



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity held a congregational meeting on November 16 after worship. Council President Eric Jurgenson presided. There were 94 voting members present.

Lori Schmidt, chair of the call committee, presented the committee's recommendation to call Pastor Kaari Nieuwlandt, explaining the call committee's process and rationale for the recommendation. After discussion, a vote was held, which was unanimous in favor of hiring Pastor Kaari as associate pastor. The associate pastor compensation package was presented and reviewed. Again, approval was near unanimous.

Next, Renee Mize presented letters of agreement between Trinity and our two faith partners, for the congregation's review and approval. After discussion, a vote was taken. The vote was near-unanimous to approve the letters.

The TLC Preschool Board, after much deliberation, has recommended the closure of the preschool after the end of the current school year. Katie Barron, the board president, explained this decision including background information on the impact of the Colorado Universal Preschool Program's impact on enrollment. There was further discussion with questions from the congregation. There were 78 votes for the closure and 16 against.

The next item of business was Trinity's participation in the SafeLots program, with slides explaining details and costs. Questions from the congregation were addressed and viewpoints were expressed. A vote was taken to approve the concept of our participation, with our 301 partners, along with 1st United Methodist in Safelots in 2026. There were 75 votes to approve, 15 against, and 4 abstentions.

Finance Ministry chair, Renee Mize presented the Ministry Finance Plan for 2026 (MFP), including an update on where we stand for 2025 and encouragement to meet our pledges to fulfill the 2025 plan by the end of the year. The 2026 MFP was accepted by motion.

Renee Mize presented an update on the remainder of the restricted furnace funds. When these funds were designated, it was thought that a furnace needed replacement, when, in fact, inexpensive repair was sufficient. A motion was made and passed to repurpose these restricted funds for property needs, as determined by the property ministry.

The final order of business was voting on the slate of council candidates. President Eric Jurgenson informed us that we do not have a candidate for treasurer. He suggested we could split responsibilities between a person acting as treasurer and a second person as acting as finance chair, which might help us find candidates. During the discussion, Joey Prows volunteered to serve as treasurer and we were instructed to add his name to the ballot. The council presented the slate of candidates as a motion. There was a second and the entire slate was accepted by a show of hands.

The vote counters presented the tallies to the president who announced the results.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Morrissey, Council secretary