

TLC Church Council Meeting – May 12, 2020
Transfiguration Lutheran Church

Attendees:

Staff: Pastor Arthur Murray

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

Regrets: Dan Ekholm

Devotions: Melinda Chau

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:39 pm.

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

Review and Approval of Minutes: Gretchen Schroeder

- Motion by Becky Woll with second by Steve Mattson to approve the April 14th Council meeting minutes. Motion carried and approved.
- Motion by Melinda Chau with second by Sandy Stooke to approve the April 28th Council Special meeting minutes with revisions. Motion carried and approved.

Financial Report: Jerry Olson

- General Fund receipts for April 2020 totaled \$67,516. Disbursements totaled \$55,585, resulting in a surplus of \$11,931 for the month. The YTD balance is now a surplus of \$2,234. In April, giving was steady, but expenses were lower. The payment to the Synod has not been made yet, but is anticipated to be made next month. The financial numbers also do not include the PPP loan, which is being tracked separately.
- Capital campaign receipts totaled \$16,513 with expenditures of \$16,635. The YTD surplus is \$10,165. There remains a surplus of \$20,417 for the entire campaign to date. At this time, we will continue to hold on making extra principal payments on the mortgage to save for future maintenance expenses.
- Motion by Allison Lindman with second by Becky Woll to approve the April financial report. Motion carried and approved.

Pastor's Reports: Pastor Arthur Murray

Personal

- I remain incredibly grateful for the Council's decision to allow me some space to tend to my family along with those who worked hard to provide the PPP funding allowing me to retain my normal compensation. As I was warned by my clergy mentors, a pastor's life is never part-time. That has already proven true. I would guess that I am probably working at approximately 75% time at the moment. That said, the Council's discussion and decision has helped me to carve out a little more focused time with the family with a clear conscience. Thank you!

Online Attendance

- Online attendance continues to grow. (Over 200 devices this past Sunday). Attached are some notes of gratitude that have been received. Some have requested that we share the attendance numbers more regularly, which we plan to do.
- Considering a Drive-In service sometime in June should circumstances permit.

In-Home Worship Resources

- Renee continues to lead on preparing and mailing in-home worship resources to TLC members for whom we do not have email and is in touch with all families with young children weekly.

Daily Devotions

- Grace continues to curate the daily devotion mailed to the TLC mailing list. She will be offering a weekly Bible Study beginning in June. Wednesdays at 7.

Phone Call Ministry

- Marilyn continues to coordinate the phone ministry. About 100 TLC members are receiving weekly phone check-in phone calls from one of about 30 volunteers.

Music Ministry

- Rob continues to work with all our musicians to provide a balanced representation of newly recorded and archived recordings from our digital library.

Administrative

- Michelle is focused on maintaining our finances, paying the bills, overseeing the church property. There are some recommendations coming at this meeting from the Property Committee meeting of April 28.

Pastoral Acts

- All funerals, baptisms, confirmations continue to be postponed. Confirmation has been rescheduled for Reformation Sunday, October 25. Several baptisms have been postponed.

Youth and Family

- Pete Erickson, Interim Youth and Family Ministry, has been doing an incredible job. I have been very grateful for his professional experience and stabilizing presence. He has seen us through the end of the confirmation year, produced virtual Wednesday night worship for the last few weeks and played a large role in gathering video content from our confirmands for our Confirmation "Milestone" Sunday on May 3. He is working on Graduation Sunday (June 7) at the moment and making plans for kids and families to stay connected over the summer. Games night this Friday.

Assessment Work

- Pete is now beginning work on the assessment phase of the youth and family program and is beginning to assemble a team of engaged lay leaders to work with in this process.

- I have asked him to be in touch with Jeanine Brown, chair of Strategic Planning, to ensure that these processes are connected. Jeanine will attend future Council meetings on request.

Wednesday Night Worship

- Tomorrow is the last night until the fall.

Synod

- Provided excellent resource in the conversation with Dr. Michael Osterholm, Director of Infectious Disease from U of Minnesota.
- Is offering two fully produced worship services for Memorial Day weekend and July 4 weekend to congregations. Recommend taking advantage of these to give our core worship production staff (Brad, Rob, Marilyn) a much needed break. It will also be good to hear from our bishop at this time. Motion requested on this in New Business.

Mission and Outreach

- ELC received the PPP loan in the second phase. Great news!!!
- Support has been sent by PACT to Liberia for emergency feeding program.
- Mission and Outreach team is producing a list of ways to help financially and by volunteering locally (VEAP, MOW, Sheridan Story)

Advanced Planning

- TLC Staff will begin meeting in June to plan out for the coming year, through summer of 2021, producing all content by virtual means. We can always switch back to in-person ministry should that become an option.

Boundary Waters

- We believe that our three summer BWCA trips should be possible. The first is the second week of June. Planning is underway.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- **Property Committee:** Allison Lindman
 - Lighting – upgrading to LED, but on a scaled back model rather than moving forward with the loan option previously approved.
 - HVAC – plan to change thermostats at this time rather than upgrade HVAC control system.
 - Water intrusion – This is a priority. Looking at volunteers to do the work outside and purchase dehumidifiers for inside.

Staff Worship Recommendation:

- Motion by Becky Woll with second by Sandy Stooke for TLC to participate in utilizing Synod worship services on May 24th and July 4th. Motion carried and approved.

Next Meeting Date: June 9, 2020

Devotions: Steve Jorschumb

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Becky Woll with second by Melinda Chau. Motion carried and approved.
Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.