

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Executive Council Minutes  
February 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Cheri Carsten and opened with a short devotion and prayer led by Pastor Hafeman in reference to Revelations 12 and 1 John 3:8; Satan is filled with fury and is seeking whomever he may devour, but the victory is won, we are protected.

Quorum was established. Present at the meeting were Pastor Hafeman, Cheri Carsten, Paul Jackson, Linda Gold, Vicki Akin, JoLynn Baral, Kevin Knief, and Kristi Sanderson.

Minutes of the January 11, 2016 meeting were distributed to Board Members and Chairs by email prior to the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. The motion passed. The minutes will be posted to the church website.

### **Reports:**

**Treasurer** The current Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2016 and the overall Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual Statement for July 1, 2015 through January 16, 2016 and break-out Profit and Loss Statements were distributed by email prior to the meeting. Vicki is researching the negatives on the Balance Sheet and how miscellaneous income is coded on the P&L Statements. She will also review how health insurance premiums are coded into separate classes instead of all in one place.

### **Boards**

#### **The Board of Elders and Spiritual Ministries**

1. Pastor reported on one action item in the Elder's five-year plan; an increased focus on missions. Some of the missions that we are associated with have provided PowerPoint presentations that we can display on our big screen in the church during prayer time and before services.
  - a. The Gideons will deliver a short presentation on April 3rd after services.
  - b. Pastor would like to personally sponsor a local missionary, John Wolf of Cheyenne, Wyoming. John will be sent on a logistics mission to Africa and will deliver a short presentation sometime after Easter during Bible study.
2. A fund drive for Bible Sticks for members of the military will be conducted during the Lenten Season. The goal is to raise enough money to purchase 125 sticks.
3. The 50 Plus Marketplace advertising will begin March 1<sup>st</sup>. Trinity will be a free distribution point for the monthly publications.
4. The Elders are discussing partnering with the BOCE to contact other Missouri Synod churches in our area to recruit students for our school.
5. The Elders are now conducting a review of Catechism during their meetings.
6. *The War Room* movie presentation is scheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm.

#### **The Board of Financial and Stewardship Ministries**

1. Vicki said the Board will meet in March instead of February or after the Thrivent meeting on February 29<sup>th</sup>. The Board needs to elect a new chair and discuss the related roles and responsibilities of the chair.
2. QuickBooks issues are resolved and Debi Roethemeyer is the software administrator.
3. Budget process input will begin in March. Budgets should be given to Vicki and come from the Boards. Budget instructions and forms will be sent to the Board chairs. The budget will be presented at the next Voters Meeting.
4. Stewardship will be addressed later this year by the Stewardship Team and Pastor.

### **The Board of Property Ministries**

1. Kristi and Kevin discussed and updated the project list.
2. Kristi will provide a parents to-do list for volunteers to take part in various school projects. She will coordinate activities with Kyle and Kari.
3. Kari may be able to apply for Federal grant money for plumbing and electrical work for the washer and dryer in the school building as soon as we have an estimate for the work.

### **The Board of Education Ministries**

JoLynn reported on the February 4th BOCE meeting:

- The BOCE will coordinate a continental breakfast at the end of the sunrise service through the 10:30 am service on Easter. There will be a list for volunteers to sign up to bring food, and for set-up and clean-up shifts.
- The five-year plan was not discussed because of the CGI Google services and marketing presentation. Paul inquired about online banking through the websites but it is not feasible at this time.
- A fourteen foot quilting arm was donated to the Trinity Quilters that will be stored in the cafeteria. The arm will not impact current or future planned activities in the cafeteria.
- Lutheran Schools Week will include a Science Fair/Preschool Roundup on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is an opportunity to transition our kids from pre-school to kindergarten.
- The BOCE is looking for a new board member; Tiffany Martin resigned.
- There is now a waiting list for pre-school. We can use an existing room to expand the program.

### **SWOT Committee**

The SWOT Committee met last month and will meet again on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The Committee is working on their five-year plan and is currently studying the lifestyle group data obtained from the church and the High Plains Public Library. Dr. John Kruger, who has a PhD in Statistics, will join the group to assist with demographics.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **New Business:**

1. We need the form in the February newsletter completed to update Shepherd's Staff to be able to study the demographics of our congregation. The forms were placed on the credenza as well. We would also then be able to acknowledge member's birthdays in the newsletters.
2. Paul suggested that we review the donation report procedure for tabulating our member's offerings for tax purposes. Currently, contributions are accounted for through the numbered envelopes only. The Finance Board will work on this and report back to Council.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Hafeman.

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on March 14th at 7:00 p.m.