

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 17 September 2017

Attendees: Todd Maloy, Ron Jones, Richard Leimgruber, Steve Paquette, Pastor Paul Bauermeister, Mike Sharitz, Andrew Sobey, Nancy Buffum, Claudia Pico, Pastor Chris Naig, Rob Harper, Morris Larson

Meeting Minutes: Recorded by Council rotation.

Todd Maloy called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. The meeting began with an opening devotion led by Pastor Naig. Todd presented the agenda and asked if there were any additional topics to be included in the evening's schedule.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Chris expressed his thanks again to Council, staff, and the congregation in making his transition smooth thus far. He continues to spend much of his energy getting to know the rhythm of the church and learning "what God is up to" here at Trinity. Cottage meetings are going very well, helping him to build relationships and gain a better understanding of the day-to-day workings of the congregation. Those will continue through at least October. He has had one-on-ones with several of the staff and volunteers and initiated weekly team meetings. He has also set aside time each Monday to be active in the preschool and begun networking with area leaders. See Worship & Music below for additional notes.

Treasurer's Report:

Steve Paquette reviewed the summary of our YTD results vs. budget and detailed highlights/lowlights in recent activity. We are continuing to track a surplus to the original budget through August even after moving and transition expenses (Naig and Mann) were paid. Receipts over the summer were down more than anticipated – something to watch, but not of concern. Budgeting for 2018 will start very soon, with Stewardship to start once we are further into Mission & Ministry planning.

Discussion of reports received from Staff and Teams:

Worship & Music: Mike Sharitz and Pastor Chris discussed several upcoming worship opportunities in the works, including Pastor's installation service (10/1), events around Christmas and Epiphany, and second service changes coming with Advent (the beginning of the new church year). Sermons and readings are now being recorded and will at some point be made available through the TLC website.

As had been reported previously, the useful life of the grand piano in the sanctuary has reached its end. While functional, it no longer produces the sound quality needed and requires frequent tuning. Thus we have for some time been looking at options. We were recently made aware that the family of a Trinity member was looking to potentially sell a used Kawai piano that would meet our needs. The committee worked to have the piano appraised and has had some preliminary discussions with them. Its appraised value is

approximately \$10,000, with another \$1200 needed to have it professionally packed, moved, and tuned in a new location. This is significantly less than a new or refurbished piano of this quality would cost. Mike brought the committee's decision to move forward with an offer on the piano to Council for discussion and approval, moving on behalf of the committee that they be authorized to negotiate up to \$12,000 for purchase of the piano and related expenses. Before a vote, members discussed funding options, including the potential use of some memorial funds or specific fundraising. Council approved the motion unanimously.

Missional Service: Rob Harper highlighted a number of points from the Mission Team report, including:

- Great response thus far to the Lutheran Disaster Response appeal for hurricane relief. The committee will watch for potential hands-on opportunities (possibly in 2018).
- God's Work / Our Hands Sunday went well. They have contacted Carol Bentley to pursue a mission opportunity with the Preschool. Todd added that there is bylaw guidance for an Advisory Committee for the preschool that could be useful. All agreed expanding and formalizing our relationship could be beneficial to all.
- A Survey of Talents & Interest should again be part of this year's Stewardship campaign as we look to engage more and more Trinity members in volunteer opportunities.

In addition to these topics, Rob shared information regarding Trinity's relationship with Lantern Hill. We have continued to increase our involvement, with their director, Abby Williams, planning to visit Trinity December 8th – 10th. At that time, we will lead specific fundraising activities for them, including a Trivia Night and Wine & Cheese Reception. The Mission Team would like to potentially formalize our partnership with them. Discussion followed. More details to come as congregation members are surveyed and specifics of how this fits into the mission of Trinity are worked out. As an FYI, our next Lantern Hill trip is scheduled for July 21 – 28, 2018.

OSC Committee: The preschool year is now underway so the facilities are again brimming over throughout the week. Riverside Baptist has notified us that they will be relocating in October so they can serve their members on Sunday mornings going forward – they thanked us for the opportunity we provided them to begin their ministry. Gym and meeting spaces continue to be booked out several months serving the community. Despite the number of people flowing through Trinity weekly, Morris and Trinity members continue to carry out many of jobs (large and small), helping keep up the church and costs in check.

Other written staff and committee reports were reviewed with no additional discussion.

Old Business:

Council Retreat: Council members will meet for an offsite retreat and workday on Saturday,

10/14 from 8:00 – 2:00. This will provide an opportunity to continue initial structural and planning discussions, as well as kick-off upcoming activities like the budget planning and stewardship. While an overnight opportunity was preferred and will be made a part of future Council planning, location availability and scheduling made this too difficult to do well in a short time period.

OKTOBERFEST: Formal planning and communication are well underway. Several volunteers from last year have agreed to lead various areas again. The band, Die Spitzbuam, has been confirmed!!! Other details are being finalized around a single-service, church-wide event. More volunteer and donation opportunities will be in the October newsletter, as well as a reminder to all to hold Sunday 10/29 for great fun, food, and fellowship.

Church van / transportation solutions: Ongoing. No update at this time.

TLC Website & social media updates: Ongoing. Todd reached out to several members to assist with this "task force" and will work with Leslie, Becca, et.al., to set up meetings / brainstorming discussions prior to the next Council meeting. No further update at this time.

New Business:

No New Business this period.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM.