**Holy Trinity Council Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2023**

**6:30 – 8:30**

Present: Judy Evans, Erlinde Beliveau, Pam Shaw, Steve Bauer, Tom Bernth, Kristin Crawford and Pastor Luther. Absent: Ed Mallon

**We Gather In God’s Name**

**Opening Prayer**

* Devotions – Pastor Luther
* Approval of the agenda
* Meeting minutes – January 10, 2023
* Blessings
* Thank-you cards – Discussion to intentionally follow-up with families who have celebrated a baptism with us. Pastor Luther will send us their addresses.

**We Celebrate and Give Thanks for the Past**

* Treasurer Report - Q & A
* Secretary Report – No report
* Ministry Team Reports
  + Serve the Lord – Pam Shaw
  + Grow in Faith – Tom Bernth. Discussion of options for faith education for children.
  + Come Together – Ed Mallon (will be joining us in March)

**We Seek God’s Direction for our Church – Follow-up**

* Response to Annual Meeting – thanks to Kristen for Budget presentation, Steve for updates, Erlinde for minutes
* Leadership for Property Team – update
  + Steve has developed a new framework to address Property needs of the church. This is in the process of being shaped and created with hopes of finding members who would be interested in helping out in this way. This framework includes 3 different people, each with a specific role as well as 2 congregational workdays a year. The 3 roles would be 1) Thursday morning property team leader to continue their present efforts as well as seasonal tasks, 2) In house coordinator to oversee annual needs that are necessary such as furnace cleaning, lawnmower tune up, etc., 3) Outreach Coordinator who would initiate the process of contacting outside vendors to complete work needed.
* By-laws revision – roles of council members
  + Placed the task of keeping track of HTELC Yearly Action Calendar under the role of secretary.
* Cross for the Sanctuary – still in process as well as purchasing new altar linens.
* Safe Church Policy – Involving someone from Faith Formation Team.
  + Pastor Luther will contact Pastor Bill in the New England Synod regarding present guidelines.
* Dealing with monetary/ food requests – update
  + Presently if people who come to our church requesting assistance, Mark provides them with a care package. If their needs are greater, they are invited to come back to speak to Pastor Luther who will provide direction and assistance.
* Delegates to Synod Convention (June)
  + Glenn Oswald is attending. We are looking for another member or couple to attend as well.

**We Seek God’s Direction for our Church – New Business**

* Funds for Turkey/ Syria earthquake relief
  + Discussion took place to respond with funds for Syria and Turkey for up to $5000 in the near future versus waiting until June. Hope to initiate this process with the Social Ministry Team (per our Constitution guidelines) versus independently as a Council.
  + Encourage members to support the recovery effort as well.
* Funds for NE Synod hunger drive (<https://www.nelutherans.org/faithinaction/worldhunger>)
* Judy will contact the Worship Committee. This Hunger Drive is being held during Lent with matched funds up to $100,000 available.
* Schedule for devotions – Judy will send a chart where we can sign up for times.

**Upcoming Events**

* + Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023
  + Mid-week Lenten Holden Vesper services starting March 1, 2023
  + Easter Sunday – The Bernths will organize an Easter breakfast once again! Thank you!
  + Pastor Don Larson will preside at our services from Easter to Memorial Day weekend.

**We Look to the Future**

* Agenda Items for next month:
* Next Council meeting – March 14, 2023

**Closing Prayer**