

Trinity Lutheran Church, Durand, IL

July 28, 2020 Council Meeting

Members present: Michelle Chatfield, Shannon Brown, Sharon Beksel, Kim Schuldt, Jody Steinke, Scott Jones, Maureen Witte.

Absent: Dale Tunak

Meeting called to order at 6:32PM by President Maureen Witte. Meeting being done via Zoom due to COVID-19 precautions.

Opening prayer led by Sharon.

Special guest, Rev. Gary Erickson, assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship and Outreach, presented to council a stewardship program. This program contains 3 books, online videos and lessons. Cost is \$450- Synod covers \$100 so remaining balance is \$350. Thrivent cards are accepted. Other ideas for stewardship and evangelism for Trinity were discussed; stewardship teams from area churches could collaborate and talk; service of confession and reconciliation.

Minutes of June 24, 2020 council meeting discussed. Corrections made.

Minutes of special meeting on July 20, 2020 discussed. Corrections made.

Michelle made a motion to accept the June 24 and July 20 minutes as corrected. Maureen seconded. Motion approved.

Reports of Financial Secretary, Treasurer, SAM, Christian Education Director and Parish Administrator were reviewed. Scott made a motion to accept these reports. Michelle seconded. Motion approved.

Old Business

Rev. Bitner updated Maureen and the Call Team, no pastoral candidates at this time.

Sharon notified council Rev. Hurlbut contract terminated on July 11. Maureen made a motion to accept Rev. Hurlbut's termination and to use sermons provided by the Synod that Sharon authorized to use. Michelle seconded. Motion approved.

PPP loan-cannot turn in final reports as of yet.

Staff wages discussed. Maureen made a motion to suspend the salaries of organist and choir director until in-building services resume and custodian pay will be cut in half to amount of \$191.25 per month while we are unable to worship in building. Both are effective August 1, 2020. Jody seconded. Motion approved.

Re-entry Team update-Communion service held outdoors July 19, 2020. Thanks to Monica and her husband for setting up equipment for FM transition. Survey to be sent to congregation members asking for their input on future services and gatherings.

New mortgage interest rate begins September 1, 2020 and will be for 5 years. Shannon noted our payments will be less.

Trinity's monthly giving to Synod was discussed as it was suggested to lower the amount. Current amount is \$800 per month. Jody made a motion to pay Northern Illinois Synod \$500 per month for the rest of year 2020. Maureen seconded. Sharon abstained from voting. Motion approved.

New Business

A letter was mailed to all members of Trinity signed by 20 current members of Trinity. Letter discussed information on the possible sale of church building, council's function in the church and included personal views of the situation. Maureen invited the 20 members that signed the letter to a Zoom meeting to discuss their concerns and correct facts from the letter. 12 of the 20 attended and council members Maureen, Michelle, and Sharon also attended. Maureen submitted an article for the Traveler and council submitted a letter for the Traveler in response to the letter written by 20 members.

Congregational member Louise Owen addressed some questions to council via email. Some can be answered now and responses will be in the August Traveler. Other answers will be in September Traveler.

Sharon presented Rachel Proctor, Kade Chatfield, and Cameron Chatfield as ready to be confirmed. Maureen made a motion for Rachel Proctor, Kade Chatfield, and Cameron Chatfield to be confirmed and exact date of Confirmation will be determined with assistance from the confirmand's family and the Re-entry Team. Scott seconded. Motion approved.

Sharon led the council in Lord's Prayer then gave a Blessing.

Maureen made a motion to adjourn. Scott seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59PM