

**TLC Church Council Meeting – September 8, 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:** Jerry Olson

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:42 pm.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Becky Woll with second by Sandy Stooke to approve the agenda. Motion carried and approved.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** Gretchen Schroeder

Motion by Sandy Stooke with second by Jerry Olson to approve the August Council meeting minutes. Motion carried and approved.

**Financial Report:** Jerry Olson

- General Fund receipts for August 2020 totaled \$61,284, which is much better than the last couple months. Disbursements totaled \$63,960, resulting in a deficit of \$2,676 for the month. The YTD balance is a deficit of \$53,952.
- Capital campaign receipts totaled \$19,632 with expenditures of \$15,554. The August surplus is \$4,079, and the YTD surplus is \$6,775. There remains a surplus of \$17,027 for the entire campaign to date.
- We are still waiting on the bank to provide an electronic version of the loan forgiveness application for the PPP loan. There is still time given the loan extension and changing rules.
- Nancy Waldack has taken over preparing the financial spreadsheets.
- Motion by Becky Woll with second by Melinda Chau to approve the August financial report. Motion carried and approved.

**Pastor's Reports:**

**Pastor Arthur Murray**

**Personal**

- Online school began again today! Currently my wife and I are both working full-time, so we have found someone to assist us part-time with the kids (kind of an in-home teaching assistant). I will be supervising my children's online learning in the mornings and anticipate my working day to be 12-8pm as a general rule, Monday-Thursday.
- I am very grateful to the TLC staff and particularly Pastor Ed and Intern Pastor Grace for providing coverage as I took some time at the end of the summer to prepare for fall and the school year. Today is my first day back.

### Worship

- Rally Sunday will be an outdoor service, weather permitting. All pastors and many musicians will be involved in worship leadership. Face mask give away and ice cream following the service. Hoping for a beautiful day!

### Pastoral Acts

- I am currently counseling 4 couples in preparation for marriage and preparing 2 adults and 3 children for baptism.
- Visitation takes place over the phone or through outdoor visits, weather permitting.

### Re-Opening

- No new recommendations. See August recommendations.

### Youth and Family

- Family Mission Camp at Wilderness Canoe Base took a different form. Members of four families participated in a cabin rental offering to support our camp mission partner.

### **Pastor Ed Treat**

- Continue to meet with staff, pastoral care team, worship planning, make pastoral calls, preach and lead worship.
- Did supervision with Grace and submitted her final intern review to the seminary.
- Was approved for Synod grant of \$10,000 to do webinars and congregational addiction ministry training.
- Currently planning the next training event with the Addiction Awareness Team in November, three consecutive weeks of two day, two hour each sessions online with Faith Partners and 10 other congregations.
- Close to launching new website.
- Planning next webinar September 17, Addiction & Race, historical trauma of the black community.
- Met with the Executive Committee to submit letter of resignation.

September 2, 2020

Dear TLC Executive Board & Church Council,

It is with a humble, grateful and sad heart I must submit my resignation to Transfiguration Lutheran Church. After ten years of service at TLC I believe God is now calling me to a new ministry for which I have been uniquely prepared.

Over the last two years with the opioid pandemic and the success of two consecutive national conferences and the overwhelming urging of many colleagues and church members it seems the spirit is moving me powerfully in this direction. I had initially though this could be done while continuing to serve as pastor here simultaneously, but for the sake of TLC and for the needs of this new ministry I am trusting God and moving forward in this new venture. It is my sincere hope that this new ministry will continue to be an extension of the ministry of TLC and would love to consider ways we can make that work.

I have been extremely grateful for the gift of the TLC staff and council leadership during my time here. We have been through some challenges but the leadership here has always remained healthy and strong. What a gift to be a part of that and see how God has blessed this church with such fine people. After ten years I have made some strong connections here and been through many meaningful and difficult times in people's lives and those bonds will be with me for the rest of my life. I have been enriched in every way and will always be grateful and give thanks to God for all of you. I expect my last Sunday to be Christ the King Sunday, November 22 and my last day of service to be November 30th while I spend the month of December vacating my office.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Pastor Ed Treat

- Steve Jorschumb has reached out to Craig Pederson at the Synod, who said the first step is to send out a letter to the congregation. Steve J will draft the letter and send out to the Council for review. Steve J will continue to be in conversation with Craig as the transition unfolds. There will be a careful assessment of what is needed.
- Discussed needs for an interim pastor and whether there is a possibility to extend Pete Erickson's and Intern Pastor Grace's time at TLC. Their work could fill in for the time being with the transition work Pete is already doing and the pastoral care Grace is already doing. This is a highly unusual time, and the solution may depend on how long Covid/online worship lasts.
- Motion by Becky Woll and second by Gretchen Schroeder to formally accept Pastor Ed's resignation with his last Sunday worship being November 22, 2020. Motion carried and approved.
- Motion by Becky Woll and second by Jerry Olson to request Pastor Arthur to pursue arrangements with the current staff to support interim needs. Motion carried and approved.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Covid-19 Response Team Update:** Steve Jorschumb
  - Working on the details of the Covid-19 Response Plan. Next Team meeting is September 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - The TLC-ELC applied with the City of Bloomington to use some of the downstairs rooms to expand the number of kids they can care for.
- **Racial Justice Statement:** Jerry Olson
  - Updated racial justice statement is being deferred to next month.

#### **New Business:**

- **Defining relationship between TLC and Center of Addition & Faith:** Steve Jorschumb
  - Steve shared an email sent to the Council. The e-mail stated Pastor Ed had no consent to use the church e-mail list and other resources to support the Center for Addition and Faith, and that such misconduct should be punishable by the church and Synod.
  - Briefly discussed concerns brought up in e-mail.
  - Steve will work with Pastor Arthur on a response to the e-mail and send it to Council members for review and feedback prior to replying.

**Next Meeting Date:** October 13, 2020

**Devotions:** Steve Mattson

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Becky Woll with second by Allison Lindman. Motion carried and approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.