

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2009

Present: Nancy Anderson, Brock Bentson, Pastor Janet Breum, Judy Perryman, Victoria Siegfried, Sylvia Smith, Elaine Tredinnick

Absent: Darleen Borke, Joe Donninger, Bob Jemc

Guests: Cindy Peterson, Mike Sipple, Paul Wilke, Melissa Morley

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7:00 p.m.

The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent. The minutes of the January 8 meeting were approved as distributed with a motion from Nancy Anderson and a second from Brock Bentson.

Nancy Anderson distributed the Treasurer's Report, which was approved as distributed with a motion from Brock and a second from Sylvia Smith. The audit of Little Lambs financial records is to be complete by the April 9 Congregation Council Meeting. Drafts of 2009/2010 budgets are due to Nancy Anderson by April 9. Congregation approval for the budget will be sought at the June 14 annual meeting.

Congregation meetings were set for:

May 3 – Election

June 14 – Budget and Proposed Constitution Changes

August 16 – Congregation Plan Approval

Melissa Morley presented an offer made to Little Lambs for fundraising by selling unwanted gold jewelry. The owner of the company is known by Little Lambs staff and offers 10% of proceeds to Trinity. Several members of Congregation Council were concerned about perceived impropriety or appearing to prey upon those in financial distress. The consensus was to decline this offer.

Pastor Breum reported performing two baptisms. She will start a new member's class in March.

The new sign has been delivered and the Trustees selected a company to install it. The sign will be installed as weather permits, hopefully in the next week or two.

The Constitution Committee is on its second reading of the red-line version of the proposed constitution.

Judy Perryman will get information on the end product and timelines from Pastor Lerseth on the three projects he is spearheading.

Judy is contacting members about serving on a Nomination Committee for the May Congregation Council election. Victoria Siegfried is researching lengths of time in office of current Board Chairs.

Victoria performed Candy Leatherman's review. Reviews are still due for school personnel and Ed Kramer.

In response to frequent questions or concerns about where fund raising dollars go, Brock motioned that proceeds from all fund raising activities are put into the general operating fund unless the Congregation Council approves the earmarking of the proceeds for a specific ministry prior to any advertising of the event. With a second from Nancy Anderson, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Quotes for installing new lights in the sanctuary to light the cross and the choir risers are coming in at \$7,200.00. Trustees do not have the money in the budget, and Congregation Council wishes to hold any spending on this until later in the year.

Victoria distributed the Thrivent Grant application she drafted for the request for funding for the new front entrance, campus signs and lighting. Nancy Anderson will write a paragraph relating to Trinity's current finances, at which time the application is ready to submit.

As requested, Victoria submitted a Records Retention policy for Congregation Council's review along with a plan for where records will be stored.

The churches sound system is being inspected and repaired by Bill Larson and Aaron Best. There have been problems with the microphones and feedback.

The Trustees approved building usage fees for members and the general public as well as a contract for Eben-Ezer, which were distributed for review. The consensus was to go forward with the use of the usage fees and negotiations with Eben-Ezer on a contract.

There is a 1st Sunday breakfast on March 1 at which time new members will be welcomed. Mike Sipple reported that after spending \$192.00 on food for Pastor Breum installation celebration, the Missing Links do not have any funds with which to purchase food for March 1. Nancy Anderson will get a check for the \$192.00 to Mike to reimburse the breakfast fund.

Prayer concerns were shared after which the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with a motion from Brock and a second from Sylvia.

Respectfully Submitted by Victoria Siegfried-Wilke