

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
January 17, 2023

*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** – Following a period of “check-in”, the meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by Jerry Armbrust. Also present: Karissa Armbrust, Edith Hannett, Amanda Hanson, Pastor Meggan Manlove, Dean Metzger, Carl Radke, David Sheriff, and Penelope Smith. Absent: Sandy Blom and Mwajuma Dusabe. A quorum (6) was met.
- II.) **Opening Devotions** – Pastor read a psalm and opened with prayer.
- III.) **Approve January Agenda** – Penelope moved that the agenda be approved; Jerry seconded; motion carried.
- IV.) **December Minutes** – Dean moved the December minutes be approved; David seconded; motion carried.
- V.) **Review and Approve December Treasurer’s Report** – Karissa presented the financials. She noted that November and December 2022 income was good. We replaced our 2012 software (outdated and with less-robust tech support now available) with the online version of Quickbooks at a cost of \$15/month for the first three months, then \$30/month thereafter. An \$85/month version has different budgeting options, but Karissa has other ways to complete this function. She has filed the necessary report with the Idaho Secretary of State’s office and will pay the GSB bill this month. Jerry moved the December Treasurer report be approved; David seconded; motion carried.
- VI.) **Pastor and Team Reports** – Pastor noted there will be a Worship & Music team meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Discussed ideas for Lenten meals, including having salad instead of (or in addition to) soup and a “heritage food” potluck (bring a dish your grandmother used to make). Also discussed a St. Patrick’s Day meal and game night on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Stewardship (Penelope) reported on pledging v giving, comparing 2022 with 2021 and 2019. While some households gave less than pledged, more households exceeded what was pledged. The net difference in 2019 was +\$6,735, in 2021 was +\$13,144, and in 2022 was +\$17,180.
- VII.) **Trinity New Hope** – Pastor had very positive discussions with District 13B Representative Kenny Wroten, who is working with District 16 Senator Ali Rabe on a bill to change tax laws allowing nonprofits to hire property management companies (rather than

employ their own property management teams.) A current TNH tenant is working with Idaho Fair Housing Council on a “reasonable accommodation” request; TNH is working with attorney Matt Johnson on this issue.

VIII.) **Goals for 2022 – Goal 1) Financials** – Tasks on the original list are completed except for the signature change (to reflect the current Treasurer) on the Endowment Fund.

**Goal 2) Storytelling** – We brainstormed ways to include elements of “story” at the annual meeting, to link the business/financial aspect of the meeting with the outcomes this provides to mission and ministry.

IX.) **Old Business** –

**a. Review Annual Meeting agenda and budget** –

**Audit Committee** – requested a change to the church constitution, with more information about the committee responsibilities, including that the audit be annual. Council also observed that it should specify “financial audit” and reflect that members are elected by the congregation, not by the Council. Penelope will draft wording for the Audit Committee to approve. This also adds a new item to the 1.29.2023 agenda: **IX. New Business e. Amend C. 13.03 in Constitution.**

**Budget** – Excel formula errors led to a miscalculation of Pastor’s compensation in version #1 of the 2023 budget; these have been identified and corrected in version #2. Karissa presented copies of version #2 plus a summary breakout with various percentage increases. A formula issue related to SAS calculation was also identified and corrected.

X.) **New Business** -

**a. Property Issues** –

**Sacristy Water Heater** – was replaced at cost of \$1200 by Arctic. There were issues with getting the water turned off, including calling City of Nampa which broke but then fixed the external shut-off valve. The church’s main shut-off valve in the men’s restroom still needs to be repaired.

**Kitchen Water Heater** – After installation of the new kitchen water heater, the pressure in the kitchen sink is very low. Jerry will have Arctic address this issue.

**Mop Sink in Janitor Closet** – Jerry will have a drain-rooter company fix this.

**Emergency Heat in Sanctuary** – We are awaiting arrival of a part for the temporary fix.

**Heat Pumps in Sanctuary** – The sanctuary was designed to be warmed by passive solar, earth berming, and heat pumps. Over time, regulations have changed; R22 refrigerant will no longer be available (either new or recycled) by the end of 2024. Our options to fix our current heat pumps will become obsolete. Standard heating units

would not be appropriate for our building design, even if there were room to install them, which there is not. Arctic and Western are drafting designs for new heat pump systems and providing cost estimates; we will also ask Air Dynamics for a design and estimate. This should include two new units and coils that are compatible with R143 refrigerant. We also want a way to turn on the “emergency heat” system when exterior temperatures fall too low; this could either be automatically controlled by a thermostat or be manually engaged remotely using someone’s cell phone app. We hope for completed estimates within the next month or two.

**Special Appeal** – Pastor noted that GSB consultants recommend holding a special financial appeal 6 months after the fall financial campaign, focusing on a visible project, and giving opportunity for those who like to give to special projects. Peggy Miller has a property wish list, as do others.

XI.) **Lord’s Prayer** –

XII.) **Adjournment** - Jerry moved and Edith seconded that the meeting be adjourned; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Jerry at 8:30 pm.

Penelope J Smith, January 17, 2023