

## Holy Trinity Core Team via Zoom

### Minutes: April 13, 2020

Present: Rev. Chad Gilbertson, Lynnette Dobberpuhl, Jeff Erlandson, Collan Zehnder, Mike Huss, Carol Ottoson, Troy Banitt

Opening Prayer

Agenda Items

- Finance-Not surprisingly given the shelter-in-place situation, collections and giving are down at this point. (Although pledges had been down Jan and Feb, the actual giving that had come in those months exceeded pledging, so this definitely appears to be an issue arising out of the pandemic.) To mitigate some of the revenue challenges HTUMC has applied for the Paycheck Protection Plan (thanks to Kelly and Jeff for acting quickly to initiate this.) If we receive this loan, 75% would have to be used to help cover salaries at the current level, and would then be forgiven. 2.5 x the monthly salaries + benefits is what we were allowed to request, so the amount applied for is approximately \$40,000.

A few people have reported issues with the Give+ App not taking funds from their accounts, so people should confirm transactions are happening through their banks. Tina and Chad will look more closely at how the reporting is happening and members and friends will be advised to double check their bank account transactions.

SPRT is scheduled to meet this month and will offer recommendations on what our needs and opportunities are for staffing. CORE team at this point is recommending a wait and see approach in the short term as this very fluid situation develops. Custodial care has been cut back to once per week. Trustees has put a hold on garbage collection and yard waste pickup.

- Current status—COVID 19: Staff time for Lynnette has gone up approximately 10 hours per week for the work on recording, editing, publishing and promoting the worship and Sunday school videos. Scott County Health & Human Services has sent an offer for possible reimbursement for expenses related to COVID 19. Items covered may include software, Zoom license, a camera and microphone for recording online worship, tripods, and potentially other items. Chad is pursuing what can be covered, including the extra time Lynnette is currently spending on videos we weren't doing before.
- The phone trees, worship videos and Facebook Live videos and posts have been well received. What more is needed? What are the gaps? Jeff: really work to stay connected, where are more opportunities? Lynnette: is there anything that can be done from the building? Chad: the guidance from the Annual Conference is to do everything possible to enable the Stay at Home MN recommendation. Chad had suggested to our DS that we could do a drive through communion, but was told while it does satisfy social distancing,

it does not honor that stay at home plan. The first Sunday of May Holy Trinity will offer a way to celebrate communion at home that also honors our tradition. Carol: suggested a watch party on Facebook so people could be in the service together, or possibly a Zoom gathering (we will look into that.) Mike: what are we doing for our less tech-savvy population? Chad: We are mailing a hard copy of our weekly email (Trini-Ties) and sermon notes to people who have been getting a paper copy of the SAIL to keep them in the loop.

- General Conference has been officially been postponed one year. The other important event is the jurisdictional conference which would have been in August and is when/where they elect bishops (Ough and Dyck are retiring August 31) but the jurisdictional conferences will also be postponed. They are deciding what to do about the vacancies. There has been no word on annual conference yet, usually held in June. The MN Annual Conference is intending to hold off on taking any action on complaints related to the LGBTQIA+ and now would be a good time for us to be clear about our intention to be inclusive and welcoming to all regardless of gender or sexual orientation. There will be opportunities to share this with the congregation coming up.
- FISH money has almost entirely been spent on the items mentioned at last month's Core Team meeting. The current finance reports do not reflect that yet as the bills are still coming in.
- House of Grace has acknowledged receipt of our letter to end the agreement to host their services in our building as of May 31 and plan to come and gather up their items. They expressed gratitude for being allowed to meet at Holy Trinity for the past two years.
- Garden is moving forward cautiously. We have lost a strong leader with Otti and need to consider who might move into that vacuum. Don is planning on breaking ground, but not sure when. Rene is planning the herb garden, and Ryan Boller has submitted plans for the Peace/Pollinator/Memorial garden, although the timeline for that project may have to be extended due to social distancing rules.
- Live Streaming: the camera that looks optimal ranges from \$1400-\$2300, plus some audio and software subscriptions would be needed. Collan will be submitting a list of items to Chad by the end of the week. The group supported moving forward with this, but also recommended checking to see if the items fit within the Scott Co HHS non-profit reimbursement program (see above COVID 19).
- This was Troy Banitt's last meeting on the Core Team. His contributions, support and encouraging presence have been greatly appreciated! Thanks, Troy!
- The next meeting will be May 11 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom (unless otherwise indicated.)