

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Regular Voters' Assembly  
Sanctuary (with Zoom option)  
May 7, 2023

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Parish Council
  - a. President (Winkel)
  - b. Treasurer (Lange)
  - c. Property Manager (Roney)
5. Ministry Council (Pastor)
6. Board of Elders (Donoho)
7. Preschool Committee (Niemann)
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Next Regular Voters' Assembly: November 2023 *(to be determined)*
11. Closing prayer
12. Adjournment

## Trinity Lutheran Church, Urbana

### Regular Voter's Assembly Meeting, November 13, 2022

(In person in the sanctuary and by zoom)

Call to Order: President Rick Winkel called the meeting to order at 12:25 pm. There were 35 members attending in the sanctuary and 6 on zoom, for a total of 41, a quorum (14 required) was declared present by the President.

Pastor Boylan opened with prayer.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide board and council updates to the congregation, updates on the construction project, vote on slate of councils and boards, and approve the budget for 2023. Rick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2022 voters meeting. Upon motion by Dave Kuehn, seconded by Harry Rouse, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

President Rick Winkel distributed his report and summarized the contents. He described the progress on the building project and said that a soft opening is hoped for in January/February time frame. A formal dedication is tentatively planned late in March. Total cost projected is \$2,250,000. Zion has been a wonderful partner to Trinity in construction of a new fellowship space, even during a pandemic. With faith, we have moved forward. Zion has kept us on track amidst challenges on several fronts. Best estimates for a mortgage range from \$750,000 conservatively, to \$677,000 optimistically. Final numbers still coming. Rick noted that the church will need to tighten belt as we assume the mortgage payment. He will introduce a renewal of fundraising campaign later in the meeting to respond to this challenge.

David Lange provided the Treasurer's report remotely via zoom, and said that the financial health of the church is stable, but advised a new challenge of a mortgage is coming. Revenue from giving is close to what we spend, although we are falling a bit behind. He advised all to keep austerity/carefulness with expenses. As we near completion of the new

fellowship hall, David reminded that the campaign funds raised do not cover the amount of the goal, so we have engaged CID extension fund to secure mortgage loan of \$675,000. He doesn't expect the number to be higher than that. The loan payment is estimated to be \$4000 per month. David shared a spreadsheet containing current financial information, which showed that income levels are not exceeding the budget approved in 2022, but expenses have climbed to exceed by just over \$8,000. He noted that historically giving in Nov/Dec is typically higher so there is no concern now. He listed the balance sheet that showed \$360,000 cash in the building fund line, which will be used for cash flow. David presented the recommended budget for 2023, noting that the Synod & District payment line remains at \$33,000. He responded to a few clarifying questions on budget lines and reminded that our loan from CID is at an interest rate of 4.5%. After motion from Harry Rouse, seconded by Jennifer Holhubner, the budget was approved by the voters.

Dan Roney said that the property team is working to diligently keep up to date with building progress. Rick thanked Dan for his daily involvement with Zion. Dan also said that he continues to work on technology/sound interference during the services.

Pastor Boylan distributed a report from Ministry Council and Chris Roegge summarized activities undertaken by the council including Trinity Hope event, no-fellowship-fellowship, Sunday School/Bible class. The council trimmed 15% of their budget for the 2023 recommendation. Chris thanked all members for their continued work.

Kevin Donoho (Elders chair) reported that the Elders meet every other month. They are working on assignment of Elders, so each member will have an assigned contact. There is a vacancy on the Elders board. Communion assistants will continue to help in church services.

Carol Niemann (Preschool chair) Thanked all who participated in the Monicals fundraiser night for the preschool, final totals are coming soon.

She noted that the committee and director worked together to set the budget for next year (Aug 2023 – July 2024), which is distributed today. She said that this budget is 8% less than previous years. The gifts/donations received and dollars from Thrivent are such a blessing! The preschool needs more students. Carol asked all to keep the preschool in their prayers: for more students, and for financial support to make their budget. There are currently ten students.

Under Old Business: Chuck Reifsteck presented a report on the building project, and expressed his thanks to the leadership at Trinity. The punch list will be created later this week. A certificate of substantial completion will follow after fixes are made to the punch list. That is when warranties begin. A walk through by city officials will also be done, after which the space can be occupied. Chuck harkened back to the pivotal work done by the Cornerstone Committee which envisioned needs for the various ministries at Trinity. He is glad that those needs have been addressed in this new facility. Rick thanked Chuck and his team for all of their work on the project.

New Business:

The proposed 2023 budget was addressed earlier in the meeting since David Lange was remotely presenting.

Rick brought forward the discussion about renewing the fundraising campaign. A motion was made by Kevin Donoho to renew/extend the All Are Welcome fundraising campaign, which was seconded by Dan Roney. Discussion was held. All persons present and 4 on zoom voted 'aye'. Three persons on zoom abstained. The budget was approved.

Rick walked through the distributed slate of board/council positions, noting a vacancy on the board of Elders. There was no nomination from the floor. Adam Rusch made a motion to approve, seconded by Fred Holhubner. All in person and three on zoom voted 'aye', 4 on zoom abstained. The slate was approved.

Rick announced that there will be a tour of the new facility space following the meeting. He acknowledged the work of Dan Roney, Chuck Reifsteck and Elsa Reifsteck, and David Lange who has done a remarkable job of keeping tabs on financial activities. Applause was held.

The next regular Voters' Assembly will be held May 7, 2023, TBD.

All present prayed together The Lords Prayer.

Meeting was adjourned (motions: Roney/J Holhubner) at 1:47 pm by President Rick Winkel.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dee Dee Williams  
Parish Council Secretary

## **REPORT TO CONGREGATION**

Rick Winkel, President  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
May 1, 2023

Dear Trinity Members,

Please mark your calendars for Trinity's regular Voters' Assembly, which is scheduled for **Sunday, May 7 at 12:15 PM** in the Sanctuary with a Zoom option. If you have questions about how to use Zoom to attend online, please call Trinity's office at (217) 367-8923.

I have prepared the agenda for our congregation meeting, which includes reports from the Parish Council, Ministry Council, Board of Elders, and Preschool Committee.

And praise God –our Fellowship Hall, kitchen, and parking lot are done!

Thanks to our architects, Chuck and Elsa Reifsteck, construction manager, Zion Church Builders (Jim Hinze and Bob Huddleston), and Trinity's Property Manager, Dan Roney, who spent countless hours on the job site for us.

And I want to thank the many, many people who over the past few years have given so much of their time, money, and talents to accomplish this construction project. Special thanks to Dave Kuehn, who chaired our Building Committee and our Fellowship Hall Use Committee, and to all those who served on the Cornerstone and Building Committees and Subcommittees! And especially to our lead donors, Pete and Sylvia Sauer. I am only sorry that Pete and others are no longer with us to enjoy the fruit of their labor and generosity.

Remember, our fellowship is "a union of believers in Christ through fellowship of the Spirit" (Christian Encyclopedia, citing 2 Co 13:13 [14]; 1 Jn 1:7). And now is the time for each of us in our daily prayers to rejoice and give heartfelt thanks for the blessing of our new Fellowship Hall and to ask that the Holy Spirit guide us on how to use this blessing to God's glory!

I pray that we continue to grow in the Spirit, that we work together to identify, recruit, equip and involve everyone in ministries that strengthen our church family and benefit our community, and that we do these things out of love for our Father and for one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.