

Trinity Lutheran Church
Executive Council Minutes
March 14, 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 1 Corinthians 15:1,12; Of first importance, Christ has been raised from the dead, he died for our sins. Everything we believe hinges on the resurrection, blessed are those who believe and have not seen. Our mission is to reach out to those who do not yet know or have rejected Christ.

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

Minutes of the February 8, 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 February 29, 2016 and the overall Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual Statement for July 2015 through February 2016 and break-out Profit and Loss Statements were distributed by email prior to the meeting. Cheri stated that the new format reflects the budget for the year and spending year to date. The Council discussed items over budget and Cheri said that the financials allow the Boards to identify areas of concern on a monthly basis.

Boards

The Board of Elders and Spiritual Ministries

1. Steve reported that the Elder's meetings have been very productive. The Elders have been working through their five-year plan.
2. The Elders approved having a single service at 9:00 am and Bible study at 10:45 am during the summer months. The time change is acceptable to the Praise Band and Ken, our organist. To determine the congregation's opinion of this change, evaluation forms will be made available to the congregation during the month of August.
3. The Board is looking for an event to schedule in April.
4. Pastor discussed some of the missions we are associated with and plans to have a missionary on-site, on a quarterly basis, beginning in April. Cheri is looking for a new bulletin board to highlight the missionary newsletters. Steve will build the new bulletin board that will be displayed in the narthex.
5. Steve, Jeff, and Dan are developing a music team and looking for a percussionist.
6. The Elders are still discussing partnering with the BOCE to contact other Missouri Synod churches in our area to recruit students for our school.
7. The Elder's meetings have been changed to the first Saturday of every month at 7:00 am.
8. Gary and Linda Klipp may be donating a large resurrection painting to the church.

The Board of Financial and Stewardship Ministries

1. Vicki stated that Connie Mapes will chair the Board.
2. Connie also developed an Excel worksheet template for this year's budget preparation. Vicki will email the budget spreadsheets to the Boards this week with a return date for drafts by the next council meeting.
3. Vicki is reviewing the contribution/donation process for tabulating member's offerings for tax purposes. She will review our procedures and church versus individual responsibility in tax reporting. Paul suggested sending an email to the Synod regarding donation handling. Pastor mentioned that Steve Merriman of Clergy Advantage in Loveland is a good resource.

The Board of Property Ministries

1. Les, Kristi, and Kevin discussed their updated project list.
2. Peggy Peters is donating her mother's memorial fund for outside landscaping at the church.
3. A student at Aims is currently designing a landscaping plan and Kristi will obtain bids.
4. Steve asked that motion sensing lighting be provided at the outdoor church entryway. This item will be added to the project list and completed by Kevin as soon as possible.
5. There is no grant money available at this time for plumbing and electrical work but the washer and dryer installation for the preschool will proceed.
6. The Trustees need to establish an updated calling tree for DictoGuard and the keys need to be updated for the Fire Department.

The Board of Education Ministries

JoLynn reported on the March BOCE meeting:

1. The Board approved the concept of a 10% reduction in tuition for LCMS members. The process will be discussed at the next meeting.
2. Parent surveys, curriculum review, and early registration are in process.
3. The website is being reviewed and corrections are being made as needed.
4. Kristen Merritt will manage Vacation Bible School.
5. The Board is still looking for a new member.
6. The Board meeting time may be changed going forward to accommodate work schedules.
7. The Board is in the planning stages to get home schoolers involved in sports at the school.
8. The BOCE will organize a continental breakfast on Easter Sunday. Set-up is scheduled for Thursday, March 24th at 11:00 am.
9. The school bulletin board will be updated.
10. Afternoon pre-school is maxed out in both classrooms.
11. Good turnout at the Science Fair/Preschool Roundup on March 3rd.

SWOT Committee

Paul and John met to discuss the Shepherds Staff statistics and reviewed the five-year diverse demographic goal. Paul suggested posting all of the Board's five-year plans on the website if that would be acceptable to the Boards. He also requested an update of the nine SWOT goals that were assigned by the Council to various boards and committees as follows:

1. Diverse demographic – SWOT
2. Guide youth ministry – Board of Christian Education
3. Church volunteer opportunities – Stewardship
4. Encouragement and acknowledgement of church members – Stewardship
5. Volunteer and financial support of Christian education – Board of Christian Education
6. Maximize use of facilities – Trustees
7. Communication and understanding of the congregation's financial status – Finance/SWOT
8. Instruct members on the principles of Biblical stewardship – Stewardship
9. Church priority in member's lives – Elders

Old Business:

Newsletter items are due tomorrow.

New Business:

1. The Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 22nd at 1:00 pm. The Council will again provide a light lunch after the 10:30 am service. A motion to accept the meeting date, time, and lunch was made and seconded. The motion passed.
2. Pastor's evaluation is due April 1st and will be done by Gary Klipp, JoLynn Baral, and Les Durdy. Pastor will be on vacation April 5-12.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Pastor Hafeman and concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on April 11th at 7:00 p.m.