

**TLC Church Council Meeting June 19, 2019**  
**Transfiguration Lutheran Church**

**Attendees:**

Council: Evan Collins, Carol Hill, Allison Lindman, Jerry Olson, Zac Schnedler, Sandy Stooke, Patti Weichselbaum

Staff: Pastor Arthur Murray

Regrets: Pastor Ed Treat, Laurel Riippa, Gretchen Schroeder

Guest: John Lindell

**Devotions:** Evan Collins

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Evan Collins at 6:38 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:** Evan Collins requested addition to the agenda (see new business) of a proposed letter to the congregation reporting the mid-year status of the Co-Pastor Pilot Proposal. Motion by Jerry Olson with second by Sandy Stooke to approve the agenda. Motion carried and approved.

**Review and approval of minutes:** Carol Hill. Motion by Sandy Stooke with second by Patti Weichselbaum to approve the minutes. Motion carried and approved.

**Review and approval of May Financial Report:** Jerry Olson

- General Fund receipts for May totaled \$54,376. Total disbursements totaled \$74,533. The 2019 YTD column shows a deficit of \$48,234.
- Capital campaign receipts in May totaled \$10,915 which is the lowest month so far. Expenditures totaled \$21,347. For the five months of 2019 there is a deficit of \$19,274. There is an overall surplus of \$33,202.
- A letter will be sent to the congregation in July which will highlight accomplishments and also focus on maintenance costs. It is proposed that the \$15,000 which would go toward paying extra on the mortgage be reserved instead for maintenance.
- The Stewardship Committee and the Finance Committee are planning a presentation in August regarding the overall financial picture.

Motion by Patti Weichselbaum with second by Sandy Stooke to approve the May financial report. Motion carried and approved.

**Pastors' Reports:**

Pastor Arthur Murray

Co-Pastor Relationship

Ed and I continue to function well. Communication on staff is good. During summer we tend to be more scattered than the rest of the year due to camps, continuing education, vacations, etc. A lot of trust is required and extra communication is necessary.

Pastoral Leadership Team has met and will meet regularly going forward to monitor the success of the Pilot phase and to ensure that goals and benchmarks are tracked and met.

With the support of Ed and the encouragement of our clergy coach, I will be resigning from the board of the FRLC and stepping off the TLC Addiction Awareness Team in an effort to ensure that my time and energy is distinct and focused, and not redundant with those of Ed. I will continue to participate on the Addiction and Faith Planning

Committee as my time permits.

#### Financial Oversight

Special Staffing Appeal was conducted and has resulted in commitments of \$15K, exceeding the goal of \$13.5K. The 20 top giving households of 2019 year to date were contacted. Fifteen of the twenty responded and contributed in a range from 500 to 2000 per household. Follow up letter of thanks will be sent. Hires will be made. Internship is in process. Ed will be the supervisor for Grace.

Capital Campaign Team met and will be sending a fiscal year-end (July 1, 2019) update to the congregation which identifies goals achieved and outlines current building maintenance needs. Team is seeking additional or repeat pledges to fulfill the full goal of the campaign.

#### Youth and Family

Youth Team (Sandy Stooke—chair, Kirsten Boehne, Allison Sneller, Evan Collins, Ben Cherland, Dave Dickson, Patti Weichselbaum, myself) continue to meet to plan Fall youth activities.

Met with College Ministry Team to ensure ongoing effective ministry.

New Pray-ground established in the Sanctuary thanks to the efforts of Erin Pommeranz and the Tuesday night Women's Cafe group. Erin has been a wonderful addition to staff and is already taking an active role in visitation and outreach to young families.

#### Membership and Welcoming Diversity

New Members Welcome Brunch this Sunday. Fourteen families on the invitation list. Six households scheduled to attend the brunch. Four more interested but can't attend that date. Four more still considering.

Welcoming Diversity Team has scheduled Ellie Krug to come speak at TLC on Reformation Sunday following worship. She has reduced her fee from \$3000 to \$250.

Welcoming Diversity and RIC Ally Team are coordinating the Summer Block Party along with the ELC. Melissa Klement taking lead with new ELC/TLC families' group.

#### Communication

The Communication Team will be restructured to suit the new needs of the church and staff. Transcripts may shift forward towards a quarterly distribution schedule.

#### Pastor Ed Treat

- Continue to work with Addiction Awareness Team on some exciting plans for addiction ministry at TLC.
- Have attended several events this spring including four synod assemblies and two addiction conferences to promote the Addiction and Faith Conference.
- Addiction and Faith Conference continues to develop. Working mostly on registrations and funding. Pray for funding.
- Working with Pastoral Leadership Team to develop benchmarks and measures.
- Working with Bloomington Pastors for the joint outdoor service Labor Day weekend.
- Working with Staff to survey congregation about worship time changes and planning around those.
- Met with personnel team to review recent difficult staffing situations and new proposed hires.
- Working with Arthur and Seminary toward fall intern.

- Commissioned ten new Stephen Ministers. Seven of the ten have been assigned to care receivers.
- We are in the midst of VBS this week—all staff involved.
- Continuing meetings with clergy coach and Pastor Arthur
- Strategic planning team continues to meet and carry out initiatives.
- One baptism since last council meeting.
- Counseling three couples toward marriage. Preparing to preside at my daughter's wedding in two weeks.
- Ten new families joining TLC.
- We've presided over five funerals since last council and currently working on one.
- We've had a high number of end of life pastoral care situations recently.
- Sorry I can't be there tonight. Am presenting at the Central Minnesota Faith Community Nurses' Conference in St. Cloud today about suicide prevention and addiction.

### **Old Business**

- Records Retention Policy: Pastor Arthur moved with second by Patti Weichselbaum to table until next meeting. Motion carried and approved. Allison Lindman will provide information about retention of various records.
- Funding update for Fall staffing: covered in Pastor Arthur's report.
- PLT update: John Lindell distributed and discussed the "Co-pastor Pilot Evaluation Strategy Plan and Timelines." Council members who have additional questions or comments were invited to direct them to John Lindell.
- Proposed worship schedule: The schedule if approved would be implemented Sept. 8. The current member survey closes on June 25. Allison Lindman will tabulate the results. Staff meets July 9. After staff reviews survey results and makes a decision, Council will vote by email.

### **New Business**

- RIC has requested funding for the block party. Pastor Arthur moved with second by Sandy Stooke to add \$500 to the balance remaining from the 2018 block party. Motion carried and approved.
- Personnel Committee Update: Council received and accepted a report dated June 17, 2019 from the Personnel Committee which reviewed and made recommendations regarding a staff interaction.
- Proposed letter to congregation: Evan Collins distributed a draft letter to the congregation which would be a mid-year status update for the Co-Pastor Pilot Proposal. Council members are asked to review the letter, send suggestions for revisions to Evan and also let him know if willing to have the council member's name on the letter.

### **Announcements**

- There will be no July transcript.
- Council will not meet in July.
- Shelly Smith is planning to use existing plays to highlight racial justice and is requesting suggestions of plays and names of individuals interested in directing the plays.
- The joint outdoor service Labor Day weekend will take place at the Normandale Lake Bandshell.

**Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, August 6. **Note change in date.** 6:00 pm dinner, 6:30 p.m. meeting.

Devotions: Carol Hill

Meal: Gretchen Schroeder

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn the meeting by Pastor Arthur with second by Patti Weichselbaum. Motion carried and approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.