

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council

Jan. 13, 2009 Minutes

Members present:

Lindsay A	President	Greg S	Evangelism
Dan T.	Vice President	James P	Worship & Music
Chuck P.	Treasurer	Lyle S	Ex Officio, Past President
Mark S	Management		
John D	Secretary	Rick M	Social Concerns
Leslie B	Stewardship	Staff	Kathy F
Gary S	Property	Pastor	Sue W
Althea E	Cong. Life		
Lowell W	Christ. Ed.		

Absent: Laurie S, Youth

President Lindsay A called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Devotions were led by Chuck P.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 12/09/08 council meeting were approved with corrections.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor W has agreed to serve as our preacher for 3 weeks of the month during the call process. She has arranged for visiting pastors for the last week of January and February. She reports that we have two requests for two baptisms on February 8. Assisting Minister training has started and the women's bible study has made the change from Thursdays to Tuesday at 10:00 with no problems. There will be increased emphasis on the training of our acolytes.

New Business, Proposed Annual Meeting Agenda

Lindsay A presented the agenda proposed for the upcoming congregational meeting. The council approved the agenda with minor changes.

Lyle announced that in accordance with our constitution (C13.02) six members of the congregation have agreed to be nominated as the 2009-10 nominating committee. These members are: Dean P, Chuck M, Kathryn K, Curtis H, Carole P, John L in addition to our current president, Lindsay A, who automatically serves as chairman of the committee.

Committee Updates

Worship & Music

Jamie P introduced Michael Y who presented the council with a thorough analysis of the effect of the "Fresh Worship" Service on attendance at Holy Trinity. The service has been beneficial, not only at the 10:15 service but also to the 8:00 AM service. A copy of his analysis is attached to the office copy of this report.

Chrade Y reports that the fame of our HTLC Sanctus choir has led to it being invited to sing at a Saturday evening service at St. James Cathedral this Spring. In addition Chrade is hoping to host a larger "Musical Feast" in May featuring several large

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council

JAN. 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes

performing choirs/ensembles from throughout the Seattle Metro area. Proceeds will go to benefit Habitat for Humanity, Agros International / El Milagro and our Pastor's Discretionary Fund and Emergency Feeding Program.

Congregational Life

Althea reported that Women's Bible study will be meeting on Tuesdays at 10:00 except for the first Tuesday of the month, when Rebekah Circle meets.

Kathy F reported: Christian Education committee approved a meeting "Women of the Congregation" on February 1 to explore WELCA, women's bible study, prayer groups, Bible groups, and retreats. February 22 will be "Bold Women's Sunday", a continuation of a churchwide WELCA observation now in its third year.

HTLC is planning to have a blood drive. We need just 25 people to sign up, so roll up your sleeve and join in.

It's time for our annual MS Walk. This year Team Piehl will be walking on Bainbridge Island. Save the Date: Saturday, April 4!! Transportation will be arranged.

Stewardship

Leslie presented an overview of the stewardship committee meeting for the council. A copy of her report is appended to the office copy of these minutes. Highlights included:

A summary of our "Stewards of Hope" stewardship campaign to date, including Temple Talks, an upcoming Ministry Fair, newsletter and Sunday Bulletin informational articles. Leslie reiterated the convenience and efficiency of "Simply Giving", having our church donations withdrawn automatically from our personal financial accounts.

Next Steps in the Interim Period

Jamie P and Dan T provided a draft "Pastoral Coverage Proposal" defining staff duties during the interim period. This document, appended to the office copy of these minutes, outlined 16 specific areas of church activities, daily operations, and the responsible person or persons for each activity. A motion to accept the recommendations as amended was made and seconded. The measure passed without dissent.

Finance & Management

Chuck P provided draft copies of the church financial status as of December 31. Our expenditures exceeded income by \$49,000. Then a draft of the proposed HTLC budget for 2009 was discussed. It was suggested that we table the proposed budget until interim pastoral expenses and reserve allocations had been discussed.

Next there was a discussion regarding the covering of health benefits for Pastor A for the month of January. A motion was made and passed without dissent to cover such expenses to the extent needed but not to exceed \$1,000.

The council then addressed a "Temporary Pastor Compensation Proposal" which considered changing compensation for Pastor Wanwig to reflect her work on behalf of Holy Trinity during the interim period. The motion was approved.

Chuck then proposed transferring and reallocating unutilized fund balances that have been carried on the books for some time. A motion to reallocate these funds was made,

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council

JAN. 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes

seconded and passed without dissent. The closed items will be merged into specified accounts held for the purpose of financing unbudgeted items. Chuck then made a proposal to recommend to the congregation to not repay past borrowing from designated funds, and to provide for certain additional future notifications to the congregation in the event of variations from approved budgets. (This proposal is attached to the office copy) A lively discussion followed. Lyle suggested that we wait on this proposal until we call a new pastor and address our financial status at that time. Chuck then withdrew 4 of the 6 proposed items. A motion was made to accept two items as resolutions of the council i.e., that the congregation be informed of any deficit over \$15,000, and that a special congregational meeting shall be called if the deficit passes \$25,000. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John D
Secretary
jnbdonal6206@comcast.net