

Trinity Lutheran Church

Church Council meeting, Tuesday, June 28th 2016

Trinity Lutheran Church: Meeting was called to order at 6:58pm by President Tom Johnson.

Attendees: Tom Johnson, Tim Gauerke, Pastor Bryan, Nancy Johnson, Charlene Kuenzi, Nancy Ross, Mike Claussen, , Diane Opperman, Mark Harrington, Don Holtebeck, Ruth Trinrud & Marshall Lysne.

Excused: Jeff Riddle

Prayer: Pastor Bryan

Devotions: Marshall Lysne

Secretary's Report: Report was distributed and reviewed. Mark Harrington asked that the word disparage be changed to disparity in Old business. Change noted. Moved by Mike C. to approve report 2nd by Nancy Ross. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasure's report was distributed. Nancy reported the budget is in the black. There are no major unforeseen circumstances affecting the budget.

Pastors Reports: The Pastors Bryan shared his report. He read a text from Pastor Andy Thanking the Council for his time off.

Pastor Bryan Report May:

The month of May saw us winding down our Sunday School education ministry for its summer hiatus, and beginning our summer worship schedule. As Pastor Andy prepared to leave on vacation over the month of June, I took four days of vacation to attend to business matters in the town of my previous parish.

Notable events in which I took part were two meetings that began laying the foundation for our Education Committee to begin meeting again; and having my head shaved as part of our benefit fundraiser for Taylor Vaughn and her family.

I was also able to be a part of our New Member orientation meeting, and attended our men's prayer breakfast.

I visited 2 of our members at local nursing homes and visited our local hospital 5 times for visits. Pastoral acts included one funeral and one committal service, and 2 meetings with families to arrange these services.

I was able to meet with a local representative of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and present them with a donation, sourced from one of our bequests. And I was able to meet with a team of social service and juvenile justice personnel who are overseeing the care of one of our members.

Along with regular staff and planning meetings, and committee meetings, I took part in many of our diverse ministries.

Pastor Andy's report, May 26, 2016:

Oh, what a month it's been. We thankfully have a new pastor on her way, and I've been trying to get things in order for my month of renewal away from active ministry that begins a week from tomorrow while also focusing on some big-picture things that we will be blessed to consider with the formation of a new team of pastors, two of whom will have arrived within the past year.

- We're all looking forward to soon-to-be-Pastor Dione Miller's arrival, and we're already benefiting immensely from the arrival of **Parker Kantos**, who joined us as our first intern for this summer on May 3, two days after graduating from Waynesburg University in Pennsylvania. Parker is learning a lot about church leadership before beginning his studies at Luther Seminary at the end of the summer, and he's meanwhile doing a LOT for our ministries. He has already hit stride leading the Crossover Bible studies along with Lina Mohr, he has had some great input for the Family & Youth Team and the confirmation roundtable group that met May 11 to wrap up the confirmation year and look forward, and he's actively planning a whole slate of summer youth events, including a high-school trip to tour colleges of the Midwest. He's also planning Bible studies for the upcoming young-adult trip, and he'll be preaching one weekend next month. And that's just the tip of the iceberg. Both Parker and **Maddy Frank**, who will join him as our other summer intern one week from today, will be contributing more of their time to Trinity than any other interns to date, thanks to an increase in funding from the members who have anonymously sponsored this program. We are deeply, deeply blessed to have Parker and Maddy with us this summer, especially with me about to step back for a month. What's even better is that one of last year's interns, **McKenna Meza**, is also slated to preach again in July, and she's helping to organize the June 25 outing to a Timber Rattlers game voluntarily.
- The first big piece of that month of June when I'll be away will be Trinity's third annual mission trip for young adults. I've never been more excited or less anxious about a church trip. We've got an absolute all-star team of college students and recent graduates, representing every summer youth trip that Trinity has had since 2009: Parker, **Hannah Johnson**, **Jake Foss**, **Carla Ikert**, **Emily Cummings**, **Raina Eddy**, **Macy Carlson**, **Bobbie Sell**, and **Mandy Tomlinson**. And a terrific trio of older adults—**Mike Psenicka**, **Terry Nellis**, and **Denise Tomlinson**—will be joining me on the trip to improve the homes of folks in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky in partnership with St. Vincent Mission. This biggest young adults' trip yet is thanks largely in part to Trinity's Mission Endowment and the Richard and Lone Clapp estate. Please keep us in your prayers during our journey from Saturday, July 4, through Saturday, July 11. I'll then be on vacation through the end of the month of June, though I'll be helping with the events at and around Strawberry Fest that our Faith Ventures travelers will be taking part in on June 18 for our final fundraisers before the July trip to Nashville.
- In what was pretty easily the most memorable Crossover Bible study we've ever had, Pastor Bryan and I lost our hair for a very good cause, and that very good cause, **Taylor Vaughn**, just happened to be able to join us on her first Wednesday at home since beginning treatment for lymphoma on April 1. Lina and Heidi Fischer also had their hair dyed green. All this was part of the "FundRazor" for Taylor's family, whom we'll soon send a check for almost \$4,800, which has come in from generous folks of the Trinity community since the kickoff of the campaign on the morning of May 1, when Taylor joined us via FaceTime from Children's Hospital in Milwaukee for the worship service when we recognized her, Maddy, and their fellow graduating seniors. This was a really fantastic class of young people, most of whom will graduate from Waupaca High School on Sunday; please pray that Taylor will remain healthy enough to be there!

Lina, Parker, Heidi, and I will attend a Youth Mental Health First Aid training session tomorrow at Pine Lake Camp, which should be helpful. I also want to note, upon being prompted after giving this report orally at tonight's meeting, that my eyes were opened to the problems of human trafficking for youth in Wisconsin at last weekend's East Central Synod of Wisconsin Assembly in Green Bay. That topic of human trafficking, which was the subject of an astonishing breakout session I attended, will be one that we'll consider for the purposes of educating our community, and it's yet another case where we're thankful to have the resource of the new SafeGuarding Youth Fund that was made possible by the Knoepfel estate

Council Reports:

Buildings and Grounds: Don H. reported the parking lot light project was nearing completion. Don asked Pastor Bryan in reference to Georges request or suggestion to having more doors locked. It was noted that it would be ideal to have a visual line of sight from the office to account for anyone entering the building after a minor encounter the previous week.

Personnel: Pastor Bryan reported that the committee was working hard to facilitate a smooth transition with staff in light of Sara's departure this coming Thursday. Sara's duties are being evaluated and discussed among remaining staff to explore dividing out Sara's duties and see where the staff feels any needs or adjustment may need to be made. It was suggested that possible, Heartland be contracted to help with important updates and emergency computer situations should they arise. The committee is working on the vital duties that need to be addressed. Pastor Bryan will facilitate the clear communication between the personnel committee and remaining staff to ensure all duties are covered and discussed in an open transparent dialog. Nancy Ross suggested more volunteer involvement in office functions.

Health: No report

Membership & Evangelism: Pastor Bryan reported the Spiritual gift inventory is taking shape. They are currently performing an assessment of media usage of all groups and committees.

Mission Stewardship: Pastor Bryan reported they are revamping their Continuing Resolution as directed. They are also continuing development of the revised new member spiritual gift inventory. It was noted by Pastor Bryan and Marshall that it is the Stewardship committee's responsibility to recommend to council designation of unused undesignated funds.

Parish education: Diane O. reported that they have six individuals who have volunteered to help brainstorm what the Parish education model should look like going forward. They are seeking and getting the word out that more congregational involvement in the brainstorming and model forming is welcome. Diane also asked that we pray for safe travels for the entire group but especially the five individuals from Trinity that will be traveling on the upcoming Lutherland trip to Germany. She also asked that we pray that the trip may be an educational experience that the group can bring back to share with the congregation as a whole.

Worship & Music: Nancy reported the committee met at the Harbor for their meeting. Nancy reported that in large part due to Heidi Fischer and Julie Neubauer they have raised \$2,300 of the \$3,000 summertime goal for the Peder Eide Concert. Nancy also thanked everyone for the prayers for her grandson's recent surgery. All went well!

Family & Youth Team: Mike C. reported the committee has their rough draft completed on their continuing resolution. The fundraising is complete for the upcoming Faith Ventures trip.

TLW: Ruth reported there was no meeting.

Information & Technology: Pastor Bryan reported so far so good with Sara's anticipated departure. Greg Lacy has a exit checklist they are working on.

Future planning: Mark Harrington reported they had nothing for discussion at this time. Mark did report he has been working with Sara and Greg as the go between for the transition.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Pastor Dionne will start work on Friday. President Tom Johnson reminded the council members that they are responsible for bringing their updated continuing resolutions to the council from their respective committee assignments.

Adjournment: Motion by Don H. 2nd by Diane O. Motion Approved (7:40pm);
Respectfully submitted, Tim Gauerke, Secretary,

Devotions for August: Diane Opperman