

**Holy Trinity UMC**  
**Core Team Meeting Minutes**  
**11/09/2021**

**Core Team Members Present:** Carol Ottoson, Collan Zehnder, Jeff Erlandson, Brad Wahl, Tanya Alemu, Deanna Hawkins, Pastor Chad Gilbertson, Lynnette Dobberpuhl

**Opening Prayer – Chad** Westwood Elementary returned to distance learning, Deanna’s neighbors whose daughter died, high school students targeted by a racist video and the people who shared it, Joanne Wahl in the hospital, Rona Whipps still in care.

**Finances**

- October Financial Update – (see image) **Jeff** There have been 3 months in a row when we have received over \$21,000 in pledged giving, which is 4-6,000 more than in previous months. These are people faithfully fulfilling their 2021 pledges, not increased giving. One gift was \$1500 over and above pledged giving. We are still this month about \$2,000 more in expenses than income. **Deanna** looking at trending, the numbers have gone up, so still holding out hope for what the pledges for 2022 look like, but even with that, we are significantly in the red. This is not a responsible use of our resources, and there is not enough in reserve to continue that trend. As of September we had received approximately \$20,000 in unpledged giving, so we may be able to look at 2022 pledges and add \$20,000 to that for SPRT to consider how to make cuts. The Core Team can inform the cuts as well. **Jeff** we need to send the message that we are taking our situation seriously, and having the hard conversations about where the cuts will take place and who will be affected. Looking for the information about how, if hours are cut, it will affect our staffing (cut a position, cut hours for certain positions.) **Brad** are there other revenue sources to consider like a daycare or renting the parsonage? **Jeff** we need to have our expense structure aligned to what is sustainable, even if other options exist for revenue, it has to be something that will be there for the foreseeable future. **Carol** historically we haven’t always been able to pay our apportionments (monthly amount per member paid to the Annual Conference) **Jeff** we have enough resources and time to restructure the staffing budget so we don’t have to do short term solutions like defaulting on responsibilities.

What does it take to get people to invite someone new to Holy Trinity, people who, if they find connection here, would support the church with their prayers, their presence, their talents, and their service? How can we be more visible as well as invitational? *Why Holy Trinity messages, eye-catching signage/banners, individual yard signs for willing members, using our outdoor space, flamingos, use city signs.* [Need to be careful with how we spend money, even if it seems like it might help us raise members, in this current time as our message has been that is money is tight.]

**Holy Trinity United Method Church  
Income & Expense Summary  
For the Month & YTD Ended October 31, 2021**

	<u>Oct 2021 Only</u>	<u>Oct 2021 YTD</u>	<u>Oct 2020 YTD*</u>	<u>Change YTD</u>	
Income					
Pledged	21,800	187,772	198,751	(10,979)	
Other	337	4,100	13,158	(9,058)	
Total Income	22,137	191,872	211,909	(20,037)	Less YTD Giving
Expenses					
Administrative and Salaries	16,718	171,397	179,322	(7,924)	
Apportionments	2,499	24,990	25,900	(910)	
Property and Maintenance	2,674	33,121	41,170	(8,048)	
Other	2,285	5,523	4,585	938	
Total Expenses	24,176	235,031	250,976	(15,945)	Less YTD Spending
Net Income/(Loss)	<u>(2,039)</u>	<u>(43,159)</u>	<u>(39,067)</u>	<u>(4,092)</u>	
	0	(0)	(0)	-	

\*Excluded one-time 2020 COVID Relief Funds

- 2022 Budget: SPRT needs recommendations of staff situations and dollar amounts to work with from the pledge drive.

**CrossForm Update – Pastor Chad + Team**

- Team met Nov 4 to discuss active and inactive ministries
  - “Why Holy Trinity” videos—**Lynnette**, video in progress, need to re-record the outdoor shots due to wind and background noise. Would like to record a 90 second version from the people who spoke in the services.
  - Updated church directory— **Tanya**, Thursday sittings are mostly booked, there are many sessions available Saturday. Set up beginning at 1:30 pm Thursday. Will update contact information including asking if people want to opt in to receiving texts for things like church cancellation.
  - Partnership with local school— **Carol**, Westwood has moved to distance learning as of today, but Heather Zehnder has agreed to talk to the principal about how we can help support the school in January.
  - Support GED/ESL learners—**Deanna**, talked with Leanne Weyrauch at Community Ed about what their program is doing and if there are ways our community can help support their students learn English. They are part of SW Metro Cooperative that provides Adult Basic Ed which covers GED and English Language Learners. In Prior Lake they have a mostly online class that meets three times per week. They could use transportation, tutors who could meet in community rooms to tutor, possibly use space at Holy Trinity if they do have transportation. Provide childcare for adults in class. Provide additional info like financial literacy. Shakopee meets in person once per month, otherwise online. Three levels of proficiency. One person needs 1:1 tutor/support for the GED. Need to put the word out to find out who would be interested in helping or just finding out more. Can’t offer help until we have people to be helpful. Need clear boundaries, background checks. Deanna will get more info from the ELL teacher (Thea) and info from Holy Trinity’s pledges of time and talents.
  - Looked at ministries of the church to see what is active and what has become inactive.

**Micah Vision Update – Pastor Chad**

- Justice for Palestine Panel on Oct 28—well attended with 19 people, five were panel members, some from other churches and Lakefront Plaza. Chad has reached out to the people who attended that event or other Social Justice meetings to a screening of *They Know Not What They Do*, about families' stories of how they and various churches have responded to their children's coming out as LGBTQ+. Also available on Amazon Video for \$3.99

**Children Youth Families Update – Lynnette** Candy Crawl and Trunk or Treat were well attended, and it was very heartwarming to see support from the Holy Trinity community as we interacted with hundreds of kids and adults on our own church grounds. Our Children's Christmas Program will be an intergenerational, interactive and unrehearsed retelling of the Nativity story using volunteers who arrive for our 3 p.m. service. This will be a fun way for families to be in the story together, and to welcome families who are not ordinarily part of our children's programming (such as visiting grandkids). We will use costumes and props traditionally used for our program. We hope to have a special music presentation of children singing a few Christmas carols on either December 12 or 19. This is dependent on kids and an accompanist being available.

**Reminders:**

- Next meeting: Monday, Dec. 13 In person unless something comes up (due to conflict on 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Charge Conference will be tentatively December 12 at 10:30 (upon confirmation by DS)