

## President's Message:

This year has been like no other in the history of St Timothy. Yes, in addition to the usual business activities, this year also included a search for a new pastor which has happened a long time ago. But this year the Council also found itself facing a global pandemic called COVID-19 (coronavirus).

Council had to deal with federal, state and local government recommendations and guidelines suggesting (but not mandating) curtailment of most church activities, including Sunday worship. Accordingly, with an abundance of caution and concern, this Council had to figure out how to conduct business without face to face meetings, how to keep the congregation connected, and how to provide a way for us all to worship and commune.

Out of necessity, we were immediately launched into the virtual age using cyber-technology, and learning new language like GoToMeeting, Facebook, streaming, and podcasting, among others. Kudos to folks too numerous to mention who were instrumental in making it all happen and to the congregation as well for being understanding, accommodating, and cooperative with things like 'social' distancing, wearing masks, etc.

As the year draws to a close, the outlook is still foggy. The virus is alive and well and we have also now entered the regularly anticipated influenza season. Chances are we will have to continue adhering to the measures currently in place for the benefit of everyone. Rest assured that Council will remain focused on keeping the health and well-being of all our members first and foremost in all future decisions.

As we look forward to Thanksgiving, the hope of Advent, and the joy of the Christmas season to finish out the year, let us remember that we have much abundance for which to be thankful to a gracious Lord.

*'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost'*

## **Report of Church Council for 2020**

The Church Council shall have general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and, in particular, its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the NALC.

### Members:

<b>Terms Expire Dec 31, 2020</b>	<b>Terms Expire Dec 31, 2021</b>	<b>Terms Expire Dec 31, 2022</b>
Fesler, Mindy (3 <sup>rd</sup> Yr)	Black, Ken (2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr)	Gehman, Amy (1 <sup>st</sup> Yr)
Harmon, Will (* <b>Pres</b> ) (3 <sup>rd</sup> Yr)	Lefevre, Jeff (* <b>VP</b> ) (5 <sup>th</sup> Yr)	Gehman, Lola (1 <sup>st</sup> Yr)
King, Anna (1 <sup>st</sup> Yr)	Flint, Ross (2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr)	Lefevre, Marian (1 <sup>st</sup> Yr)
Wyant, Lisa (* <b>Secy</b> ) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr)		Wagoner, Bill (1 <sup>st</sup> Yr)
Shipman, Steve (* <b>Pastor</b> )	Kerchner, Al (* <b>Treasurer</b> )	Black, Paulette (* <b>Fin Secy</b> )

\* Executive Committee

## Meetings:

Executive Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
Council: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month

## Obligations:

- Three-year commitment of service & open to accepting a role as an officer
- Attend a minimum 10 of 12 Council meetings per year
- Officers also attend a minimum 10 of 12 Executive Committee meetings per year
- Oversee and provide for the administration of the congregation
- Be responsible for the financial and property matters of the congregation
- Carry out provisions of the Constitution, By-laws, and Continuing Resolutions
- Maintain supportive relationships with the pastor and staff
- Be an example of the style of life and ministry expected of baptized persons
- Promote a climate of peace and goodwill & foster mutual understandings

## 2020 Highlights:

- Inclement weather policy was updated and approved.
- Council members attended a retreat at the church on Friday night and Saturday morning, February 7 & 8 that included dinner and breakfast prepared and served by Chuck and Carolyn Irvin and Carole Harmon. Pastors Mike and Karen Tamorria led a leadership study on Saturday.
- Accepted two resignations of Council members due to family relocations and one for personal reasons. Appointed (3) interim members as replacements and (1) for a position unfilled by the congregation at the November 2019 meeting. At the May semi-annual meeting, the congregation voted to elect the interim appointments to full time status.
- Accepted resignation of Andrew Hamann from the Call Committee for health reasons and approved the Call Committee request to continue with the five remaining members
- Approved a trip request not to exceed \$3,500 from the Education Youth Trip Fund for Doug and Eli Fesler to participate in an overseas mission trip with another church in the community to provide hurricane relief. Due to coronavirus, the trip was subsequently cancelled.
- Approved the disposition of old computer equipment from the office to Mission Central Computer Ministry for use of parts.
- Proposed amendments to By-laws (Article I, Sections 1.02, 1.03, and 1.04) to allow virtual meetings of Council and committees utilizing electronic media to legitimately conduct business as needed.
- Approved the purchase of three touchless hand sanitizers to be placed inside the two primary entrance doors upstairs and one downstairs.
- Copyright licensing was secured from Augsburg Fortress, One License, CCLI, and Sola Publishing in the amount of \$587 so that St Timothy could legally stream and podcast worship services on its website utilizing Facebook Live.

- Accepted the recommendation of the Call Committee to call Dr. John King as pastor of St Timothy. Council interviewed the candidate on July 12, and in turn recommended the call to the congregation.
- Subsequently accepted with regret Dr. King's withdrawal of candidacy.
- Approved a pulpit exchange between Pr. Steve and Pr. Dennis DiMauro of Trinity Lutheran in Warrenton, VA.
- Accepted and approved the recommendations and guidelines of the Property Committee for resuming use of the facility by internal and external organizations.
- Approved the request to confirm Lena Haman and to accept into membership Kevin and Shannon Kincaid by affirmation of faith.
- Approved the reopening of the Nursery School per the Health and Safety Reopening Plan developed by the school director and teachers that was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- Approved a new use policy and waiver of liability form for outside organizations who want to use the church facilities.
- Reaffirmed the five members of the Call Committee (Jennifer Allen, Glenn Bushey, Michelle Elliott, Deanna Frankovich, and Russ Urffer (chair) were all willing to remain on the Call Committee and continue on in their search for a new pastor.
- Appointed Gary Larson as the sixth member of the Call Committee as it regrouped to begin its search anew
- Approved the Eagle Scout Project presented by candidate Tom Gehman to upgrade the property to channel water away from the walls and foundation of the downstairs adult lounge to prevent further water damage.
- Approved a resolution to reduce the number of elected council members from 12 to 9 through attrition to bring the ratio of council members more in line with the average active membership.
- Approved a request from the Worship Committee that for the duration of the COVID epidemic, whenever singing is resumed during indoor services, anyone participating will need to wear a mask and sing softly to reduce the spread of airborne pathogens.
- The treasurer received a corrected tax exemption certificate from the PA Department of Revenue and distributed copies to members of council involved in making purchases on behalf of the church.
- Approved the request to accept the transfer of membership for Pal Pusztai from St Matthew in York to St Timothy.
- Approved seven donations totaling \$750.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Harmon  
President of Council