

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Lansdale, PA

May 23, 2023 Council Governance Meeting

The May 23rd Council Governance meeting was called to order by Karen Bergey, President, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 125-127, followed by devotions and prayer by Pastor Fowler.

In Attendance: Karen Bergey, David Freudig, Julie Kinzel, Teri Lanan, Jamie Price, William Shimer, Michael Voicheck, Vicar Cari States-Codding, and Pastor Fowler. Visitor: Ethan Page for portion of meeting; and Pastor Ric Elliott, Deacon Jane Elliott, Lynn Lentz and Amy Hawthorne for portion of meeting. The agenda was approved as presented with a motion made by Teri Lanan and seconded by Julie Kinzel, and passed.

Eagle Scout candidate, Ethan Page, was present to discuss his lending library project proposal for his Eagle Scout project. After responding to questions and followed by discussion by Council:

Highlight: A motion, made by Teri Lanan and seconded by David Freudig, to accept Ethan Page's Eagle Scout project – was passed.

Jamie Price reported on the financial status as of the end of April. She highlighted that Finance Committee reviewed the excess cash balance in the Univest General Fund checking account and made a motion and approved the purchase of \$100,000 certificate of deposit at Univest. The plan is to purchase a 25-month certificate at APY 4.86% as listed on the website. **Highlight: A motion, made by William Shimer and seconded by Teri Lanan, to approve the purchase of the \$100,000 CD from Univest – was passed unanimously.**

The financial report for year-to-date April showed actual revenue is \$609,555 vs budget of \$615,404, and actual expenses are \$502,017 vs. budget of \$534,469, thus showing an actual \$26,603 net surplus. Question asked and discussion held on why preschool revenue is down vs. budget. It was stated that among other reasons, student enrollment was down eight students vs. budget based on full enrollment. Question about why amount of Synod benevolence is down was responded to by noting benevolence amount is a percent of income.

Pastor Ric Elliott, Deacon Jane Elliott, Lynn Lentz, Amy Hawthorne, and Ethan Page were present to present a proposal and answer questions regarding the Loft project. Reviewed motivation for change, features of new space, the process design for the Loft, and quotes from Arthur Funk & Sons Inc. construction services. It was stated that the task force attempted to get an additional two estimates from contractors but had no response from them. Total cost of project (excluding bathroom remodels which is a separate project) will be \$167,000. The task force team recommended approval of the Arthur Funk & Sons quote. A \$130,000 donation from a family estate has been received towards the cost of the project and there will be fundraising for the balance.

Highlight: a motion, made by Mike Voicheck and seconded by William Shimer to approve the Arthur Funk & Sons quote and waive the rule for three quotes since there were two attempts made for additional quotes – was passed.

Teri Lanan reported that the Designated Gift Policy she is working on with David Freudig will be discussed at the June meeting. They will also include discussion on policy to determine type of gift acceptance.

Pastor Fowler and Council discussed the security assessment report received from the Lansdale Police Department and the suggestions made in the report, Pastor Fowler reported he is currently working on determining who all have access to the building. It was also suggested that an advisory team be formed to help look at addressing some of the issues noted in the security report.

Highlight: A motion was made by Teri Lanan and seconded by William Shimer to recommend Pastor Fowler get names together to form an advisory team to begin to review and recommend correction to findings of safety assessment – passed.

Pastor Fowler gave the pastor's report. Highlights included: the interviewed candidate for the Assoc. Director of Music/Organist was not selected and the opening will be reworked and readvertised. Looking to bring back Parish Nurse program. Tammy Ferro, Pre-School Administrator, will be adding 15-20 hours/week for months of June and August due to increase in workload. We are waiting for go ahead from Lansdale Borough to start work on the pavilion and will schedule groundbreaking when OK comes through. Trinity Alive (30-minute worship service) starts June 4 from 9:40 to 10:10 a.m. Discussed Monday evening worship to address spiritual needs of Feast participants. An intern for 2023/2024 to start mid-August is available for full-time (40 hrs./wk.) and hope to split the cost with Endowment.

Thoughts were exchanged on the recent Synod Assembly attended by Teri Lanan, Julie Kinzel, Shirley Bastian, Conor Watson, Pastor Fowler and David Freudig as Trinity's voting representatives and Vicar Cari as a guest.

Teri Lanan reported on Shared Leadership. Want to reform team to look at Hub system. Need to work on worksheet and the September 29/30 retreat. Will be meeting on May 15th.

Karen Bergey reported on a joint committee chairs meeting next week with Bill Graeff on flow of communication of Endowment, Finance and Generosity Committees.

Deb Neves has invited Council members to attend a Vacation Bible School session from 11:10-11:30. a.m.
Call Committee update noted that a candidate who had been met twice, has withdrawn their name from consideration. There are currently no other candidates.

Concerns and celebrations were shared and the meeting was then adjourned at 9:00 p.m. with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted
Dianne Kalb, Recording Secretary