

Trinity Lutheran Church
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania
MINUTES OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING
January 11, 2010

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

The following council members and staff were present:

Reuben Balasundram	Craig Erdman	Betsy Knarr
Doug Bonsall	Bill Foos	Tim Koch
Pastor John Brock	Roland Freund	Pastor Glenn Ludwig
Judy Collins	Lorraine Graybill	Dave Miller
Christopher Couch	Ryan Hannigan	Mike Schwalm
Kathy Eavey	Pastor J. Stewart Hardy	

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

Gathering in God's Grace:

Opening Devotions: Ms. Knarr led devotions based on "Stamped by Patriarchy" from the November issue of *The Lutheran*.

Roll Call and action on requests for absence: Mr. Erdman moved to excuse Daryl Ackerman and Peter Fox per their requests.

Recognition of visitors: Jeff Weaver, chair of the Call Committee, and Barbara Kriebel and Bob Frymoyer, co-chairs of the Retirement Task Force were present.

Approval of minutes: On page 2, under the Strategic Planning Team, change the third and fourth sentences in the fourth paragraph to read "The cost of one year is \$7,000 to implement the recommended leadership training program. Much discussion was held about the training, the proposed trainer's credentials, and the cost." Mr. Erdman moved to approve the minutes of December 14, 2009, as corrected. Motion carried.

Agreement on Agenda: There will be one motion regarding leadership training.

Offering of our Gifts and Talents

Retirement Planning Task Force: Mr. Frymoyer's and Ms. Kriebel's report is on file. Council was asked to be present at the retirement event and to assist with moving the people through Fellowship Hall and into the Nave as necessary. Mr. Frymoyer thanked Pastor Hardy for all his many gifts to us.

Petitions and Communications: None

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 recommended a 2-4 week transition period for Pastor Ludwig and the new Sr. Pastor. He also recommended that Pastor Ludwig do staff building as Pastor Hardy did when he first came to Trinity. Princeton offers training for senior pastors and it would be good to afford that to the senior pastor. It also important for the interim senior pastor and his spouse to attend the ELCA senior pastor's conference.

Pastor Hardy then highlighted two individuals who deserve a great deal of thanks, Nancy Martin and Frank Leber.

Pastor Brock has been working with Project Connect this year. At the meeting this week he will be tendering his resignation since he feels he has not been fulfilling his commitments.

President's Report: Mr. Bonsall's report is on file. Congregations Together in Mission (CTIM) is scheduled for March 13 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover. Council members are encouraged to attend.

When asked, Pastor Ludwig explained his role as Interim Senior Pastor as making sure "the trains run on schedule." His challenge is to learn the congregational systems. He has met with pastoral staff and will be meeting with program and support staff over the next few weeks. Pastor Ludwig's priorities are preaching, teaching, staff support, and administration – in that order. He will not be involved in the call process. He has offered his services to assist with possible candidate questions and to look at the congregational profile.

Executive Committee: Mr. Schwalm's report is on file. The committee has prioritized the list of capital expenditures to help clarify where we should be spending finances.

MOTION: Capital Expenditures Ms. Graybill moved to accept the priorities as listed on the Executive Committee report and move those items to the Finance Committee for funding. The motion carried.

Vice-President's Report: The four names to be place in nomination for the four council positions for next year are Jennifer Hammaker, Tom Hoffert, Barbara Musselman, and Bill Tauriello.

New committee chairs which have been identified so far are Church Property, Bill Tauriello, Social Ministry, Doug Bonsall, and Youth Ministry, Allie Martin. A Worship Ministry Team chair is still needed.

Special Committees or Task Forces:

Strategic Planning Team: Mr. Foos reported that a chair for the Transportation Ministry Task Force has not been identified yet. He has yet to talk to Margaret Parker about the Going Green Task Force. The statement of work for the Master Planning Task Force is being reworked by Bill Foos and Bob Scaer.

Call Committee Process Task Force: Report on file. Jeff reported that he has had good responses for call committee members. He has met with people personally and given them several days to consider and pray about their decision. Only one person felt they were unable to accept the call to serve in this capacity.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee: Mr. Ackerman's report is on file. It was noted that membership envelope giving was a little less than in 2008, but considerably better than what had been expected. The excess of receipts over expenditures is \$53,884.06.

Administration and Personnel Committee: Mr. Erdman's report is on file. He reminded council members of the orientation meeting on January 29, and the meeting with the call committee on February 20.

The committee will be hosting two special coffee hours to celebrate significant staff anniversaries; May 23 to celebrate Nancy Martin's 20th anniversary, and August 1 to celebrate Pastor Easton's 10th anniversary.

Outgoing council members are to return their policy manuals to Ms. Martin.

The annual congregation meeting is January 24. Outgoing and current council members, committee chairs, and staff will be recognized. The call committee will be announced and formally commissioned at that meeting.

Arts Committee: No meeting.

Church Property Committee: Mr. Foos' report is on file. The Columbarium Sub-committee has been re-established. They are reviewing pricing, maintenance, and other issues. A representative of the Arts Committee will be asked to serve on this sub-committee.

Educational Ministry Committee: No meeting.

Evangelism: Ms. Knarr's report is on file. Affirmation of Faith classes begin on January 24 and council members are invited to attend any time. Committee chairs and council members are invited to the new members luncheon on March 7.

Fellowship Team: Ms. Wilson's report is on file.

Missions Committee: No meeting.

Parish Ministry Committee: No report.

Publicity and Communications: Mr. Schwalm's and Ms. Graybill's report is on file. Council members are reminded to send information to Mr. Weaver for the website. Candidates will be looking at the website, so it needs to be kept up-to-date. Committees should put Mr. Weaver on their distribution lists.

Mr. Weaver has submitted the webmaster's annual report. He indicated that people are definitely going to the website for information. There were two big spikes in December on Christmas Eve and the evening we had snow. Appreciation was expressed for all that Mr. Weaver continues to do with the website.

Social Ministry Committee: No meeting. The next meeting is next Tuesday. Mr. Freund was thanked for his reactivation of the committee.

Stewardship Committee: No meeting.

Worship Ministry Team: Mr. Weaver's report is on file. Mr. Weaver was thanked for his years as chair.

The Worship Task Force is continuing to make decisions and recommendations regarding the new contemporary service. If council is not in agreement with the decisions the task force is making now is the time to speak up. Questions were asked about the target population and the music that will be provided. The main purpose of the service is to relieve the overcrowding at the 10:45 service. There may be others who will be attracted to the new time and shorter format. Regular attenders of the 10:45 service will be asked to "seed" the new service to get it started.

MOTION: New service time Mr. Schwalm moved to approve the starting time for the new worship to begin at 8:30 a.m. and to conclude at 9:20 a.m. as proposed by the Worship Ministry Task Force, with the service to begin in September 2010. Motion carried.

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

Ministries of the ELCA

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

Lutheran Men in Mission: No report.

Continuing Service

Unfinished Business:

MOTION: Leadership Training Mr. Foos moved that using currently budgeted funds in the Administration and Personnel budget for the Strategic Planning Committee, moved that Congregation Council approve and allow the Strategic Planning Committee to begin the implementation of the proposed leadership training program "Christ Based Leadership" to develop current and future leaders of the church. After much discussion the motion was defeated.

Mr. Foos asked what direction council would like to give to the Strategic Planning Team which was directed to develop leadership training. It was suggested that this was just not the right time and that all information that was considered by the team should be retained. Other suggestions for training included the PLACE course taught by Ms. Judy Collins, and Mr. Couch's course on centering prayer.

Pastor Ludwig indicated that he would lead the council through the five developmental tasks for congregations in transition.

New Business:

MOTION: Call Committee Mr. Erdman moved that Meredith Askey, Bill Foos, Maria Hegedus, Brenda Kaczmarek, Ron Katzman, Betsy Knarr,

Charlotte Lazarchik and Tom Reddinger be called to serve as the Senior Pastor Call Committee along with chair Jeff Weaver. The motion carried with Pastor Hardy, Bill Foes, and Betsy Knarr abstaining.

MOTION: Call Process Task Force Mr. Erdman moved that the Congregation Council acknowledges that the work of the Call Process Task Force is complete and the Call Process Task Force is hereby dismissed. The motion carried.

MOTION: P.P.1.30.19 Mr. Erdman moved to approve Policy Page 1.30.19 (Nominating Committee). The motion carried.

Comments for the good of the order:

Pastor Hardy thanked the council, committee chairs, presidents, Transition Team, pastors, program and support staff for their ongoing dedication and support.

MOTION: Recognition of Pastor Hardy

Mr. Erdman moved to recognize and commend Pastor J. Stewart Hardy for 21 years of spiritual leadership and service to individuals and the congregation as a whole of Trinity Lutheran Church. His dedication to the word of God has been and will continue to be a blessing and inspiration for the central Pennsylvania community and beyond. We pray that the Lord will guide him in his new endeavors. The motion carried with applause.

Dismissal: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Council members joined hands and prayed together The Lord's Prayer.

Mike Schwalm, secretary

Nancy Martin, assistant to the secretary