

## Council President Report – Seth Maurer

It is with mixed feelings that I write this letter as my final act as your Council president for the past two years. I am grateful to have served **with** my fellow Council members and **for** the congregation, but I am also sad to leave this role as my term ends. My respect for every Trinity member—including staff and volunteers—is deep, and I will miss the frequent interactions that are part of the president’s position.

Let me review some of the business transacted during our 2023 Council meetings.

- In January we welcomed your newest Council members David Butcher, Mary Ellen Hettinger, Ryan Sheaffer, and Jason Sourbeer. We also recognized various staff on significant anniversaries: Pastor Brock on his 25th anniversary of ordination, Bishop Edmiston on 60 years of ordination, 20th employment anniversaries of Pastor Brock and Debbie Wilson, and 10th employment anniversary of Beth Hinkle.
- In February, we approved the use of a bequest from Alan Bowman.
- In March, we approved the allocation of a 2022 distribution from the Endowment Fund.
- In May, we approved a motion regarding the use of bequests from the estates of Judith Sponaugle and Janet Sheely.
- In June, we approved the convening of an ad hoc committee to explore mission projects that enhance long-term revenue and create optimal social impact.
- In October, we approved the use of a bequest from John Pringle. We also noted with sadness the resignation of our Director of Digital Media, Danelle Andrews, effective November 1, to accept another position.
- In November, we voted to proceed with contracting with a company to supply and install a new chiller. We also approved additional updates to church policy pages. We also learned, again with sadness, of the resignation of our Director of Communications, Stephanie Maurer, to accept another position starting January 8.
- In December, we approved various motions, including these: setting the date of January 28, 2024, for our congregational business meeting; approving 2024 housing allowances for our pastors; creating a full-time communications position by combining two part-time positions; approving the 2024 budget; approving that any yearend surplus or deficit be added to or taken from the General Operating Reserve; approving four 2024 nominees for Council (Alex Bowman, Bob Frymoyer, Valerie Kelley, and Beth Maurer); and approving Ryan Sheaffer for Council President, Bill Bishop for Vice President, and Julie Ward for secretary, all effective in 2024 after the annual meeting.

In between the Council meetings, I attended some committee meetings and communicated with volunteers and staff. I do wish I would have been able to be even more involved. I commend all our volunteers and staff for the dedication, experience, and passion you bring to your roles, and I thank each and every Trinity member with whom I have interacted during my term as Council president.

I look forward to continuing to worship and volunteer at Trinity, my lifelong and much-loved church.