

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Minutes for 8/9/2011**

Members Present:

Tim Parker, President
Jamie Park, Vice President
Karin Swenson-Moore, Secretary
Leslie Byrnes, Stewardship
Julie Duffie', Christian Education
Tom Elzey, Management
Gary Schill, Property
Laurie Sperber, Youth
Lynn Tuttle, Congregational Life
Brendan Rorem, Former President
Pastor Sue Wanwig, Ex Officio
Pastor Deanna Wildermuth, Sr. Pastor, Ex Officio

Members Absent:

Dean Pollock, Treasurer
Mary Casady, Social Concerns
Jackie King, Worship and Music
Lowell Williams, Evangelism

Staff Present:

Kathy Fisher, Director, Youth and Family Ministry

1. Call to Order

President Tim Parker called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

2. Devotions

Pastor Wildermuth led devotions/prayer.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Council approved the minutes of the June 14, 2011 meeting and July 27 e-mail meeting with no corrections.

4. Pastors' Reports

Pastor Sue Wanwig's report:

- She is preaching at some other congregations this summer.
- She attended the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) conference with Pastor Wildermuth, Chrade Younkin and David Locke.

Pastor Deanna Wildermuth's report:

- She held a follow-up discussion with staff after ALCM.
- She is talking with Erik Floan from Cross of Christ Lutheran regarding an art exhibit by a Chinese artist to be jointly hosted by Cross of Christ, Phinney Ridge Lutheran and HTLC.
- Pastoral care includes three baptisms on August 14 and two weddings this fall.

- She won registration for a worship conference focused on expanding worship styles in Chicago in September.
- She noted we have a rolling 12-18 month church calendar, maintained in the church office.
- The weekly e-news on Wednesdays is different from the monthly newsletter.

5. Staff Reports

Kathy Fisher's report:

- The Portland youth mission trip was successful, with thanks to Anne Takeuchi for filling the last required chaperone slot. The all-female group stayed, at Trinity Lutheran in Gresham and completed multiple service projects along with various fun activities. They also attended worship at Augustana Lutheran in Portland.
- Vacation Bible School was cancelled due to low advance registration. The August 17 counselor event to provide dinner to the Mercer Island police and fire stations is now an all-ages HTLC event.
- Thrivent is providing helmets for the bike/helmet check that is added to the Dog & Car Wash on August 21.
- Angela Bronson raised over \$3000 of the needed \$4000 for her year in London as part of ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (funds still accepted). She will write online about her experiences at angiebronson.blogspot.com.
- The HTLC fall program calendar is set. Confirmation will meet once per month. Expectations for sermon notes, participating in worship and outside volunteering are unchanged. Ninth graders will have a one-day retreat on September 25, dinner on October 9 and confirmation on October 30. High school students will meet for "Deep Thoughts" one Sunday a month at 10 am, along with participating in HTLC, social and synod activities.
- Kathy will send a mailing regarding the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering as soon as the registration forms are published. The forms and deposit must be returned by September 25 to get forms in on time. Total anticipated cost per student is \$2400, including covering chaperone expenses, less auction proceeds.
- Kathy will attend a Faith Formation workshop at Trinity Lutheran College on August 24, focused on young children and intergenerational education.

6. Strategic Planning Update

Pastor Wildermuth presented a draft of the task force summary report. The task force has a number of recommendations to improve effectiveness of staff and volunteer work and reduce overlapping responsibilities, as well as approaches to financing short and long-term needs. Specific recommendations will be reviewed with each committee chair. There will be regular oversight of the execution of plans by the Management Committee with monthly reports to the Council and congregation.

7. President's Report

- President Parker was approached about creating an HTLC Memorial Garden. He will ask the requestor to investigate further since there are several types of gardens.
- He is working on evaluations for the pastors.
- A motion was presented by President Parker on behalf of Dean Pollock to move our bank accounts from Bank of America to Key Bank to receive more service for the same cost. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.

8. Committee Updates

- **President Parker, for Dean Pollock, Treasurer,** reported:
 - Through June 2011, income is \$6000 favorable over budget with a positive variance of \$17,000 in net income.
 - Monthly giving is tracking to budget with tightly controlled expenses.
 - The July report will be presented next month.
 - A motion was made to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.
- **Gary Schill, Property,** noted:
 - The accessible bathroom work is complete.
 - Projects in progress include painting the steeple, chapel updates, electrical improvements, fixing a vent problem in the loft, narthex painting, and upcoming work on the heating system.
- **Leslie Byrnes, Stewardship,** had no report.
- **Lynn Tuttle, Congregational Life,** stated her committee is planning.
- **Julie Duffie', Christian Education,** reminded that we need more Sunday School teachers, and of the training on August 22 for all involved with Sunday School or the Child Safety Policy.
- **Laurie Sperber, Youth,** reported:
 - Planning for the auction on September 17 is going well. Food will be provided by Smokin' Pete's Barbeque. Proceeds will benefit Club 24 Senior Living at Home, First Place School and the 2012 HTLC Youth mission/ELCA National Lutheran Gathering trip to New Orleans. The Council-provided "instant wine cellar" will be a raffle prize.
- **Mary Casady, Social Concerns,** reported in absentia that the committee is generating ideas as well as working on procurement of items for the auction.
- **Tom Elzey, Management,** said the committee is working on the strategic plan report.

9. Closing Prayer

10. Adjournment

President Parker adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Swenson-Moore, HTLC Council Secretary