

Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline
Council Minutes
Tuesday, October 10, 2017
Faith Hall

Attendance: Jane Bahls, Pastor Larry Conway, Nancy Greer, Judy Johnson, Len Lindell, Bill Lootens, Judy Johnson, Bob Ruud, Craig Tillman, Alli Vandermyde.

Bob Blew offered a devotion based on a book by Jennifer Farr Davis on hiking the Appalachian Trail. The author discovered that it's not civil to be fully booked with commitments. True freedom comes with slowing down and stopping to appreciate nature. Psalm 46: "Be still and know that I am God."

Bob called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Agenda approved. Moved by Bob Ruud, seconded by Len Lindell.
Minutes of Sept. 12: Pastor moved and Jane seconded Alli seconded to approve the minutes as corrected (spelling of Norallene Able's name in Good Fruits). Approved.

Staff reports and Ministry reports:

Alli reported that the Property Committee has not met, but the Tech Team met three times.

They're seeking bids for Trinity's IT contract.

Bill noted that air conditioners are set to be installed, but there have been scheduling problems.

Parking lot lights are on order.

Judy moved and Jane seconded to approve the reports as e-mailed. Approved.

Finance Report

Bill reported that we'll receive about \$8,500 bonus on our Birdies pledges, which will come in late October or early November. \$85,902 pledged through Birdies, and it's all paid.

Expenses are down as income is down. Budget is doing well.

Attendance for September is up, but the pattern for the year is down.

Len moved and Bob Ruud seconded to approve finance report. Motion approved.

Old Business

Property Reserve guidelines. Should we add a sixth Property Reserve Guidelines indicating where undesignated estate gifts would go: Property Reserve or Endowment? Bob proposed that Exec discuss it and bring it back to Council. Nancy said she's hoping for flexibility, in case the church were in dire straits and needed the money for operating. Pastor Larry said he's seen churches where there's a large unexpected gift, and church council starts fighting over where the money goes, then congregation starts fighting as well. He said he wanted a system. Len noted that it's a matter of bylaws that there are only two places where large bequests could go: Endowment or Property Reserve. Bob thanked Nancy for the clarity that will help when Exec takes it up.

A Way Forward team will meet Thursday, October 21 to get started. Len noted the urgency behind this team's mission.

New Business

There was no new business.

Announcements:

Bluffs Neighborhood Cleanup Day – Saturday, October 7. The neighbors who came to Trinity for continental breakfast served by Alli and Nancy appreciated the church's participation.

Joint celebration of the Reformation – Sunday, October 15

Trunk or Treat – Sunday October 29

Bishop Clements will hold his Re-Mark-Able meeting at Trinity on Tuesday, 28 November, Council members will host.

Good Fruits & Recognition:

Bob Blew for food and devotions.

Alli Vandermede and Nancy Greer for serving breakfast at the Bluffs cleanup, and Diana Alm for providing it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Pastor Larry closed with prayer.