

Trinity Lutheran Annual Voter's Meeting Agenda

May 6, 2018

- I. Call to Order
- II. Opening Devotion and Prayer- Pastor Rob
- III. Order of Business
 - a. Minutes of 2017 Meeting (Provided in Packet)
 - b. Treasurer's Report (Provided at Meeting to Include April Info)
 - c. Election of Officers

Vice Chair Elect- Don Batie and Quentin Dailey

Elder Chair Elect- Don Batie, Quentin Dailey and Larry Fisher

Education Chair Elect- Leah Cavanaugh and Amy Kuefner

Planning Chair Elect- Marcia Holtz and Donna Phillips

Youth Chair Elect- Ann Young

Foundation- Larry Hauptmeier and Mary Wichelt

- d. Committee and Staff Reports (Provided in Packet)
 - i. Education
 - ii. Elders
 - iii. Inreach/Outreach
 - iv. Planning
 - v. Stewardship
 - vi. Trustee
 - vii. Youth
 - viii. Pastors' Reports
 - ix. Foundation Report
- IV. Unfinished Business
 - a. Chairs
 - b. Front Entry Improvement
- V. New Business
 - a. Review of Trinity Vision Statement
 - b. Block Party & VBS
 - c. Nominations for Synodical Positions
 - d. Summer Worship Input
 - e. Election Results
- VI. Adjournment/ Lord's Prayer

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

MAY 7, 2017

Approved at June 2017 Board of Directors Meeting for Publication

Trinity Lutheran Congregation met Sunday, May 7, 2017 in the sanctuary for it's annual meeting. Chairman Rick Trampe called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. Pastor Kuefner led the opening devotion and prayer with focus on the early church, taken from today's Gospel reading.

Charlie Licking moved and Craig Uden seconded a motion to approve the 2016 annual meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer John Moore reported the congregation's financial situation is good. The current cleared balance shows \$40,681.16. Moore also reported on the LCEF Joyful Response Fund and how to sign up. The Dedicated Fund contains \$41,717.34 and the remaining Schultz LCEF fund has \$9,608.98. Total funds available total \$93,828.71. The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Election of officers: Chairman Trampe presented the ballot and asked for any nominations from the floor. There being none, John Moore moved and Cindy Petersen seconded a motion to close nominations. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

Education: See attached report. Sandy Goodrich presented the report and introduced her committee. Casey Barnes will be the new chair in August. The committee is seeking a teacher for the high school youth on Sundays.

Elders: See attached report. Ted Harvey will be elder-elect. The report was presented by Don Batie in absence of both the head elder and elder-elect.

Inreach/Outreach: See attached report. Peg Fisher reported and introduced her committee.

Planning: See attached report. Barb Graham reported and recognized her committee. Planning-elect will be Cindy Petersen. Their main project was a crockpot cooking class for multicultural working families. Thrivent funds were used for the pilot project and the committee has received another \$1,000 grant to start a new class in June. The committee also recognized Deloris White for her special service with mints.

Stewardship: See attached report.

Trustees: See attached report. Marcus Porath also thanked members who had helped with various repair projects during the year and went into more detail on natural gas pricing.

Youth: See attached report. Kim Richman and Pam Trampe reported on co-chairing the Youth Committee this past year and how it worked. They strongly suggested forming a youth committee and encourage new members to help out with youth activities. They noted the Yankee Candle fundraiser went well and thanked LaDonna Kwiatkoski for her donation of time for helping organize the Easter Breakfast.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Bill: See attached report. Pastor Bill thanked the congregation for allowing him to serve area congregations when their pastors need to step away from pulpit.

Pastor Rob: See attached report. He noted serving as Circuit Visitor takes time and he will leave from here for a congregational meeting at Shelton—Lowell.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

It was noted that the committee to select new chairs for the social hall had not met for almost a year. Sally Leu, Maydelle, Messerschmidt, Cherese Barnes and Pastor Kuefner will remain on the committee, and Terri Uden volunteered to fill Nicolette Uden's spot on committee. They will reconvene and look at options.

NEW BUSINESS:

Transfer Out: John Moore moved and Don Batie seconded a motion to approve a peaceful transfer of Ruth Ann Whatley to Holy Cross in Wichita, Kan. Motion carried.

Air Conditioner: Porath reported on bids for replacement of the North Wing air conditioners of \$14,319 from Fagot Electric. Don Batie moved that we replace the north wing air conditioners using the low bid and fund the repairs with the balance of the Schultz fund and some \$2,188 in undesignated designated funds. Charlie Licking seconded the motion. Motion carried. Craig Uden moved to fund the remaining balance with a freewill offering. Batie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Foundation report: See attached report. Don Batie reported on and introduced the Foundation board.

Input on building improvement(s): Trampe and Pastor Kuefner outlined a number of major projects that will need to be done in the next year or two such as replacement of the flat roof on the education wings, replacement of the parsonage roof and the possibility of redoing the south bathrooms to become handicapped accessibility. In addition they noted the board had discussed remodeling and/or adding on to the front entry. Pastor Kuefner noted the congregation could utilize a new LCEF loan program where a church can borrow up to \$150,000 for up to 10 years for low interest for remodeling and expansion projects. They asked the congregation for permission for the board of directors to pursue ideas and plans for remodeling of the front entry. It was the group's consensus to pursue ideas for such a project.

In other business Pastor Kuefner noted there will be a change in the Lutheran Witness distribution effective June 1. The Witness will now be bulk shipped to the church and members can pick them up like the Portals of Prayer. This will represent a substantial savings in postage from having them directly mailed.

Election results: Joel Ringenberg – Chair-elect; Carol Ziebell – Secretary; John Jordening – Trustee; Wendy Thome – Youth; Cindy Callahan – Inreach/Outreach-elect; and Dale Hladky – Stewardship-elect.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. with members reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Batie, Recording Secretary

Education

Board of Education Yearly Report 2017-18

The Sunday School year kicked off with the Fall Rally. Kids young and old enjoyed the bounce house, games, BINGO, a piñata, and fellowship in the park.

In October, the "Owl You Need is Jesus" Education trunk treated over 300 kids and gave 250 bags to children in the community.

Materials for Sunday School and Mid-Week were based on "The Story". Thank you to the wonderful pastors, teachers, subs, meals, and helpers for this season of devotion and leading of the Word.

"God's Promises Came True" was the Christmas program led by Wendi Thome and Amy Kuefner.

Confirmands were given shadow boxes from the Board of Education to be decorated for display on Confirmation Sunday.

Appreciation gifts were ordered for Pastors, Pastor's wives, teachers, and the secretary for teaching and supporting in God's Word.

Vacation Bible School supplies have been ordered and a plan will be made in the following summer months.

Respectfully submitted by Kasey Barnes

Elders

ELDER'S REPORT: ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Trinity Lutheran Board of Elder's meets the 3rd Monday of each month. There are 15 members: Gary Petersen, Mike Thome, Don Batie, Steve Gierhan, Joel Ringenberg, Kyle Hoehner, Kerry Barnes, Charlie Licking, Craig Uden, Chuck Messerschmidt, Tom Phillips, Larry Fisher, Rick Trampe, Larry Hauptmeier, and Ted Harvey.

We meet on a monthly basis, and along with Pastor Rob and Pastor Bill we help set the dates and times of our church services, set the Church Budget for each year, and address any issues with the church staff. It is our job to listen to and address any complaints or concerns of our congregation and to have an Elder present to help with all three of our church services each Sunday. The Elder's continue to provide bags of candy each Christmas for children and members of our congregation. Many of our Elder's continue to put on the Last Supper Pageant as a popular Outreach event for our community. They played to a full house on March 28th and 29th.

Respectfully submitted,
Ted J. Harvey

Inreach/Outreach

The InReach/OutReach committee members are Peg Fisher, LaDonna Kwiatkowski, Francie Stieb, Brenda Jewett, Mary Ann Kerr, Dana Thornburg, Cynthia Callahan, and Jackie Rowan. We receive and create (as well as monitor the execution of) ideas to engage the church body in active Christian service, to promote fellowship within the church body, and to reach out to the community at large. The committee works closely with the entire church community to facilitate and coordinate all events. If you have an idea that would promote church fellowship or engage the community in a Christian event, please contact the Peg Fisher (308-746-2910), chairman, or LaDonna Kwiatkowski (308-987-2675), chairman-elect.

Ongoing projects: Tape Ministry, Card Connections

May 2017: We handed out Mother's Day gifts to church family.

June 2017: We handed out Father's Day gifts to church family.

July 2017: We worked at Lutherans For Life Dawson County Fair Booth.

September 2017: We served the Rally Day/Church in the Park Picnic Meal.

October 2017: We attended the Life Chain, Trunk n Treat, and requested names for Thanksgiving baskets and Angel Tree families.

November 2017: We delivered Thanksgiving basket vouchers to families and took Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes to a local drop off location.

December 2017: We delivered Angel Tree gifts to families and participated in local Christmas parade.

April 2018: We gave Easter gifts to children at church and were coffee hosts between services.

Peg Fisher, Chairperson

Planning

Stewardship

Stewardship Report

1. Distributed offering envelopes and statements
2. Checking into the use of Consecrated Stewards Module 2 in fall of 2018
3. Encourage and promote use of Joyful Response for Automated Giving
4. Welcome Dale Hladky as the new Chairman of the Stewardship Committee

Thanks to the leadership of Pastor Rob, Pastor Bill, and the Elders, as the members of our congregation prayerfully give and we continue to meet our financial needs.

Brenda Jewett, Stewardship Chairman

Trustees

Trustee Annual Report - 2017 / 2018

AC Replacement Units - Installed Education Wing

LED light bulbs installed in all applicable fixtures facility wide.

Fluorescent light upgrade to LED future project

Furnace Repair - Control Board and Fan - Education Wing

Parking Lot Restriped

Concrete Curb Repair - front walkway - completed.

Discussion on renovation of South Entryway - ongoing

Respectfully Submitted - Marcus Porath & John Jordening.

Youth

Trinity Lutheran Church Youth Report 2018

It is an honor to serve as the Chair of the Youth Group. Trinity Lutheran Church is blessed with some great kids. Ann & Eric Young have taught the High School Sunday School class while Peg Fisher has led the Wednesday night Bible Study this year. Attendance ranges from 2-10. Several high school youth participated in the Trunk or Treat by decorating vehicles and giving out candy/items to the trick-or-treaters. With the help of Wanda Hoeffner, the high school kids sponsored a rummage sale at the Dawson County Fair Grounds last October. Proceeds were used to send four kids and one adult to the District Youth Gathering in LaVista, NE in November of 2017. The theme was "Hero. Greater. Better. True." The Youth continue to serve refreshments between services on the 4th Sunday of each month. The High School kids served the Easter breakfast, but it would not have been possible without the help of LaDonna Kwiatkowski. Seven youth members attempted to serve at the laundromat in Lexington by providing quarters and laundry detergent for individuals doing their laundry. The laundromat was very quiet when we went; however, the few people we were able to help were thankful (and a bit dumb-founded). Three youth also volunteered at the Majestic Movie Theatre in March. We are looking forward to the National Youth Gathering that will be in Minneapolis, MN in July 2019.

Respectfully, In His Service,

Wendy Thome

Pastor Rob Kuefner

State of the Congregation- Once again, I will be offering my report as a sort of a state of Trinity Congregation. I think the most significant thing this past year was the decision to use "The Story" throughout the fall and into this year. The involvement by the congregation in Bible study has grown, including an online version that is typically seen 30+ times a week, on top of those who participate in the regular adult study. To also have the Sunday School and sermon using the same part of the Biblical story has been very beneficial.

We met with a variety of people regarding the possibility of a small remodel of our entryway, or a major remodeling or possibly additional building facilities. We will discuss this process at the Voter's Meeting, but the general consensus of the Board of Directors is that a simple remodel of the entryway is most needed and we hope to proceed with that pending our Voter's Meeting congregational discussion.

I mentioned in my May newsletter article that it has been two years that we adopted a new vision statement together as a congregation. I want to review that as we stated that within two years we would do so. I want to share a couple of possible opportunities for us to consider as we continue or seek to expand upon that vision. Again, I will share this information at our meeting.

Pastor Bill Ohlmann

Pastor Bill's Report for Annual Congregational Meeting 2018

I have spent so many Sunday's away from Trinity that I am beginning to feel like a guest pastor when I am here. I began to serve St. Paul's, Cambridge in July of this past year. Since then I have been traveling there twice each month. They called for a candidate from the seminary and were not granted one. They are now in the process of calling from the field. I may not be serving there much longer as Pastor Kitzing has accepted a call to Our Redeemer, Stapleton. He has been serving our circuit as vacancy pastor in Merna. I may be asked to fill that position in the near future.

As I mentioned last year, there is such a shortage of pastors that many churches are having trouble filling their pulpits. I am thankful that Trinity has been willing to share me with those who are in need. So far, I have been able to keep up with ministry that Trinity called me to do. Even though I am putting in more hours due to preparation for leading worship elsewhere, I have no regrets. God has been good and always helps me. All praise and glory to Him.

Pastor Bill

Foundation Report

Trinity Lutheran Foundation of Lexington, Nebraska

Board members: President Marcia George, Vice-President Larry Hauptmeier, Darrell Leu, Mary Wichelt, Cindy Peterson, Mike Thome and Tom Phillips, Ex-officio Secretary/Treasurer Don Batie, Rev. Rob Kuefner and Rev. Bill Ohlmann.

The Foundation was created in 1982 after a large bequest from Herman Camin totaling \$1,184,407. The congregation elects four of the board members as at large members. They serve four-year terms with two members up for election every even year. The other three directors are the Chairman, Vice-chairman and Planning Committee Chair of the Trinity Church board

As of January 1, 2018 the Foundation has net assets of \$1,302,546 with net income of \$31,353 in 2018. The Foundation had a growth of \$137,997 even with the granting of \$54,104 for projects in 2017.

The Foundation board met the last week of April and approved the following budget for 2018:

<u>Continuing Budget Items</u>		<u>Requests</u>
Scholarships		\$20,000.00
Investment Manager		\$6,385.69
Accountant fees		\$400.00
Sub-total		<u>\$26,785.69</u>
<u>BOARD OF DIR. PROPOSALS</u>	<u>Comm.</u>	
Life Ministry Fair Booth	In/Out	\$261.50
Missionary Support- Ferry	Eld	\$9,000.00
L2 for Kids	In/Out	\$3,000.00
POBLO Jesus Film Project	In/Out	\$5,000.00
Subtotal		<u>\$17,261.50</u>
Grand Total		<u><u>\$44,047.19</u></u>

Scholarship detail

Benny Kuefner and Michelle Porath receive \$7,500 each as professional church workers, Caleb Lauby receives \$5,000.

The board approved funding beyond the income for 2018 because of the worthiness of the projects. The Foundation by-laws state they can spend up to 3% of the principal if they desire. This year they approved spending about 1% of the principal plus the income.

To date the Foundation has made distributions of \$2,737,419 for the mission and ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, while maintaining the value of the principal.

Don Batie

Secretary/Treasurer