

Holy Trinity Core Team via Zoom Minutes: January 11, 2021

Present: Mike Huss, Collan Zehnder, Jeff Erlandson, Brad Wahl, Carol Ottoson, Lynnette Dobberpuhl, Pastor Chad Gilbertson, Tanya Alemu,

Begun in prayer.

A heartfelt welcome is extended to new Core Team members Tanya Alemu and Brad Wahl. Sincere thanks to Ashley Elsner and Darla Bauchle for their time, talents and work on behalf of the church in their terms on the Core Team.

Finance: (Jeff and Pastor Chad) There are currently 79 pledges made for 2021, with a total of \$201,450 pledged in giving for the coming year. Pastor Chad and Jeff are trying to analyze the last five years' information to plan how best to deal with decreased pledged giving, and a deficit spending situation as we continue into 2021 with the same budget from 2020. Question: Do we ever reach out to the congregation with financial updates, for instance saying "here is our situation, and if every family gave \$X over the year it would square our budget"? Answer: The past year, even before Covid struck, was the first year we have begun strategizing how to deal with the way the income vs. costs have changed over the past years. It is time to start diligently reporting this, possibly in the SAIL with the Core Team corner, as well as the minutes posted. Suggestions: for people who don't read their emails carefully, consider alternate ways (text, robocall?) Brad Wahl volunteered to look into options for this. Consider presenting the information in a monthly report, starting early in the year, rather than waiting until six months in and giving a bigger, more insurmountable amount. Helpful to understand who our givers are, and how they give, what they value about their connection with church and what gaps exist in that connection, as well as how we recruit and maintain membership.

Income & Expense Summary: Year Ended December 31, 2020	
Income	
Pledged	\$254,881.83
PPP Grant	35,000.00
Other	13,638.67
Total Income	303,520.50
Expenses	
Administrative & Salaries	\$215,227.75
Apportionments	31,080.00
Property & Maintenance	45,231.96
Other	5,993.70
Total Expenses	297,533.41
Net Income/(Loss)	\$5987.09

Update on COVID 19 and Church Re-Opening: (Pastor Chad) One of the things that the Re-Gathering Task Force have been watching is the Minnesota UMC Conference guidelines on restricting in-person

gathering, which have been red since November 2020 (most restrictive—all church buildings should be closed, and all worship, groups and pastoral care should be done online.) These are based on State DOH observations and trends. Local schools are going back to in person and hybrid learning in stages beginning at the end of January. Pastor Chad had prepared a statement to go out this week stating that we are continuing to hold off on planning to re-gather for the indefinite future. Re-gathering indoors should be dependent upon the number of cases decreasing and approaching herd immunity, which requires patience and compassion. MN DOH will be holding a webinar for faith communities soon which may provide more guidance on vaccinations. *Following the Core Team meeting, the MN Conference dialed back the restrictions to orange, and the Task Force met again to consider plans to allow limited access to the sanctuary for worship. Watch the SAIL and weekly Trini-Ties for updates.*

Youth Education Update: (Lynnette) Online Sunday school and youth groups continue, alternatively, Lynnette is offering families at-home resources to use on their own time, which keep some continuity of faith formation. A statewide online retreat is scheduled for Feb 3, and targets 7th-12th graders with music, worship, games and speakers who will address issues related to a Christ centered navigation of difficult and changing times (bearing in mind that many youth in our world are struggling with anxiety and depression.) Premium swag bags for youth who have pre-registered will be delivered to homes prior to Feb 3; kids can sign up to participate right up to the day of the event (but any swag will be dependent upon availability.) Families will receive kid-friendly Lent resources at our February Drive Through.

Leadership Needs: (Pastor Chad) Holy Trinity continues to seek two new members for SPRT (staffing and human resources), one more for Core Team, and two more Trustees (facility and property management and maintenance.)

Streaming and Internet: (Collan) We are considering higher speed internet for streaming. Fiber optic installation coming soon will help. Nuvera will be presenting packages to consider involving much needed improvements for phone lines and wiring.

Liaison roles:

Chad: Worship

Collan: Trustees

Jeff: Finance

Carol: SPRT

Lynnette: Children/Youth/Family

Deanna: Congregational Care & Missions

Liaison Needed: Church Operations (supports the leaders who set up worship space, ushers, welcome booth, greeters, communion and hospitality on Sunday mornings, and supports the coordinators of funerals, library, weddings, Meals on Wheels, and the garden)

Liaison Needed: Bread Oven & Marketing

The next Core Team meeting will be held on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. February 15, 2021.