

Trinity Lutheran Church
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania
MINUTES OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING
September 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Doug Bonsall.

The following council members were present:

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| Daryl Ackerman | Bill Foos | Pastor J. Stewart Hardy |
| Reuben Balasundram | Peter Fox | Betsy Knarr |
| Doug Bonsall | Roland Freund | Tim Koch |
| Pastor John Brock | Lorraine Graybill | Dave Miller |
| Judy Collins | Ryan Hannigan | Mike Schwalm |
| Craig Erdman | | |

Vicar Tom Holdcraft and Nancy Martin, assistant to the secretary, were also present.

Gathering in God's Grace:

Opening Devotions: Daryl Ackerman led the opening devotions focusing on the article "Lutherans and Other Religions - Tending our Interreligious Relations" from pages 18-24 of the August 2009 issue of *The Lutheran*.

Roll Call and action on requests for absence: Mr. Erdman moved to excuse Kathy Eavey and Christopher Couch per their requests. Motion carried.

Recognition of visitors: Bert Weaver and Bishop Guy Edmiston were visitors.

Approval of minutes: Mr. Erdman moved to approve the minutes of June 8, 2009, as presented. Motion carried.

Agreement on Agenda:

The Property Committee has another motion to add.

Judy Collins and Pastor Brock will report on the "Let the River Flow Conference."

Judy Hunter has submitted a report from the Vocation Support Advisory Committee.

Offering of our Gifts and Talents

Petitions and Communications:

Gettysburg Seminary wrote thanking Trinity for the \$2000 gift.

Pastor Hardy provided council with a copy of his official letter of retirement to Bishop Hoover.

Staff Reports:

Reports were received from Pastor Hardy, Pastor Brock, Pastor Easton, Christopher Couch, Tim Koch, Peter Fox, Debbie Wilson, and Judy Collins.

Pastor Hardy reported that Pastor Alan Wenrich and his family have been received as members per Executive Committee action. Pastor Wenrich will be providing pastoral support at Trinity, South Harrisburg, and is available to assist at Trinity if needed.

Pastor Brock relayed a message from Christopher Couch reminding all that Sup and Study begins on September 30 and is requesting that all committee meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Fox was very pleased with the first youth group meeting of the year held last night with 75 youth in attendance. One youth from Trinity, South Harrisburg, was among the attendees. Next month Peter will have more details about the proposed senior high service trip.

Ms. Collins continues to be amazed at the response to the orange volunteer inserts in the Trinity Today. People who have never been heard from before are responding. The inserts are filled through the beginning of November. No inserts will be included during Judy's vacation (September 22-October 7). The Affirmation of Faith class began last week with 14 adults and 7 children present. Council members are invited to attend on October 18. The Trinity business directory is on the web with 51 businesses, and additional ones are still being submitted. Hard copies are not being provided, but copies can be requested if anyone does not have access to a computer.

President's Report: Mr. Bonsall's report is on file.

Mr. Bonsall thanked those who attended the two summer council events.

The Synod is ready to appoint an interim pastor to begin his ministry in early January. The Transition Team had the opportunity to participate in the interview process. Council will have the opportunity to meet the candidate at an informal time prior to the October 12 council meeting. Pastor Fisher will be present to talk to council at that meeting and will ask that the synod appointment be ratified.

Executive Committee: Mr. Schwalm's report is on file.

Special Committees or Task Forces:

Bishop Edmiston provided a comprehensive report about what we are doing at Trinity Lutheran, South Harrisburg. This is a small congregation. They have a Wednesday morning quilt making group which is the only other event outside of worship. We are there to provide pastoral care not to help the synod help them make a decision about their future. He was asked if the Strategic Planning Team should have a conversation with the synod about the future of Trinity, South Harrisburg, and whether we could partner with them. Bishop Edmiston said that we could approach them about this possibility. Strategic Planning Team was charged with looking at our own facility and not outside our congregation. Should we pursue this? We have to be very careful how we approach them in any regard. We have a one year contract which could be expanded as necessary if council would agree to that extension.

Call Process Task Force: Report on file.

The report was reviewed in depth. Council will be asked to accept the report at the October meeting at which time nominations may be submitted for the Call Committee chairperson. Nominations for other Call Committee members will be due by November 30.

ELCA Vocation Support Advisory Committee: Ms. Judy Hunter's report is on file.

The members of this committee are Judy Hunter, chair, Joan Waldner, Becky Enney, Craig Staller and Jack Bush.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee: Mr. Ackerman's report is on file. All endowment money is now in the ELCA Endowment Fund which is a managed fund. Our income is approximately \$12,000 above our expectations at the present time according to Dave Miller's analysis. The Administration and Personnel Committee expects some overages by the end of the year. Overall we are on target. All committees will be asked to hold the line on their budgets for next year. We do not anticipate much growth in giving, and will have higher costs in salaries and benefits.

Administration and Personnel Committee: Mr. Erdman's report is on file. Many policy pages will be presented for approval tonight. All committees are asked to submit their mission statements as they are developed.

Arts Committee: Ms. Haar's report is on file.

Church Property Committee: Mr. Foos' report is on file. He also submitted a report on "Going Green."

Educational Ministry Committee: The committee did not meet.

Evangelism: The committee is joining with the Parish Ministry Committee and Fellowship Team to present a Health Fair on April 17, 2010. A written report concerning the Health Fair was received from Judy Hunter.

MOTION: Free-will offering

Ms. Knarr moved to permit a free-will offering to be collected at the Health Fair to help defray the cost of the event. After much discussion, Ms. Knarr withdrew the motion.

MOTION: Free-will offering

Mr. Ackerman moved to refer back to committee the idea of taking a free-will offering. The motion carried.

Fellowship Team: Ms. Wilson and Ms. Henderson's report is on file. The team is looking for someone to take over the responsibilities for Garden of Eatin' 1 since George Enney has resigned this position.

Missions Committee: No meeting was held.

Parish Ministry Committee: Ms. Sprowls' report is on file.

Publicity and Communications: The committee's offering to create brochures for each committee and group has received limited response. The committee would like to pursue this project.

Social Ministry Committee: Mr. Freud's report is on file. New Hope Ministries is looking for churches to be collection points for food and a fall toy drive. The committee is not interested in pursuing this request.

Stewardship Committee: Mr. Miller's report is on file.

Worship Ministry Team: Mr. Weaver's report is on file.

Youth Ministry Committee: Report included in Mr. Fox's report.

Ministries of the ELCA

Women of Trinity: Ms. Dollase's report is on file.

Lutheran Men in Mission: No report.

Let the River Flow Conference: Ms. Collins and Pastor Brock reported on this wonderful conference attended by them and Ms. Debbie Wilson. They felt it was a good investment by this congregation.

Continuing Service

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- MOTION: Policy Page 1.30.14 Mr. Hannigan moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.14 (Worship Ministry Team). The only change was the addition of the mission statement. The motion carried
- MOTION: Policy Page 1.30.5 Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.5 (Executive Committee). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Page 1.40.4 Mr. Foos moved to approve Policy Page 1.40.4 (Congregation Council Mission Statement). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Page 1.30.7 Mr. Ackerman moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.7 (Finance Committee). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Page 1.30.15 Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.15 (ELCA Vocation Support). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Page 5.10 Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Page 5.10 (Church Vocation Loan Fund). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Appendix A-10 Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Manual Appendix Page A-10 (ELCA vocation Support Educational Loan Fund - Status Form). The motion carried.

- MOTION: Policy Page 5.11 Mr. Erdman moved to rescind Policy Page 5.11 (Undergraduate Loan Fund). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Page 1.30.1 Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.1 (Administration and Personnel). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Pages Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Pages 1.20.2 (Job Description: Senior Pastor), 1.20.6 (Job Description: Office Manager), 1.20.36 (Job Description: Associate Pastor), 1.20.38 (Job Description: CPR Instructor), 1.30.00 (Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Chairs, Council Committee Liaisons, and Staff Liaisons). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Policy Page 1.30.18 Mr. Schwalm moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.18 (Parish Ministry). The motion carried.
- MOTION: Health Fair Food Ms. Knarr moved to approve selling food at the Health Fair on April 17, 2010. After much discussion regarding the liabilities of selling food to the public, Ms. Knarr withdrew the motion. Mr. Foos will take this back to the Property Committee for consideration.
- MOTION: Going Green Mr. Foos moved to request the establishment of a “Going Green” task force that can study and provide recommendations on how the church can implement strategies in our activities to minimize our environmental impact on the earth. The motion carried.

Comments for the good of the order: None

Dismissal: The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m. Council members joined hands and prayed together The Lord’s Prayer.

Mike Schwalm, secretary

Nancy Martin, assistant to the secretary