

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Executive Council Minutes  
May 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Cheri Carsten and opened with a devotion and prayer led by Pastor Hafeman in reference to his handout outlining God's provisions for us in the scriptures. As concerns the proposed budget, Pastor said that God will provide what is needed to accomplish the ministry.

Quorum was established. Present at the meeting were Pastor Hafeman, Pastor Hesse, Cheri Carsten, Paul Jackson, Linda Gold, Vicki Akin, JoLynn Baral, Connie Mapes, Jerry Henkel, Kristi Sanderson, Mike Thuener, and Kristen Meritt.

Minutes of April 11, 2016 meeting were distributed to all attendees at the meeting. Paul requested a sentence adjustment to the #1 item in the SWOT report. A motion to accept the minutes with the adjustment was made and seconded. The motion passed. The minutes will be posted to the church website.

**Reports:**

**Treasurer** The current Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2016 and the overall Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual Statement for July 2015 through April 2016 and break-out Profit and Loss Statements were distributed by email prior to the meeting and at the meeting. Vicki discussed the financials and reported that the total expenses for all of the boards now add up to the P&L Statement. The checkbook balances as well. After review, a motion to accept the April financial reports was made and seconded. The motion passed.

**Board Reports**

**The Board of Elders and Spiritual Ministries**

Mike reported on the May meeting:

1. The Elders are scheduling The Garms Family concert with a \$300 guarantee and a follow-up evaluation of the free-will offerings collected.
2. The Summer Bible study timetables will be determined by the instructors and Bible study groups.
3. Missionary John Wolf will speak at Trinity on May 29<sup>th</sup>.
4. Kersey Community Church requested to hold a fundraiser in the Trinity sanctuary. The Elders denied the request as improper use of the sanctuary but offered use of the school gym instead. The Kersey church made other arrangements.
5. The Elders discussed the drop-off in church attendance last year and proposed more greeting time at the beginning of services.
6. The Elders recommended that Paul Jackson's Transforming Churches Network visionary process proposal be put on hold at this time.
7. The *God is not Dead* movie presentation is scheduled for Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.
8. The Elders reviewed their budget and made no changes.

### **The Board of Financial and Stewardship Ministries**

Copies of the proposed 2016-2017 budget were distributed by email prior to the meeting and at the meeting. The Council discussed no growth income and increased expenses, projected school growth, hiring a part-time Director of Christian Education, health insurance and salary increases, and the estimated deficit.

Cheri recommended that the voters' presentation include the following:

1. Results of last year's budget that was approved with a \$45,000 deficit.
2. Explanation of this year's budget with a \$97,000 projected deficit.
3. How the deficit can be reduced by additional offerings by each giving unit, use of the Scrip Card program and AmazonSmile.
4. List of specific projects we would like to accomplish this year to continue the growth of the church and school.

After review, a motion was made and seconded to approve the budget. The motion passed. The Finance Board will finalize and prepare the budget presentation for the voter's meeting. Cheri will email the final draft to council members before the meeting on Sunday.

### **The Board of Property Ministries**

1. Kristi discussed and updated the current projects list.
2. This year's budget will include ongoing summer grounds maintenance but the Maintenance Equipment Expense of \$37,724 is reduced to \$25,000 because some projects had already been completed and paid for.
3. The Board's goal is to simplify all of the landscaping to decrease water use, mowing, etc. Landscaping bids are in process.
4. Summer projects include front of the church landscaping that is financed by a designated memorial fund contribution.

### **The Board of Education Ministries**

Cheri reported on the May meeting:

1. Early Childhood Director, Kari Way resigned and is returning to western Colorado but will assist with the transition until the end of June. The new job listing is posted as "director qualified" through the District, Synod, Craig's List, Aims Community College, UNC, etc. Kari's replacement will be in charge of early childhood education and daycare. The job listing also has a disclaimer requiring the employee to be a Christian. There is a team in place that will conduct interviews as resumes are received.
2. The school has a kindergarten and first grade class that is over 50% of the student population for next year. A lot of those students were handed off from pre-school to kindergarten.
3. A donor purchased used playground equipment from an elementary school in Ft. Collins at a bargain price. The equipment is in excellent condition and will be moved by a team of volunteers.
4. The Picker's Paradise is planned for the first Saturday in August. This fundraiser/garage sale held in the parking lot will be an annual event sponsored by the BOCE.
5. K-8 early registration netted 24 students for next year.
6. Kristen reported that VBS is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until noon and will use Concordia materials. There are five volunteers so far.
7. Graduation is May 25<sup>th</sup> with a chapel service in the morning and a formal ceremony at 6:30 pm. Two 8<sup>th</sup> graders are graduating this year.
8. The school bulletin board in the church entryway is updated and currently highlights the graduates.

### **SWOT Committee**

The SWOT Committee was planning to use the Transforming Churches Networking consulting engagement to assist them with the goal of creating a diverse demographic. The proposal was reviewed by the Elders and put on hold. Paul requested a motion be made by Mike on behalf of the Elders.

The motion was made and seconded to put the Transforming Churches Networking proposal on hold to be reviewed in one year to see if it has a place or if it's time for the church to proceed. The motion passed.

The Committee members; Paul Jackson, JoLynn Baral, and John Kruger, will take a vote at their next meeting to determine if they will disperse for the time being or take the proposal forward to the voters on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Old Business:**

Not discussed because of time concerns.

### **New Business:**

Not discussed because of time concerns.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on June 13th at 7:00 p.m.