

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
Held October 18, 2021

Voting Council members present: Lead Pastor Chris Bellefeuille; William Bjorum; Krista Gossai; Thomas Haugrud; David Martin; Mel Sullivan; and Andrew Thelander.

Non-voting Council members present: Parish Administrator Robert Eiselt.

Absent: Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation Peter Weston Miller (on vacation).

Guests: None.

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams.

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. by President Mel Sullivan.

1. Welcome – Blessing/Devotions.
2. Christ Care Prayers.
3. Devotions: Dwelling in the Word – racial autobiography. Andrew made a thoughtful presentation regarding his experiences in racial and diversity matters.
4. Pre-distributed items:
 - a. Draft Minutes from the September 20, 2021 council meeting were distributed electronically to Council for review. The draft Minutes sought clarification from Council on the Tanzania Scholarship fundraising discussed at the Council meeting.

M/S/P to accept and approve the Minutes from the September 20, 2021 council meeting upon adding the clarification on the Tanzania Scholarship fundraising.

- b. Draft Minutes from the October 6, 2021 special council meeting were distributed electronically to Council for review.

M/S/P to accept and approve the Minutes from the October 6, 2021 special council meeting.

- c. The Pastor report from Pastor Chris was distributed electronically to Council for review. Pastor Peter did not submit a Pastor report.
 - d. Bob did not submit an Administrator's report but he made an oral presentation to Council. The year-to-date financial summary report for September 2021 was distributed electronically to Council for review.
 - e. The Re-Entry Team did not submit a report but a summary of its October 13, 2021 meeting was included in Pastor Chris' report.

5. Old Business or Follow Up:

- a. Pastor Chris submitted on behalf of Trinity an application for a grant from the Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program, in connection with her upcoming sabbatical. Trinity was awarded the Lilly grant and Council commended Pastor Chris for her efforts in obtaining the grant. The awarding of the Lilly Grant will be communicated to the congregation in the November Trinity Today.

6. New Business:

- a. Shout Outs and Gratitude moments.
- b. Council completed the Visioning exercise and unanimously adopted the following Vision Statement:

Because God first loved us, the Trinity council strives to lead and learn in the love of Jesus Christ; courageously through curiosity, spiritual growth and risk taking, faithfully in gracious accompaniment with our neighbors, publicly through advocacy of God's unfolding dream.

- c. The Financial Visioning session was deferred to the November 9, 2021 Council meeting.
- d. AV update. Phil Kadidlo submitted a summary of current issues and problems with the AV system with suggested upgrades. He expects to receive bids for the AV work in the next couple of weeks. Council deferred taken any action until the November 9, 2021 Council meeting.
- e. Annual Meeting Preparation. Bob reviewed the preliminary budget for the upcoming year. The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at noon, and will be conducted as both in person and virtually. Gail Olson has agreed to be the parliamentarian for the annual meeting.
- f. Nominating committee update. The nomination committee has nominated Jill Longnecker to serve on Council filling the vacancy created when Mel's term expires next month.

7. Reflection/Prayer.

8. Next Council meeting. A special Council meeting will be held on November 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. by remote means, to further prepare for the upcoming Annual Meeting.

The November 2021 regular Council meeting will be held on November 9, 2021 in person at the Stillwater Public Library, Margaret Rivers Room B. starting at 6:30. Food will be provided. The Financial Visioning will be addressed at this Council meeting.

9. Adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Thomas Haugrud
Thomas Haugrud
Secretary
Electronically signed