

Trinity Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting – January 13, 2025 Minutes

I. Call to Order by Sheri Sauer, Council President at 7:08 pm

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

**Joined the meeting after it was in progress.*

Opening Devotions – Sheri led a devotion “Goodness is stronger than evil” based on hymn by Bishop Desmond Tutu.

Council Member Appointment - Judy Miller has expressed interest in serving on Council. Because she expressed interest after the Annual Congregation Meeting, Council must approve the appointment. Further discussion took place.

Tom made a motion to appoint Judy Miller to Council to serve out the remainder of the term of one of the open positions until the next Annual Congregation Meeting. Maira seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

After the motion was passed, Judy, John, and Beverly were invited to join the council meeting.

Officer Elections – Pastor Fred conducted the Council officer elections.

Election results: President: Lynda Pullis. Vice President: Sheri Sauer. Secretary: Charlene Rollins.

As council president, Lynda led the rest of the council meeting.

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Appointments – Sheri made a motion to appoint John Sienkiewicz as Treasurer and Bev Dominkowitz as Assistant Treasurer. Erin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Reports for Approval

A. December Minutes - David made a motion to approve the minutes of the December council meeting. Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Financial Secretary Report - Giving versus pledges for December was 101%. As usual, we ended the year above 100%.

C. Treasurer Report

- December income was fantastic at \$52,269, which is \$28,082 above the projected amount. Income YTD is \$38,660 above the projected amount!!!
- December expenses were \$28,405, which is \$2,605 above the budgeted amount. The higher expenses were mainly due to unexpected building maintenance costs. Expenses YTD are \$3,695 above the budgeted amount.
- The deficit is \$14,690, which is \$34,965 below the projected amount of \$49,655.
- Audit will be scheduled soon.
- **House of Worship Insurance information for the Council meeting minutes.**

Company: Insurance Board

Policy #: PKE008569800

IB ID#: E7A3643

Premium: \$9180/yr

We saved \$3758/yr

Sheri made a motion to accept the Financial Reports. David seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

III. Reports for Acceptance

A. Pastor Report (highlights)

- Christmas Eve service was a glorious service.
- Christmas Day service was poorly attended.
- Council Retreat was discussed. Pastor will work on an agenda and have suggested dates at the February meeting.
- Personal Time Off Policy (PTO) vs Sick Days for all church employees needs to be reviewed.

B. Parish Nurse Report – November and December reports were emailed to council members on 1/8/24. Council accepted the Pastor report and Parish Nurse Report.

IV. Committee Reports

Property

- The need for a property chairperson was discussed. Currently there are no people on the committee.
- Pastor will put an article in the newsletter as well as make announcements at church for the need for a property committee.

Faith Kitchen

- There has been an increase in numbers. Volunteer groups need to adhere to the policy of not giving out seconds until 12:25 to ensure there's enough food for latecomers.
- Snow Days – Council hosts: Please contact Judy immediately if you are not able to host due to hazardous weather conditions, so that other arrangements can be made.
- Council members are encouraged to sign up for the Faith Kitchen newsletter that has helpful info and updates on procedures and policies.

Food Pantry

- Due to their increased cost, eggs will not be distributed for the time being.
- Applied for a WAWA grant.

Worship and Music – Agape will be providing music for the 1/26/25 service.

Living for Giving - They received a thank you note for the toy donations.

Generosity - No Report

Edna's Haven - No Report

Fellowship - No Report

V. Old Business - Synod Assembly: Two Voting members are needed from TLC to attend. The Synod Assembly will be June 5 - 7 and might require an overnight stay. Voting members are encouraged to attend their district meetings in preparation for the Synod Assembly. Our District meeting will be at St. John, Summit.

VI. New Business

Council liaison assignments:

- Faith Kitchen - Erin
- Food Pantry - Tom
- Worship and Music - David
- Living for Giving - Maira
- Generosity - Judy
- Edna's Haven - Sheri
- Fellowship – Carol

Remaining Gift Balance of \$3,005. There is a remaining balance of \$3,500 from a monetary gift that was received. Discussion took place of possible uses of the gift funds: New TV screen for the Narthex; Additional paraments for the Pentecost season... Sheri will check with the Altar Gild committee to see if there are any needs.

Thrivent Choice Dollars - Discussion took place on possible designees for the Thrivent Choice Dollars. The severity of recent disasters was discussed.

Maira made a motion that \$1,500 of the Thrivent Choice dollars be designated to Lutheran Disaster Relief Fund (LDR) and any additional funds received be designated to the TLC Food Pantry. Erin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Correspondence - None

VIII. Closing Prayer - Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

IX. Adjournment

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

Next Executive Team Meetings: Monday, 2/3 @ 7pm via Zoom

Next Council Meeting: Monday 2/10 @ 7 PM via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlene Rollins
Secretary