

Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline
Council Minutes
Tuesday, November 20, 2018
Faith Hall

Attendance: Jane Bahls, Bob Blew, Pastor Peter Bredlau, Nancy Gruenhagen, Dan Haskill, Len Lindell, Bob Ruud, Craig Tillman, Alli Vandermyde, Heather Yodts, Russ Zeskey

Devotion: Heather offered a devotion based on Psalm 119.

Staff and Ministry Team Reports: Bob Ruud moved to approve the reports as e-mailed. Nancy seconded. Motion carried.

Finances: Nancy highlighted the finance report, noting YTD \$13,000 over budget. Len moved and Alli seconded to approve the report. Motion passed.

Old Business

- *Choir Director.* Pastor Peter explained that an offer was made to an applicant who said no. He asked Dave Meumann to guide the choir during Amber and Alex's Christmas break. Yet to be determined: next semester. He noted the need to find someone stable, to build on Trinity's long history of excellence in music.
- *Mural.* Jane described the process that has led to a collaborative effort by Trinity, Bluffs Neighborhood, the city of Moline Beautification Fund and Augustana College graphic design students led by Dr. Vicki Phipps, to design and create a mural for the garage in Trinity's parking lot.
- *Employee Handbook:* Bob presented the completed handbook, which was given to Trinity employees today. Russ moved, and Bob Ruud seconded to approve the handbook. Motion carried.

New Business

- Dispatch/Argus Santa Fund: Bob Blew has an application for funding for particular families who might be in need of special assistance.
- Northern Illinois Synod: Bob B. passed on a request from NIS that congregations increase their giving to Synod by 10%. Nancy reminded Council of how much Trinity has been giving to Synod in recent years. Current: 8.5% of every month's income, less major maintenance etc. Exec recommends that at the minimum, Council approve not decreasing that percentage. The consensus was to ask Eric Sandberg to budget for 8.75%, and we'll see how the pledge drive goes.

Visioning

Pastor Peter stated that he wants Council to be less focused on details, which can be handled by committees and Exec and brought as recommendations for vote. And he's obsessive about council meetings lasting no longer than 90 minutes.

He presented a document, Pastor Peter's Update to the Trinity Congregation. Tonight's focus is worship and music.

A discussion followed on three questions:

What is the best part of Sunday morning?

What is the part that needs the most attention or fixing?

What should Sunday look like at Trinity?

Pastor Peter said he would take the suggestions to staff. He encouraged Council members to ask congregation members the same questions and pass on what they say.

Pastor Peter said that the Saturday evening Benediction service will be ending. He's a huge fan of alternate night worship, but not Saturday night. Can we bundle worship, classes and more onto, say, Wednesday night?

Announcements

- Pastor Larry and Linda sent a note thanking the congregation for the gazing ball and stand.
- Installation of Pastor Peter, with Bishop Clements, at regular Sunday service on December 2.

Good fruits

- Heather for the snacks and devotion,
- Pastor Peter for starting some new initiatives
- Trinity for our care for Jon and Jane Oakleaf and the staff at Heartland, especially after Jon's death.

Next meeting: December 18 at Bob and Julie Blew's house for light supper.

Address: 4700 13th St., Rock Island.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Bahls, secretary