



Luther Place Congregation Council Minutes
October 11, 2018
Luther Place, All Saints Room

Present: Patrick Callahan, Christina Davis, Tara Hogan, Christiana Lundholm, Betsy Mountenay, Jay Forth, Doug Walter, Candace Lilyquist, Michael Wendt, Tanay Tatum-Edwards (via phone), Elizabeth Ellis

Apologies: Ann Hill, Einar Olsen, Kate Wulff, Tom Randall

Guests: Jackson Droney

The meeting was called to order at 6:42pm.

Devotion/Spiritual Practice

Christina read A Necessary Autumn Inside Each by Rumi, asked the council to meditate on it for a few minutes, and read the poem again.

Agenda

A motion was made by Patrick to approve the agenda for the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jay and passed unanimously.

Minutes

The September minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Candace to accept the September 2018 Council Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Betsy and passed unanimously.

Racial Equity Overview

Jackson Droney joined the meeting to speak on our racial equity principles and how it relates to the budget process. Jackson was asked by Pastor Karen to speak to the council and the finance committee on the budget process and racial equity. The budget process has become more open and organized over the past few years and has started to involve more people in the congregation. The budget committee started early, involved people, and were open with their materials. As the final drafts are reviewed it was suggested we think about the impact and outcomes of the budget across all communities in the church and how they are communicated to the congregation.

Tara proposed that over the next month a group of 5-6 people, including the Racial Equity team, review the budget through a racial equity lens and prepare a response to share with the congregation.

Budget Process Update

A draft budget overview was distributed.

The full draft budget will be shared with the council via email in the next few days and questions over the next month should be sent to Julie Hamre. In November the budget will be presented formally for council approval and a package will go out to the congregation for a vote in December.

Michael Sonnenberg Candidacy

Michael is starting the process of being a deacon in ELCA and has asked for financial assistance in the candidacy fee. In the past Luther Place has supported seminarians through special appeals. One of the roles of the council is to identify potential candidates for ministry and support them. Luther Place has a Witness fund that would be appropriate to use.

A motion was made by Tara to use \$900 from the Witness fund to pay for Michael Sonnenberg's candidacy fee. The motion was seconded by Candace and passed unanimously.

Family Ministry Update

On October 21 there will be a ritual for healings for youth and family. There will be opportunities to ask question, for reflection, for prayer, and for anointing with oil.

N Street Village Covenant

The Covenant agreed upon last year has not been formally approved due to N Street not receiving all the approvals needed on their end. Luther Place's attorney is in contact with N Street's attorney on the matter and Tara will be following up with N Street's Board chair.

Teams & Liaisons Updates

Personnel - Betsy

Written report submitted.

Finance – Kate and Patrick

Written report submitted.

A motion was made by Christiana to approve the report as submitted. The motion was seconded by Betsy.

Property – Patrick

Written report submitted.

Membership – Ann & Elizabeth

The team is planning a January New Member meeting.

Stewardship – Candace & Patrick

Written report submitted.

Engagement – Christina & Doug

No report.

Racial Equity – Ann & Tanay

No report.

Community Care – Christiana & Christina

Written report submitted.

New Connections/Listening – Michael & Tom

Written report submitted.

The funding was approved by Metro DC Synod and there is an ask for council members to be part of Listening campaign as listeners. Kristen will provide training and info.

Protest & Movement – Jay & Einar

Written report submitted.

Steinbruck Center Liaison – Tanay

Report submitted.

Youth & Families Liaison – Betsy

No report.

Long Range Planning/Deficit Reduction Task Force – Patrick

No report.

Congregational Retreat

The retreat is November 3. It is important to have congregation leaders present and is an opportunity to take the sabbatical theme of listening seriously. An outside facilitator will be leading the retreat.

Closing Reflection/Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2018 at 6:30pm in the All Saints Room of Luther Place.

Submitted by: Christina Davis, Secretary, 2018-2019