

**Holy Trinity UMC**  
**Core Team Meeting Minutes**  
**12/05/2022**

**Core Team Members:** Pastor Chad Gilbertson, Deanna Hawkins, Jeff Erlandson, Tanya Alemu, Collan Zehnder, Lynnette Dobberpuhl, Carol Ottoson, Paula Green, Don Oram

**Opening Prayer - Chad**

- Finance Update - Jeff
  - We did not have current giving/expense reports at the meeting but as of October, things remained steady for giving and as expected for expenses. See the finance report for current amounts.
  - Employee Retention Credit update: the audit of the ERC which had been stalled has completed, confirming that Holy Trinity will receive \$50,000 under this program. This is a measure that will help cover current expenses and extend our reserves but is not a fix for the budget going into 2023.
  - 2023 pledge update: As of 12/15/2022, we have received 54 pledges. Total pledged so far is \$157,306, compared to 54 pledges for a \$173,000 received as of this time in 2022.
  - Apportionments and Membership: HT pays a monthly apportionment based on each membership. If people leave the church without making their membership inactive, we continue to pay apportionments for them until two years have passed without their attendance or giving and they have been removed from the membership rolls. Pastor Chad will find a list of how the apportionments benefit our congregation to present at the church conference.
  - There have been no applications for an accompanist.
- Church Conference – (Chad) The church conference (aka Charge Conference) was scheduled for after worship on January 22, 2023. The business of the conference is to look at the yearly reports: pastor compensation, membership review, submit lay speaker report, leadership nomination approval, budget overview (or approval if needed.)
- Leadership Team 2023 – (Chad) Ministry leaders are asked to let Chad know if they (and any team members they work with) are willing to continue to serve in 2023. Anyone interested in (or nominating someone else to) becoming involved Staff Parish Relations Team, Trustees, CORE Team, Finance, Missions, or other areas of ministry within the church should contact Pastor Chad. Please pray for our current leaders and that we can discern potential leaders yet to be named, that we would be fruitful, sharing the work and growing in relationship with each other and in faith.
- Children/Youth/Families – (Lynnette) The new Sunday school format seems to be going well based on increased involvement in Fellowship Time with all generations using the space. Social media is an important and low cost way to promote our church, so if you are on Facebook or Instagram please watch for our posts and support us by commenting, liking posts, and especially sharing our posts and events with others. This is a way to be invitational, and to help us be visible in our community and online. The youth retreat in 2023 known as The Event will be a one day event on Saturday, January 21, and will involve some fun games, food, a service project and some really exciting music and worship. It is for youth and leaders in grades 6 and up, and we would love our older kids to come and help make it an amazing experience for everyone, especially our younger youth.

- New Bible study, five-six people have been attending each Sunday after worship for 45 minute sessions plus time to socialize. The people who have attended have been very appreciative, and the format (a deeper examination of the scripture from the worship service) does not involve additional time to prepare.
- Reconciling Ministries – (Carol) Following the straw poll, the next step will be to vote on the Reconciling Statement. Reconciling Ministry Network has a statement which includes all people (not just focusing on LGBTQ) that must be approved verbatim, but additions to that statement can be crafted that are more individual to our community. One of the biggest questions has been, “How will church life be different if we become a reconciling congregation?” so we are hoping to do an educational session on that issue, and potentially another one where people in the congregation who are directly affected by church inclusivity are able to share an impact statement on what a reconciling approach by church means to them. Ideally the church would vote in late February on the final statement if we can get those sessions in first. Need to have a transparent standard on what will be voted on (statement on inclusiveness, part of which may be amended during the conference, and part of which must be voted on as is), who can vote (members), how votes will be made (in person only on paper ballots), and what percentage of ayes are needed for the statement to be adopted (TBD).

Closing Prayer:

Spirit of God to you we pray:

Lead us toward your holy way

Breakthrough, renew, revive us all

Open our ears to hear your call

Make clear your way from inside out

Point us to what we're all about

Show us what grace and love might be

Not me, but Thee

Unleash your dream in brand new ways

Empower us for all our days

Show us the way that we might go

Embolden us to follow

**Reminders:**

- Sunday, Jan 8 sharing perspectives on Church Vision (using Respectful Conversations format)
- Next meeting: January 16, 2023 at 6:30 pm in-person
- Sunday, Jan 22 Charge Conference (business of the church, budget and nominations approval)