.

Social Ministry Committee: Mr. Freund's report is on file. Mr. Freund expressed his appreciation to Ms. Collins for chairing the October meeting while he recovered from his shoulder surgery.

Trinity's Mardi Gras Celebration, February 8, 2009, is an approved fund raiser for CCU. Mardi Gras event planning is well under way. Council had previously approved the concept of the CCU fund raiser and the committee is now requesting formal approval for the details.

MOTION: Mardi Gras Celebration    Mr. Freund moved to affirm the details of Trinity's Mardi Gras Celebration Event to Benefit Christian Churches United HELP Ministries. The motion carried.

Stewardship Committee: Mr. Fidler's report is on file. Two hundred seventy-one estimates of giving have been received so far. He noted that this is about normal for the first month. In light of the number, the team would like to contact the base pledgers, those who have pledged in the past, but have not submitted an estimate of giving this year. He is asking 20 people to make 20 phone calls each. Scripts have been prepared and there will be a training session for callers on Monday night.

Worship Committee: Mr. Weaver's report is on file.

Youth Ministry Committee: No meeting.

Reports of Auxiliaries: No report.

## **Continuing Service**

Informal Session:

Names of potential council nominees were submitted.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

MOTION: Election of V. President Mr. Fidler moved to nominate Mr. Erdman as Vice President.  
The motion carried.

MOTION: Election of President Mr. Fidler moved to nominate Mr. Bonsall as President. The  
motion carried.

**Comments for the good of the order:**

Mrs. Martin requested the submission of annual reports by November 30.

**Dismissal:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. Council members joined hands and prayed together The Lord's Prayer.

Maria Hegedus, secretary

Nancy Martin, assistant to the secretary