

**The 247th Annual Congregational Meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church, Bedford PA
December 18, 2016 at 9:45 A.M.**

Topic	Discussion Points to Note	Actions, Decisions, Recommendations
Gathering Welcome and Prayer Call to Order	Meeting was called to order by Council President Sue Prescott	
Minutes from the 2015 Congregational Meeting	New members Ministry team reports Budget for 2016 was adopted	Motion was made by John Beamer and second by Fred Claycomb to approve 2015 minutes. Motion approved unanimously.
Minutes from Special Congregational Meeting	The minutes were shared from the special congregational meeting held on July 10, 2016 for additional expenses for copier, carpet & chair cleaning, new freezer and A/C work. Parishioners were invited to share special offerings toward the costs of these special expenses.	Motion was made by Lisa Hagenbuch and second by Don Replogle to approve special congregational meeting minutes. Motion approved unanimously.
Recognition of 2016 Council Members	<p>3rd Year Ben Altman-Property team Tammy Crawford-Children and Youth team Sue Prescott - Executive committee/ President/ Children and Youth team Sandy Zembower- Adult and All Parish team</p> <p>2nd Year Lois Boyer-Worship & Music team Amanda Casteel-Adult and All Parish team (resigned October 2016) Denise Steele-Executive committee/ Secretary/ Outreach team Jeremy Vent-Property team</p> <p>1st year Jennifer Bailey-Worship & Music team Jay Cessna-Executive committee/ Finance team/ Treasurer Don Replogle –Finance team Kevin Rizzo – Executive committee/ Vice President/ Outreach team</p>	Pastor Short acknowledged and thanked our Council Members (and their families) for their faithful commitment and service among us.
Election of New Council Members (4 for 3 year terms and 1 for a 1 year term)	<p>Nominees: Resignation of Amanda Casteel left vacancy for a one-year term. Nominees: Sue Prescott (1 year) Tammy Crawford Lisa Hagenbuch Wynn Leppert Betsy Littlefield</p>	<p>No additional nominees were presented. Motion to close nominations properly made and seconded. Motion Approved (unanimously)</p> <p>Sue was elected to serve the one year term (vacated by Amanda Casteel). Tammy, Lisa, Wynn and Betsy were elected to serve three-year terms beginning January 2017.</p>

<p>Ministry Team Reports:</p> <p>Executive Committee (Officers Sue, Kevin, Denise and Jay) Sue Prescott reported</p> <p>Worship and Music Ministry Team Jennifer Bailey and Lois Boyer Lois presented</p> <p>Children and Youth Ministry Team Tammy Crawford and Sue Prescott Tammy presented</p> <p>Adult and All-Parish Ministry Team Amanda Casteel and Sandy Zembower Sandy presented</p>	<p>Detailed reports are available on the Church's website and on file in the Church Office.</p> <p>*Established use of 2016 Thrivent Choice Dollar donations *Prepared for special congregational meeting in July 2016 *Created 2017 Salary & Benefits recommendations for pastors and congregational employees *Coordinated nominations for election to 2017 Church Council</p> <p>*Continue to develop plans for renovation of the Altar and Nave *Supports music ministries including all choirs, cantors, and musicians *Coordinates and supports worship assistants including greeter, ushers, altar guild, acolytes, lectors, drivers, etc. *Supports Deacons ministry *Seasonal decorations and banners *Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis (Oct. 4) *Strong participation in weekly worship leadership ministries</p> <p>*Growing Sunday School with strong parental support *Expansion of After School Faith and Fun Club ministry to Chestnut Ridge *Dynamic Summer VBS *Strong participation in Youth Group and lock-ins. *Pittsburgh Youth Quake *Fall Foliage Parking and Chicken Parmesan Dinner</p> <p>*All Parish events: Easter breakfast, scavenger photo hunt with ice cream social, Summer wind-down picnic, Fall hayride, Christmas Family Festival *Adult education: Sunday morning Adult Forums and Wednesday Evening Bible studies *Generational fellowship groups with Fall, Winter, and Spring gatherings *Interest groups: Women of Trinity, Book Club, Knitting and Crocheting ministry, Trinity Hikers</p>	<p>A heart felt Thank You is shared with all parishioners who serve on our Ministry Teams.</p>
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<p>Outreach Ministry Team Kevin Rizzo and Denise Steele Kevin presented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Shared Tome Ministry Fund Grants totaling \$1,950 in 2016 *God's Work Our Hands Day at the Bedford County Library *Prayer Notes and Meals to Heal to parishioners and friends *Monthly ministry highlights and appeals especially World Hunger & Winter Clothing ministry *Tuesday Free Community Dinners serving about 4,000 meals per year *Sharing with the ministries of the Allegheny Synod and the ELCA *Strong Partnership with The Salvation Army *Active with local Ecumenical Ministerium 	
<p>Finance and Stewardship Team Jay Cessna and Don Replogle Jay presented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Very generous response to special appeal for A/C units, freezer, office copier and carpet cleaning (\$35,139 exceeded goal of \$34,000) *Audit of 2015 Accounts completed with no findings. *Professional payroll services in 2017 *Periodic ministry and personal stewardship updates sent to parishioners and friends *Thorough quarterly reviews of all ministry accounts and investments *Preparation of 2017 Parish Ministry Budget 	
<p>Property Ministry Team Ben Altman and Jeremy Vent Jeremy presented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Copier and freezer replaced and carpets and chairs cleaned (as per Special Meeting) *A/C Units in the process of being replaced prior to 2017 cooling season *A/V upgrades completed in Trinity Hall and Social Room *Bathrooms, coat racks, SCS storage room, exterior winter lights. *Hundreds of hours volunteered annually in regular maintenance and minor repairs *Quarterly building inspections. 	
<p>Administration and Office Ministries</p>	<p>Pastor Short Highlighted Tasks of our Secretary, Kathie Crist's tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Weekly worship recordings ministry *Winter, Spring, and Fall Newsletters *Weekly worship resources and announcement pamphlets *Management of offerings, other receipts, payroll, and accounts payable *Coordination of use of facilities *Salvation Army Charitable Assistance *Website management 	

<p>2017 Parish Ministry Budget Proposal</p>	<p>On behalf of the Finance Ministry Team, Pr Short presented information regarding the 2017 Parish Ministry Budget: 2017 Budgeted Income: \$340,768 2017 Budgeted Expenditures: \$359,651 2017 Anticipated Actual Expenditures: \$340,518</p> <p>*invites parishioners and friends to grow 1.5% in their offerings and gifts to the Church (compared to 9% the last 2 years for an average of 4.5% per year) *reduces our use of Invested Assets and Income for our Regular Parish Ministries. *modest growth in expenses (2.7%) related mainly to health insurance premiums, growth in children and youth ministries, and modest salary increases to our employees.</p> <p>Noted the following Accounts and Funds which are regularly reviewed by our Finance Team that support various special aspects of our Ministries: *Designated benevolence *Memorial fund *Youth ministries *Garden of the Resurrection *Tome Ministry Fund *Music Ministries Endowment *TLC/Paul Schendel Scholarship *TLC Capital Reserve Endowment *TFL Investment Portfolio</p>	<p>Motion properly moved and seconded to adopt the 2017 Parish Ministry Budget as presented by the Church Council. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>Staff Appreciation</p>	<p>200 Years of Collective Experience and Dedication!!!</p> <p>Kathie Crist (48), Janelle Lowe (43), Pastor Short (30), Susan Casteel (30), Terry Osman (23), Jayne Morse (189), Pastor Weinhold (4), Liz Miller (3)</p>	<p>Gratitude was expressed to all congregational employees and staff members, especially Kathie Crist's 48 years of service.</p>
<p>Staff Updates</p> <p>Children's Ministries Coordinator - Liz Miller</p>	<p>*A fantastic year *Cave Quest June's VBS – averaged 55 children nightly *Sunday School growing –average 25 – 30 children each Sunday *Faith & Fun Club expansion – averaging 40 children each week *"Just A Little Christmas" pageant *Great crew of volunteers!</p>	

<p>Parish Musicians - Susan Casteel, Janelle Lowe, Liz Miller and Terry Osman ~ presented by Pr Short</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Anthem and hand bell choirs rehearsals and Sunday leadership *Schedules a little more “user friendly” and welcoming to new recruits *Special Easter music, Spring Sing, and Christmas Cantata choir *Making fuller use of our Cantors *Special musicians for Festival Liturgies 	
<p>Time with Pastor Weinhold <i>Highlights</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Gratitude for the wonderful works of our Parish Family and the many new faces that have joined our labors in the past year *Joy at the stability of this congregation as a strong Lutheran witness in Bedford County *Excitement at the strong attendance at our learning ministries and participation in acts of love and charity throughout the year *Humbled to be part of a such a generous congregation and competent staff *Delighted at the blossoming children and youth ministries at Trinity *Privileged to work with reputable local groups such as the Salvation Army, Your Safe Haven, and Sequanota. 	
<p>Time with Pastor Short <i>Highlights</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Appreciation of the supportive relationships of parishioners to the ministries of the church. *Support and concern for family *Continuing commitment to a traditional Theological and Confessional Witness *Leadership and participation of many parishioners in our worship learning, serving, fellowship and property ministries. *Financial generosity of Parishioners. *Significance of our partnership with the Salvation Army and the weekly Free Community Dinner ministries. *The joys of a wonderful staff! 	
<p>Looking ahead to 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Altar and Nave Renovation plans *Making fuller use of Thrivent’s Action Team grants *Wireless technology access *Stained glass window coverings *Early plans for the 2019 celebration of Trinity’s 250th Anniversary *Constitution & Bylaws review and updates 	
<p>Other Business</p>		None noted
<p>Adjournment</p>		Jay Cessna moved to adjourn. Properly seconded by Tammy Crawford. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am
<p>Respectfully Submitted: Denise Steele Council Secretary</p>		