

Warden's Report to 2019 AGM

In 2019 as wardens we were involved in a number of issues that played in Council.

The first of these was the opportunity to buy the church building on the Fredrik Hendrikplein in Eindhoven. When we learned that the building was for sale we first went on an orientating visit with the pastor and wardens and based on that decided to present the case to Council. That resulted in a second visit by Council and the formation of a Council sub-committee in which both wardens had a seat. The subcommittee met with the owners of the building, the Emmaüs Church to collect more information and reported back to Council. The possible purchase of the building was discussed several times in Council and at several points during the process the wardens informed the congregation. In the end it turned out that the building was sold to a property developer who already had an option on it, so the building was no longer for sale. However, the building committee also looked at the criteria a church building for Trinity Church should meet, and these will be used for future reference if another building becomes available on the market.

The wardens also organised the visit of our archdeacon, Paul Vrolijk, to Trinity Church on 14 and 15 September. On 14 September, Paul met with Council and we had a constructive discussion about our relationship with the Diocese in general and the increasing contributions to the Common Fund in particular. In 2018 we had been writing to the Diocese about our difficulties with paying the increases in the Common Fund contribution, and it was good to be able to discuss these matters face-to-face rather than through e-mails. It was also during this discussion that Paul pointed to the possibility of applying for a contribution from the Mission Opportunities Fund to support our youth ministry activities. Council has picked up on this opportunity and we are pleased to inform the congregation that the Diocese has granted Trinity Church a contribution of 4,000 € per annum for the coming 3 years towards youth ministry, which approximately compensates the recent increases in Common Fund contribution.

Establishing the role of Youth Ministry Pastoral Support Person [YMPPS] for Trinity Church and submitting the application for funding to the Archdeaconry is another matter to which several discussions in Council were devoted, and in which the wardens played a coordinating role.

One of the activities of the wardens is counting people and money during and after each service. The results of counting the money are presented in the treasurer's report, but for those who like numbers we have included some attendance statistics. These numbers show that the increase that started in 2018 has continued and even accelerated in 2019; on an average Sunday we now have 117 adults and 49 youth (<16) in our church, so a total of 166. This means our building is getting fuller, which is one reason to keep looking out for opportunities to buy a church building.

Last but not least, the roles of the wardens is to support our pastors, and from this place we want to thank Francis and Barbara for all they have done for Trinity Church in the past year!

Guido Crevecoeur and Rajesh Datti

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