

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
December 20, 2022

*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 for 2022:*

1. *Clean up financial processes and reporting;*
2. *Emphasize faith stories: in circles, in worship, online and about giving.*

- I.) **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Jerry Armbrust. Also present: Karissa Armbrust, Mwajuma Dusabe, Edith Hannett, Amanda Hanson, Pastor Meggan Manlove, Carl Radke, David Sheriff, and Penelope Smith. Absent: Sandy Blom and Dean Metzger. A quorum (6) was met.
- II.) **Opening Devotions** – Pastor read Kim Mills’ entry to the 2022 Advent Daily Devotional Booklet.
- III.) **Approve December Agenda** – Pastor asked that **X) e.** Furnace and Water Heater and **X) f.** “Draft Day” be added. Penelope moved that the amended agenda be approved; Jerry seconded; motion carried.
- IV.) **November Minutes** – Jerry moved the November minutes be approved; Pastor Meggan seconded; motion carried.
- V.) **Review and Approve November Treasurer’s Report** – Karissa presented the financials. She noted that the cash flow initially appeared to be tight, but the online giving covered all bills. Jerry moved the November Treasurer report be approved; Carl seconded; motion carried.
- VI.) **Pastor and Team Reports** – Pastor gave information about proposed changes to the Midland Corridor and the public meeting held at Trinity. The church should not be impacted, but Midland-facing Trinity New Hope houses might lose a little front yard. She also noted that registration for Luther Heights Bible Camp is now open.
- VII.) **Trinity New Hope** – Avenues for Hope fundraiser is now underway. Steve VanAtter will retire as maintenance/carpenter at the end of February 2023. Talks are underway with local legislators to garner support for a change to tax laws that would allow nonprofits to hire property management companies (rather than employ their own property management teams.)
- VIII.) **Goals for 2022 – Goal 1) Financials** – Karissa noted that financials are going smoothly.
- Goal 2) Storytelling** – On the church website, we now have links to our YouTube channel where our stories are listed under “video devotions.”

**Goal 2) Storytelling** – The written reports within the packet for the 1.29.2023 Annual Meeting also tell the stories of ministry within the congregation. Brainstormed lists of things to highlight for Communications, Hospitality and Property. Amanda will write the report for Christian Education and Youth and Tami McHugh will be asked to write one for Trinity New Hope.

IX.) **Old Business** –

**a. Pre-Synod Assembly Cluster Meeting** – will be held at 10:00 am on 1.21.2023 at Hope/Eagle. Each cluster can nominate up to three candidates for bishop. The VanAtters are representing Trinity as voting members.

**b. 2023 Budget** – Karissa went over the current version of the 2023 budget proposal. David moved we present this at the Annual Meeting. Jerry seconded. Motion carried.

X.) **New Business** -

**a. Nominating Committee Report** – Sierra Armbrust, Kirsten Floyd and Gary Jantzen have agreed to run for Church Council. Cathy Winwood will run for Audit Committee. Sharon Jones will run for Nominating Committee, and Jerry Armbrust & Carl Radke agreed to be members in their capacity of leaving Council. Jerry and Karissa Armbrust will be our Synod Assembly voting members. Still considering whether to run are Jeff Henderson (Endowment) and Callie Ziemer (Memorial).

**b. Budget Q&As in January** – will be after church on 1/15 and 1/22. The budget will be printed prior to that date and members of Council will attend both meetings to help field questions.

**c. Updating the Constitution** – i) to be consistent with changes made at Churchwide Assembly, we will propose approval of those suggested changes. ii) due to inflation, we will propose that Council be allowed latitude to spend up to \$6000 of non-budgeted money without a special voter meeting. The current amount is \$3000.

**d. Annual Meeting Agenda** – Pastor went through the agenda for the Annual Meeting. We will explore ways to incorporate “story” into the meeting.

**e. Furnace and Water Heater** – We are using Western Heating and Air to check on the sanctuary furnace on 12.22.2022. The water heater in the kitchen, which is likely original to the building needs to be replaced; this may involve replacing pipes and perhaps replacing a 20 amp breaker with a 40 amp breaker.

**f. Draft Day** – Stewardship will conduct its typical annual volunteer sign up request in January. Then on February 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – noon, Council members and some key volunteer coordinators will meet to go through the membership directory and results of the sign up forms, discussing good fits for the time and talents of each member.

XI.) **Lord's Prayer** –

XII.) **Adjournment** - Penelope moved and Jerry seconded that the meeting be adjourned; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Jerry at 8:32 pm.

Penelope J Smith, December 20, 2022