

Trinity Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting – March 9, 2025

I. Call to Order by Lynda Pullis, Council President at 10:57 am

Council Roster: Present: Pastor Fred, Sheri Sauer, Lynda Pullis, Charlene Rollins, John Sienkiewicz, Bev Dominkowitz, Tom Burdzy, Erin DeKorte, Judy Miller, Maira Rogers, Carol Schwarz. Excused: David Bernauer.

Pastor led the devotion.

II. Reports for Approval

A. February Minutes – Sheri made a motion to approve the minutes of the February council meeting. Judy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Financial Reports

- Giving versus pledges for February was 94%. Being below 100% is unusual. It is a result of about 6 members that have not contributed anything to date. Several members are snowbirds, John expects that they will catchup in March and April. John is not concerned at this point.
- February income was \$17,399 which is \$6,259 below the projected amount.
- February expenses were \$28,509 which is \$840 below the budgeted amount.
- The deficit is \$15,198 which is \$3,247 above the budgeted amount of \$11,951.
- Bev reported that the check for Young Adult Global Mission (YAGM) hadn't been cashed. She was able to contact the YAGM Development Specialist who provided instructions to send the check.

Maira made a motion to accept the Financial Reports. Erin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Reports for Acceptance

A. Pastor Report (highlights)

- Pastor and John and Lynn Sienkiewicz attended the Gateway/Northern/Western mission district meeting at St. John, Summit on March 8, 2025. "...In preparation for the Synod Assembly during which a new bishop will be elected, discussions focused on the duties of a bishop and what qualities people thought a bishop should have."
- Library doors have been removed to create a more open space. Next, project will be to remove the walls where the doors were. A committee will be formed to redecorate the Library area.

B. Parish Nurse Report – The January and February parish nurse reports were emailed to council members.

Council accepted the Pastor report and the Parish Nurse reports.

IV. Committee Reports

Property – A new TV screen has been purchased and installed in the narthex. It was purchased for less than the allocated \$750.

Worship and Music

- \$1,200 was allocated for a "Whole House" surge protector on the church main electrical panel. This was recommended by Peragallo Organ Company to further safeguard the organ from lightning strikes.
- Discussion of a separate rider for the organ took place. Getting an updated appraisal of the organ and bells was suggested before purchasing a rider.

- Preparations are being made for the Easter service. There will be Brass instruments on Palm Sunday and guest musicians during Holy Week.

Fellowship

- Potluck dinner on Wednesday, 3/19.
- Discussion took place about a possible Wine tasting event in the PLC. Question raised if alcohol could be served. Based on past events, it seems that beer and wine could be served, but not hard liquor.
- Bev advised that there's \$150 available for Fellowship expenses.
- As per Carol, Sharon said she needs people to help plan events.

Food Pantry

- WAWA application was turned down because they are focusing on organizations that can provide greater recognition of their donations.
- Committee will be applying for a New Jersey faith based grant.
- There were a record number of food bags provided the past few weeks.
- More shoppers are needed.

Edna's Haven

- New counselor will start the second week of March.
- Their key to the yellow inner door has been misplaced. Pastor will provide another key.

Living for Giving

- Lenten project – Children's book drive.
- Mother's Day project – gift packets for the Senior Building

V. Old Business - Council Retreat Recap: camaraderie; felt more prepared when hosting Faith Kitchen; learning that the Dover Police Dept. can be called for support if there's an ICE raid.

VI. New Business - Council discussed whether the monthly council meeting should be moved to in-person meetings on a Sunday morning after the worship service. After a brief discussion, it was decided to try meeting in person quarterly/every few months.

VII. Correspondence - None

VIII. Closing Prayer - Pastor led a closing prayer.

IX. Adjournment

Sheri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Maira seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlene Rollins
Secretary

Next Executive Team Meeting: Monday, March 31st @ 7pm via ZOOM.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, April 7th @ 7 pm via ZOOM.