

TLC Church Council Meeting – April 14, 2020
Transfiguration Lutheran Church

Attendees:

Staff: Pastor Arthur Murray

Council: Steve Jorschumb, Steve Mattson, Melinda Chau, Allison Lindman, Jerry Olson, Sandy Stooke, Gretchen Schroeder, Dan Ekholm, Becky Woll

Guests: Diane Nettifee, Jeanine Brown

Devotions: Diane Nettifee

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:44 pm.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Allison Lindman with second by Sandy Stooke to approve the agenda. Motion carried and approved.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Gretchen Schroeder

Revisions to the March Financial Report were identified by Jerry Olson. Changes included updated financial numbers resulting in a deficient rather than surplus as originally reported. Motion by Sandy Stooke with second by Steve Mattson to approve the March Council meeting minutes with revisions. Motion carried and approved. March meeting minutes revised to reflect the correct financial numbers before being posted.

Financial Report: Jerry Olson

- General Fund receipts for March 2020 totaled \$60,170. Disbursements totaled \$63,040, resulting in a deficit of \$2,870 for the month. The YTD deficit increased to \$9,697.
- Capital campaign receipts totaled \$19,123 with expenditures of \$17,274. The YTD surplus is \$10,287. There remains a surplus of \$20,539 for the entire campaign to date.
- Motion by Steve Jorschumb with second by Allison Lindman to approve the March financial report. Motion carried and approved.
- Steve Jorschumb reported that an application was submitted for a federal Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan, which is now available to non-profits. The \$120,000 loan requested would be forgiven if 75% of it is used for payroll expenses.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Arthur Murray

General

- It's hard to believe that our last meeting and the Council retreat were only a month ago. It seems like another lifetime.
- Over the last month the TLC community has had to re-imagine, re-design and re-create the way we do church together, just as we are all doing in so many aspects of our lives.
- I'm incredibly grateful for the amazing, professional, creative and faithful work of the staff. Everyone has stepped up, sometimes under great pressure and continues to find creative ways to do fulfill their ministry.

- The congregation has likewise shown grace, resilience, faithfulness and appreciation in a multitude of ways.

Online Attendance

- Brad has gone way above and beyond in allowing us to continue to provide worship opportunities throughout Lent and Holy Week. Attendance report is attached.

In-Home Worship Resources

- Renee is leading on preparing and mailing in-home worship resources to TLC members for whom we do not have email.

Daily Devotions

- Grace has taken on the curating of a daily devotion mailed to the TLC mailing list.

Phone Call Ministry

- Marilyn is coordinating a phone ministry. About 70 TLC members, mostly seniors living alone, are receiving weekly phone check-in phone calls from one of about 30 volunteers.

Music Ministry

- Rob has spent hours culling through past services to find appropriate material. He prepares and leads our worship planning each week. He is reaching out to our roster of musicians asking for new material for future services.

Administrative

- Michelle, with the help of Sue Brickley, has completed the extensive application for federal payroll relief. The federal goal is to keep staff from being laid-off. Awaiting results.

Pastoral Acts

- One funeral has been postponed.
- Communion is being administered through online services with permission of the bishop.

Youth and Family

- Farewell for Ben Cherland took place via Zoom on March 22.
- Pete Erickson began at TLC as Interim Youth and Family Minister on April 1. Very grateful for his experience, professionalism and stabilizing presence at this time.

Wednesday Night Worship

- We continued through Lent with our Wednesday night Holden Evening Prayer services.
- Our intent post-Easter through the end of the program year (mid-May) will be to offer youth-led Wed evening prayer services. Pete will take lead on these.

Hiring

- All hiring is on hold for the moment.

Personnel

- I have sent a survey out to all staff asking them for a self-evaluation of how well they are able to fulfill their hours and job descriptions and what their needs are in the current time.

Synod

- Has provided several valuable resources by Zoom. Explanation of federal funding for congregations. Cyber security. Discussion of virtual communion. Etc.

Property Committee

- Met by Zoom, Report at this meeting. Very grateful to have this team formed. Would be good to have Council representative.

Mission and Outreach

- ELC is on very shaky ground in terms of survival. It would be good to be seeking ways as a congregation to support as best we can in this time.
- Liberia situation is very tenuous. We are preparing to provide emergency food.
- Sheridan Story has been asked to provide food for vulnerable families in Bloomington by the school system throughout the week.
- Every program that we support will see their need increase significantly.

Personal

- On the recommendation of my clergy coach and colleagues, I plan to take two weeks of vacation time beginning tomorrow. I have been operating beyond my capacity for several weeks and my family is suffering the fall out. I will spend the time focusing on home schooling and trying to get a rhythm going that works for the kids. During this time I will be considering whether I can return at full-time status. My expectation is that I will ask to go to half-time as long as the kids are doing school from home.
- I am very grateful to Pastor Ed who will be covering for me in my absence and for his support in this decision.

Pastor Ed Treat

Pastor Relationship

- Conversations continue monthly with clergy coach Mark Betley, Arthur, and me.
- Arthur and I meet weekly to discuss roles and responsibilities.

Staffing

- Arthur is taking the lead as head of staff. I meet weekly for staff meetings.
- I continue to supervise Grace with regular check-ins and communications with Seminary. I have a report due and a training retreat planned for next week on Zoom. She has been providing some great online contact for Facebook, Worship, and our Weekly email blast.

Ministry

- New learning curves with how to do meetings, worship and ministry. Very time consuming and labor intensive, but seems to be working well. This is an important time to be the church.
- Weekly meetings with Pastoral Care.

- Weekly planning for worship and weekly video-taping for worship.
- Lots of email, phone calls, and Facebook communication to members.

Addiction and Faith Conference

- Several trips, presentations, and speaking engagements were cancelled or postponed due to the virus.
- Application for nonprofit is under way establishing a new 501c3 called “The Center of Addiction & Faith”.
- Forming a New LLC called ETC that will be the contracted company to carry out the work of the Center of Addiction & Faith.
- Forming a new Foundation called “The Center of Addiction & Faith Foundation”. A new non-profit to provide support to The Center of Addiction & Faith.
- Working with a web developer to create a new robust website.
- Contracted with consultant to pursue grants and funding.
- Resolution for the Minneapolis Area Synod is being expedited. The Synod Council will appoint a task force on addiction.

Addiction Awareness

- The TLC Addiction Awareness team is cancelling the May 16 meeting and will look to set a future date when it’s safe to do so.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- **Property Committee:**
 - Reviewed Report from Keith Olson on recommended church repair projects from March 31, 2020 Property Committee meeting. Expenditures on hold until future finances known.
 - Motion by Jerry Olson with second by Becky Woll to stop making additional payments on mortgage. Motion carried and approved.
 - Allison Lindman noted concern with rain fall around the building and water intrusion causing mold issues.
 - Dan Ekholm and Allison Lindman are willing to be on property committee.

Council’s Role Discussion: Diane Nettifee

- Follow-up to council retreat discussion. Discussed thoughts on the core values and priorities for the short term, and then what the council’s role in this is. Steve Jorschumb to compile summary of the comments and send out to small groups. Future discussion to include where we have seen these items incorporated.

Next Meeting Date: May 12, 2020

Devotions: Melinda Chau

Closing Prayer: Diane Nettifee

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Allison Lindman with second by Becky Woll. Motion carried and approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Live Stream Attendance

April 2020

Note: The “attendance” numbers are reported by YouTube’s Analytical Data, which culls devices (desktops, laptops, notebooks, tablets and phones) connected/linked to the **actual** Live Stream for a certain amount of time, calling those “views” (as opposed to click and go’s). The On-Demand numbers are also captured by YouTube as a cumulative count from the completion of the Live-Stream to the current date/time it is referenced. Understand that **devices** represent, at the very least, one human viewer. There is no method to determine the number of human viewers watching a particular device, but we do know there are families, couples and even groups of people (The Waters Senior Living Community) watching. So, the live and on-demand attendance could easily be double or triple the amount reported by YouTube.

		TOTAL	LIVE	ON-DEMAND
<u>Wednesday Lent</u>	<u>4/1/20</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>48</u>
<u>Palm Sunday</u>	<u>4/5/20</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>159</u>
<u>Maundy Thursday</u>	<u>4/9/20</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>Good Friday</u>	<u>4/10/20</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>62</u>
<u>Easter Sunday</u>	<u>4/12/20</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>168</u>