

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council
March 9, 2010

Members Present:

Dan T, President
Brendan R, Vice President
John D, Secretary
Chuck P, Finance
Laurie S, Youth Ministry
Gary S, Property
Jeff D, Evangelism
Jamie P, Worship and Music

Lynn T, Congregational Life
Mary C, Social Concerns
Tom E, Management
Lindsay A, Ex Officio
Pastor Deanna Wildermuth, Sr. Pastor,
Ex Officio
Pastor Sue Wanwig, Visitation Pastor,
Ex Officio

Members Absent:

Bridget S

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by president Dan T at 7:05 PM.

Devotions

James P presented a devotional homily based upon recent "Can I Play" experiences in Zulu land.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the February council meeting were approved as written.

Pastors' Reports:

Pastor Wanwig reported on her continuing visitation responsibilities. She also reported on the recent meeting of the Mercer Island Clergy Association (MICA) with City of Mercer Island officials regarding rules proposed for further Tent Cities on Mercer Island. At issue were proposed requirements that host churches be required to make background checks on tent city residents. Additional requirements regarding frequency of tent city encampments and distances between successive encampments were also at issue. Pastor Wanwig also reported that statewide legislation may modify some portions of the ordinance (the state legislation was later passed).

Pastor Wildermuth updated the council on church activities, including two upcoming weddings (in May and September), our plans for Easter services, and a successful "Lutheran Basics" class. HTLC will be the host of a Synod Council meeting on March 20, and Pastor asked for hospitality support from members.

BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Chuck P reported that the Retherford bequest had been placed in a savings account pending decisions as to its application. We have received enough in donations to purchase an acceptable "starting" number of the new hymnals. We expect to have them in use after Easter. He also noted that giving was low by \$10,000 in February and reviewed selected portions of the balance sheet so the council could follow how the actions authorized in February were implemented.

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Strategic Planning Update

Dan T announced the Strategic Planning Task Force would include himself, Pastor Wildermuth, Jamie P, Doris J, Janet P and Mike F.

Proposed Bylaws for Annual Review of Membership Roll

Council members had been provided advance copies of proposed changes to HTLC bylaws regarding membership. Discussion was focused on how to sensitively make our membership count more accurate. The objective is to have an accurate assessment of actual membership, yet not be counting as “members” those who are no longer interested in continuing their HTLC affiliation. The council resolved to forward the proposed Bylaw addition to the congregation for action at the May Congregational Meeting. (A copy of these proposed changes is attached to the office copy of this report).

Approval of New Confirmed Members

Our constitution (Para. C8.03) requires that “All applications for confirmed membership shall be submitted to and shall require the approval of the Congregational Council”. Approval is not required for members on the roll of the congregation at the time the current Constitution was adopted on January 27, 2008.

The following individuals have applied for confirmed membership since January 27, 2008: