



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
 Monday, December 17, 2018

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Mike Nedzel in the Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2018.

Council members present: Shannon Corcoran, Tom Crane, Pastor Jennifer Fuhr, Ron Montelaro, Mike Nedzel, Diane Meyers, Joanne Scherer, Diane Setzenfand, Mimi Stanton, Anne Vondracek, Diana Wagner and Jim Woods.

Council members excused: Bonnie Kriberney.

Name	(Term)/Ends	Present	Excused	Absent	Liaison
Justin Bakow (resigned)	(1) 1/27/19	4	6		Stewardship
Shannon Corcoran	(1) 1/26/20	10			Personnel
Tom Crane	(1) 1/27/19	9	1		Technology / Stewardship
Pastor Jennifer	N/A	9	1		
Bonnie Kriberney*	(1) 1/28/20		10		
Diane Meyers	(2) 1/28/19	6	4		Christian Ed / Youth
Ron Montelaro*	(1) 1/26/20	9	1		Constitution Review, Strategic Planning
Mike Nedzel*	(1) 1/27/19	10			Nominating, Mutual Ministry
Joanne Scherer	(2) 1/26/20	9	1		Endowment Fund
Diane Setzenfand*	(2) 1/28/19	10			
Mimi Stanton	(1) 1/26/20	9	1		Property/Cemetery
Anne Vondracek	(2) 1/26/20	10			Finance/Audit
Diana Wagner	(2) 1/26/20	10			Community Outreach / Evangelism
Jim Woods	(1) 1/27/19	4	6		Worship & Music

*Officer

Opening Prayer: Diane Meyers led Council in opening devotions.

Agenda Review: The agenda was reviewed as presented. Pastor Jennifer requested that “New Member” be added to the agenda.

Motion – Joanne Scherer moved to accept the agenda to include “New Member” under New Business (d). The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the November 27, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Joanne Scherer noted an error to the Endowment Distribution report and motion.

She requested the motion be corrected to read "**Motion**" – Joanne Scherer moved to approve a distribution of \$6,100.00 from the Endowment Fund. Thirty percent of the distribution will be directed as \$800.00 to fund Lutherlyn camperships and the remaining amount of \$1,030.00 to Trinity's Community Ministry Committee to distribute at their discretion. The remaining 70% will be designated to the discretion of Council. Designation of the 70% of funds is tabled until the proposed 2019 budget is presented at the December 17, 2019 meeting.

Motion – Joanne Scherer moved that the minutes of the November 27, 2018 meeting of Council be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

Leadership Report: Pastor Jennifer Fuhr presented a December report and expressed her appreciation to Council for their work throughout the year, noting she had made a gift in honor of Council that will provide sustainable farm animals in developing countries.

Standing Committee Reports: Reports by the standing committees of Finance, Nominating, Personnel, Community Ministry/Evangelism, Endowment, Property and Cemetery were reviewed.

Old Business:

2019 Budget

Ray Ojerholm joined the meeting at 7:00pm. He presented a revised budget recommended by the Finance Committee, based on recommendations made by Council in November. The entire budget was reviewed, and he responded to questions.

Reductions made lowered the 2019 deficit to \$10,742.00. Various ways were discussed to supplement funding of all ministries.

Council expressed its appreciation to Mr. Ojerholm and Mr. Hurt, members of the Finance Committee Bonnie Kriberney, Jane Hein, Joanne Scherer and Pete Luedke and Council Liaison Anne Vondracek for their dedicated work in developing the budget. Mr. Ojerholm then departed the meeting at 7:35pm.

Motion – Ron Montelaro moved to approve a revised 2019 operating budget showing a \$10,742.00 deficit. The budget will be presented to the Congregation for approval at the January 27, 2019 Congregational Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with two dissenting votes.

Discussion followed concerning the 70% of the 2019 Endowment Fund allocated to the discretion of Council. It was agreed that \$3,000.00 be designated to contracted facilities maintenance and \$1,270.00 to Lutherlyn Camperships.

MOTION – Jim Woods moved that the 70% of the 2019 Endowment Fund allocated to the discretion of Council be distributed as follows: \$3,000.00 be designated to contracted facilities maintenance and \$1,270.00 to Lutherlyn Camperships. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

Personnel Update

Pastor Jennifer requested Council approval to offer Stephanie Buka the position of Communications Administrator at a rate of \$18.00 per hour. Her target start date is January 2, 2019.

Motion - Pastor Jennifer Fuhr moved that Stephanie Buka be offered the position of Communications Administrator at a rate of \$18.00 per hour. Her target start date will be January 2, 2019. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

Capital Improvements

Mimi Stanton updated Council on recent projects. The stage window area has been repaired and additional windows have been installed. Bids are being received for installation of a handicapped door into the church to be evaluated before proceeding.

Friendship House

Ron Montelaro gave an update regarding the Friendship House including background. He noted the house is zoned residential. In light of the current budget, discussion followed regarding options that should be explored.

New Business:

2019 Staff Compensation and Housing Allowance

Based upon recommendations of the Personnel and Finance Committees, the following motions were made.

Motion – Anne Vondracek moved to increase Pastor Jennifer Fuhr’s “defined compensation” from \$70,883.00 to \$72,164.00 effective 1/1/19, plus continuation of benefit plans and expense allowances as per her letter of call. This includes an allocation of \$2,100.00 per month (\$25,200 per annum) of Pastor Jennifer Fuhr’s compensation as housing allowance for federal income tax purposes. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

Motion – Anne Vondracek moved to increase the compensation of the Communications Administrator, Minister of Music and Director of Discipleship by 3% effective 1/1/19. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

Annual Meeting

The January 27, 2019 agenda was reviewed. It was noted that accrual of annual reports for each ministry is underway.

New Member

Pastor Jennifer Fuhr noted Elmer Herman has been affirmed as a new member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Next Meeting: The January 21, 2019 meeting was canceled. The next meeting of Council will be the organizational Congregational Council meeting to be held following the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2019 in the downstairs of the church. Devotions leader, committee liaison assignments and meeting scheduling for 2019 will occur at the January 27 organizational meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion – Diana Wagner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. A second was obtained and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Pastor Jennifer recognized outgoing Council members Diane Meyers, Diane Setzenfand and Jim Woods. Mike Nedzel also thanked the outgoing members. She then led Council in closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Setzenfand,
Council Secretary