**Holy Trinity Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 2, 2024**

**6:30 – 8:30**

**Present: Pastor Luther, Kristen Crawford, Pam Shaw, Ed Mallon, Erlinde Beliveau, Tom Bernth, Steve Bauer, Judy Evans**

**We Gather in God’s Name**

**Opening Prayer**

**Devotions - Judy**

**Blessings**

Thank you notes - Julie Moore (who was sick at the time) for setting up the altar for Christmas, Pat Zeigler for leading the Advent wreath workshop

Minutes of December 12, 2023 reviewed, edited, and approved online

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

* Pastor’s Report - See report. Discussed possible reasons for low worship attendance on Christmas Eve. Also identified need for leadership transition strategy.
* Treasurer Report - See report. Kristen handed out second draft of budget that we will review next Tuesday.
* Secretary Report - No report with the exception of the Pastor’s Fund report from Mark.
* Ministry Team Reports
  + Serve the Lord – Pam Shaw: No report
  + Grow in Faith – Tom Bernth: No report
  + Come Together – Ed Mallon: Pleased with the increased participation of members in worship services.

**Follow-up Discussion**

* Nominating Committee Recommendations
* Council vacancies-update
  + Pam will change her position from “Serve the Lord” Council representative to the Secretary. “Serve the Lord” team leader is now vacant.
* Mutual Ministry suggestions (referred from meeting of December 12, 2023): Part of this team has been identified and confirmed.
* Vote to accept new members (referred from meeting of December 12, 2023)
  + Ed made a motion to accept our new members into our church body. Kristen seconded the motion. This was passed unanimously.
* Creation Care Representative (referred from meeting of December 12, 2023)
  + Determined that Glenn will email the secretary of the Council to keep us abreast of his task force. Erlinde will reach out to him.
* Representatives to Synod Convention – June 2024 (referred from meeting of December 12, 2023): Potential attendees will be invited. Will await for their response.

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

* 2024 Synod Mission Support: Amount was determined and put in draft budget. Will remain at $20,000.
* Review of 3 month goals set at retreat, direction for 6 month goals: Most of the 3 month goals have been met! Follow-ups include expanding the people resources for coffee set up and cleanup and exploring the possibility of having an open monthly invitation for muffin/coffee hour with the Pastor from 8:00-9:00 Sunday morning. Three to six month goals were reviewed and discussed. These will be shared with the congregation at the Annual Meeting.
* Annual Meeting Agenda – January 28, 2024: This was determined and included voting on funds to support our Indonesian brothers and sisters as well as voting on new Council members.
* Follow -up from discussion at New Member orientation, 12/17/23, re: communication about volunteer opportunities – Erlinde and Tom
  + Name tag board was discussed with some viable options that need to be “nailed” down. Tom will look into this.
  + Discussed need for a Ministry Fair. This would involve leadership of the various teams sharing the work that is being done and how one can participate in this work. Tentative date set for after church on Sunday February 4th. This fair needs a member to organize this event with the teams.
  + Mark is working on a document outlining the various ministries we participate in and the contact person for each ministry. Pastor and Judy will follow up with Mark.
* Property Team request from Dave Mercer re: snow removal
  + Erlinde made a motion that the Council approves removing snow from the Emergency exits of the church, with no liability incurred. Pam seconded this motion. This motion was unanimously approved.
* Date for next council retreat: discussed possibly in April. Will identify date once new members have joined the Council. Ed will be gone from Feb. 3rd to March 16th.

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

* Property Team leader status – update: deferred until February Council meeting
* Safe Church: deferred until February Council meeting
* Funeral Planning: deferred until February meeting

**Future Events**

* Next Council meeting – January 9, 2024 (Zoom meeting for budget preparation)
* Congregation Budget Forum - January 21, 2024
* Annual Congregation Meeting – January 28, 2024 (Snow date: February 4, 2024)
* Ministry Fair - Sunday February 4, 2024
* Next Regularly Scheduled Council Meetings – February 13, 2024 and March 19, 2024.
* Planning coverage for worship services at Easter and exploring options for services during the summer.

Closing Prayer