**Holy Trinity Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, July 13, 2023**

**6:30 – 8:30**

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

Participated through Zoom: Tom Bernth

**We Gather in God’s Name**

**Opening Prayer**

**Devotions – Steve Bauer**

**Blessings**

**Thank you notes -** Pastor Larsen’s last Sunday with us is August 27th.

Minutes of July 13, 2023 approved online.

**We Celebrate and Give Thanks for the Past – reports to be posted in the drop box**

* Treasurer Report – See report.
  + Kristen will identify what is covered in our insurance policy with Brotherhood Mutual .
  + A resolution for housing allowance will be drawn up by Pastor Luther.
  + Pension contributions will be sent quarterly.
* Secretary Report –See report.
* Ministry Team Reports
  + Serve the Lord – Pam Shaw, see report.
  + Grow in Faith – Tom Bernth, no report.
  + Come Together – Ed Mallon, no report at this time. Waiting until Pastor Luther begins his ministry to collaborate in developing a plan.

**We Seek God’s Direction for our Church – Follow-up at next meeting with the exception of the last item**

* By-laws
* Property Team
* Steeple Refurbishment
* Safe Church Policy
* Sanctuary Cross
* Plans for Pastor Luther’s Installation
* Fee Schedule for Funerals, Weddings for Nom-members, Members and Friends
* Support for the Indonesian congregation - Tommy and Ade Monareh will be joining us at 7PM to discuss immigration issues for Pastor Ester
  + Discussion with Ade, Tommy, and Pastor Roberts. Pastor Roberts shared the document that outlined what is needed to obtain a Religious Visa (R1 for Pastor Esther and R2 for her husband). This visa would allow Pastor Esther to work as a Pastor. Her husband could work within a church setting. The visa requirement for clergy salary for clergy is that the sponsoring organization must guarantee 50% of the annual salary which is the $24,000 figure.   The Indonesian congregation has raised 15,000. They are seeking our help in raising the remainder. What would be needed is a statement from Holy Trinity outlining our financial support to subsidize her salary. One option Ed shared is if Holy Trinity promised $1,000 per month for a year. Discussion included asking Synod to provide insurance.
    - Plan: To further discuss our role in helping at either the next Council meeting or at a separate meeting.

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

* Priorities for the upcoming year – Pastor Luther
  1. Poll designed by Pastor Luther was completed by each Council member. Discussion regarding results ensued. The top five rankings of priorities included: 1. Enhancing Worship, 2. Youth Ministry, 3. Adult Education, 4. Pastoral Care, 5. New member recruitment and Stewardship/Financial (tie)
* Draft of chart of council responsibilities (see draft attached) – reviewed and accepted
* Draft of yearly calendar of activities (to be sent) –reviewed and accepted
* New Member Class – Fall; date to be determined
* Possible dates for fall retreat: First Choice October 27-28th at Camp Calumet. Pam will call to firm up the options with Calumet. Second choice Nov. 3-4.
* Coverage for September 4th and 11th: Pastor Mueller

**Upcoming Events**

* Celebration of New Ministry – October 1, 2023, 4pm

**We Look to the Future**

* Agenda Items for next month: Glenn Oswald, Creation Care
* Next Council meeting – September 12, 2023

**Closing Prayer**