

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2021

*Mission: Trinity Lutheran is a place to gather, refresh the faithful, and reach out with word and service to all others through the Holy Gospel*

*Guiding Principles*

1. *God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*
2. *Preach and teach the Good News to everyone*
3. *Witness your faith through actions and words*
4. *Accept and welcome all people*

*Goals during Pandemic:*

1. *Worship Weekly*
2. *Financial Stability*
3. *Communication and Connectedness*
4. *Plan for Safe Return*

- I.) **Call to Order** – The group gathered at 7:01 pm, but due to lack of quorum, this meeting was not “official”. Present: Jerry Armbrust, Sandy Blom, Sarah Henthorn, Lloyd Kellar, Pastor Meggan Manlove, and Penelope Smith. A quorum (7) was not met. Absent: Mwajuma Dusabe, Tom Friddle, Amanda Hanson, Patrick Kelly, Caitlin McHugh, and Carl Radke.
- II.) **Opening Devotions** – Jerry led devotions on Chapter 4 of The Mission Table.
- III.) **Approve August Agenda** – unable to vote due to lack of quorum
- IV.) **Approve July Minutes** – Deferred to the September meeting.
- V.) **Review and Approve Treasurer’s Reports** – Lloyd shared flow sheets of the checks written in mid and late July. It appeared that the God’s Global Barnyard offering was sent to Synod, rather than ELCA World Hunger; Lloyd was to follow up. *[Per call from Lloyd on 8/20/2021, he checked with Cathy Steiner at Synod who confirmed Synod sent the God’s Global Barnyard money along to ELCA World Hunger.]* July report approval deferred to the September meeting.
- VI.) **Pastor and Team Reports** – Penelope noted that Excel sheets of results of the 2021 Time & Talent forms were sent out with the Council packet on 8/16/2021. She encouraged members to familiarize themselves with those willing to volunteer. She also explained the upcoming “Remember and Grieve Together” event planned for 9/29/2021. A greeter in the narthex will monitor the number of people in the sanctuary so it does not exceed capacity. Doors will be open for ventilation, and masks worn, during the service part of the event.
- VII.) **Trinity New Hope** – Is still in the process of getting its own internet service, but this should resolve soon. TNH may keep the old shed for storage beyond the capacity of the new shed.

VIII.) **Goals during Pandemic** – Pastor reviewed the results of the recent survey completed by 66 people from 57 households. Based on this information and the current local COVID19 numbers, the COVID Task Force recommends masks plus spacing for indoor worship. For smaller groups that can maintain 6 foot spacing, masks are recommended for vaccinated and required for unvaccinated people. Sunday School will not require masks because spacing can be achieved. Lacking a quorum, Council was unable to officially approve the Task Force recommendations. However, there was a consensus of those present to support the Task Force recommendations, as Council has consistently done in the past. This will allow recommendations to be implemented.

IX.) **Old Business**

- a. **Audit Committee** – meets August 21<sup>st</sup>, with report to Council in September.
- b. **Who do we want to be in the Fall?** We talked about the “check out a story teller” idea and moving forward with beverage only coffee hour.
- c. **Offering Counters** – for Labor Day will be Sarah and Jerry

X.) **New Business**

- a. **Fall Stewardship Campaign** – As in the past, Stewardship Team is asking church leadership (including the Stewardship Team and Church Council) to pledge early in the campaign/by the September Council meeting.
- b. **Sprinkler/Water Use Request for September** – It appears that irrigation water will be turned off on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Trinity Community Gardens has requested to use domestic water from the church. It was noted that several church members have indicated willingness to give extra offerings to defray the larger water bill, or we might use the Discretionary Fund for this. Consensus of those present was to allow Trinity Community Gardens to use the church’s domestic water in September.
- c. **New Members** – Deborah (Debbie) Sourgen and Elizabeth Schnabel have attended worship, other church events and the new member class. Pastor recommended that we approve them for membership; Sarah seconded; the group concurred.
- d. **Future Meetings** – Jerry has a new job, but there are two similar positions open, so it is not clear which nights of the week he will work. We do not yet know if we should move Council to a different day or to earlier in the evening. For now, the September meeting is slated for the 16th at 7:00 pm, with Pastor calling in from Luther Heights Bible Camp.
- e. **September 25<sup>th</sup> Cluster Gathering** with a consultant – from 9:00 am – noon at Hope Lutheran/Eagle. Pastor, Sarah, Penelope and Jerry will attend, with Sandy as backup.

- XI.) **Adjournment** – Since this was not an official meeting, Sarah just “closed” the meeting at 8:02 pm.
- XII.) **Lord’s Prayer**