**Church Council Meeting**

**11/25/14**

1. Called to order. 7:04
2. No changes to minutes.
3. Jim Cowan – 50th anniversary fundraiser. $50 for 50th anniversary idea. The Council liked this idea. A long-term goal of $50,000 was discussed. This idea will be shared with the 50th committee, and further discussion will occur at the Board Retreat in January.
4. Outreach –
   1. Ushers passing out Harvest Home envelopes – social ministries – culinary services at Lutheran homes. (Thanksgiving timeframe).
   2. Food Drive is on its way. (Extended ours till Feb. 1st to align with Synod.)
      1. Allegheny Synod is running at 25,000 can drive till Super Bowl Sunday.
   3. Church Directory – Last time done in 2006. No fee. Families pay for extra portraits. Consider for 50th. Collage pages. Consider for Feb. or Mar. Easter April 5th 2015. We would want to have it published for beginning of 50th year. Could publish a separate 50th commemorative booklet.
   4. Toys for Tots ends around December 13th. Wrapping the 14th-15th, and beyond if necessary.
   5. 50th Anniversary – Meeting Dec. 2nd.
   6. First Aid Training – should be confirmed tomorrow
5. TLC Ministries – done for the year!
   1. Dec. 14th – Advent Coffee Hour
   2. Sunday School – still double figures. Going well. Next Meeting: January 8th, and discuss splitting age groups.
6. As of Jan. 1, we’ll be on 100% wind energy (6 cents/ KW Hour, fixed rate for 2 years) – through Ground Swell, consortium out of MD, DC, and PA of all non-profits. Any member or citizen can lock in on this rate as well. Won’t be as low as the church’s nonprofit rate, but cheaper.
7. Pastor spoke to Tony Leach – about 50th anniversary ideas
8. Sylvia O’Connell stock donation to Trinity – has donated $11K value (Duke Energy), and $10K (Prudential), 400 shares of Fastenal stock $18K value. Needs to be considered for use. Could this be used towards 50th anniversary events? Other long-term needs?
   1. Some talk in the past about an endowment, thus use dividends each year without touching principle. We should consider the donor’s wishes, but enable something in perpetuity.
   2. Discuss further at Finance Team Meeting / Council Meeting / Retreat.
9. Old Business – Allegheny Ministries, synod camp, fundraising campaign. Table financial contributions until retreat. Ideas included consideration for part of fund drive, or possible new line item. Or revisit taking a group once a year to a retreat or sponsorship a campership fund.
10. Trinity Lutheran Church official Same Sex Marriage Statement: “As a congregation striving to be one with Christ and reconciled with God, the Council of Trinity Lutheran Church authorizes our Pastor(s) to offer premarital counseling and the rite of marriage to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, educational background, or economic condition.”
    1. Motion made by John Waters.
    2. Seconded by Viki Stumbers.
    3. 10-0. None opposed. None abstained.
11. Bob Musheno – New doors are in the fellowship hall connecting directly to the storage room. Small electrical conflict, extra $180 for an electrician to move the lines. Put a header beam in above the doorway, just to be safe. There is some weight on the wall. New lights in parking lot – boom truck. Jay Aubuchon changed light bulb in the meeting room. Books were moved last night. Bob and Jay are going to build a rack system.
12. One and Three year goals tabled until retreat.
13. DECEMBER 16: 7:00pm. Pastor has offered his home again for our Christmas meeting / party. Families and significant others, children welcome. Food and wine pairings.
14. JANUARY RETREAT: Roughly 8am-2pm. Try to have 50th anniversary ideas ready for discussion. (From Breakfast through Lunch)
15. Adjourn: 7:56pm.

Minutes taken by Megan Orient