

LHELC COUNCIL MINUTES; APRIL 23, 2019

Attendees;

Pastor Matt Pfeifer
Dave Froehlich, President
Steve Winecke, Elder
Fred Jensen, Treasurer
Tom Oswald, Secretary
Guest; Greg Lewis

Opening devotions: Psalm 2 and a prayer

A. Pastor's Report

March Statistics

	March			YTD		
	2019	2018	Change	2019	2018	Change
Sunday Worship (avg)	117.6	108.8	8%	101.4	104.4	-3%
Lent (avg)				46.2	41.3	12%
Maundy Thursday				61	80	-24%
Good Friday				78	78	0%
Easter				171	182	-6%
Bible Class (total)	139	111	25%	388	427	-9%
Sunday School (avg)	23.4	16	46%	20.6	18.1	14%
Visits	17	31	-45%	49	81	-40%
Website Visits/month	125	n/a		133	n/a	

Worship

What a difference a month makes! The weather warmed and attendance went back to normal and better than normal. May the Lord move all of us to continue to hunger and thirst for the righteousness revealed in the gospel. Wednesday Lenten attendance rebounded a little this year. Maundy Thursday was quite low. This could be due to the late date of Easter which means more spring activities have begun.

Christian Education

Bible class and Sunday School attendance rebounded after the cold and snowy February. Confirmation is May 5th with six students preparing to receive Communion.

Evangelism

A new Basic Bible Christianity class will be offered on Saturdays at 2 pm beginning on May 4. This is for those interested in learning more about Lutheran teachings, those interested in membership. It is also a wonderful refresher on the basics of the Bible. Bring a friend.

Pastoral visits are down compared with last year because of the high number of hospital visits in 2018.

Sudanese Ministry (Nuer Language)

Sudanese members have been attending the English services since Peter Gatkuoth's work schedule has not allowed him to lead Nuer language services lately.

Eritrean Ministry (Kunama Language)

I will preach for the Kunama language service on the 2nd Sunday of the month beginning in May. This will also serve as their Communion service for the month. The three Kunama services averaged 15 during March.

Grace – Hmong Outreach in Vietnam

Professor Brad Wordell of our Seminary preached and presented on April 7. We have received a total of \$805 through April 21 to send for the Hmong Outreach in Vietnam.

Focus on Ministry Sunday

Our worship will focus on the public ministry on May 19. We will gather a freewill offering for the congregational partner grant to support our member attending MLC. A meal will be served after the service.

2019 Membership Changes

Gains

By Transfer – Peter and Emily Nolte (Jon and Samantha) from St. Pauls, Jordan, MN; Darren Papka from St Martin's, Watertown, SD;

Communicants: 172

Baptized: 250

Pastoral Actions

Weddings

Brandon Otto and Ashley Dierking (3/9/19)

B. Finance

- a. Financial recommendation by Greg Lewis: Currently the RBC brokerage money market account for the church has approximately \$23,000 and the West Bank money market and checking account has approximately \$66,000. Both accounts are yielding approximately .01% annual interest. My proposal is to invest an amount recommended by the treasurer into an ultra short term bond mutual fund. The fund currently yields app 3.5% interest which accrues daily and is paid monthly. There are no costs to move money out or into the fund making it completely liquid. With the RBC account and the West Bank account electronically linked, funds can be moved in a one day time frame between the accounts. The funds are not FDIC insured however the mutual fund invests in 90 day primarily bank issued loan paper providing very stable net asset value for extremely low principal value fluxuation and risk.
- b. It was motioned by Steve and seconded by Tom to authorize the treasurer to move money from the checking account into the RBC short-term funds, as needed. Motion carried.
- c. See Yearly Budget document

C. Trustees;

- a. The board discussed list of potential projects and prioritized the following projects using the regular budget: roof leak, parsonage gutters, radon in parsonage. We will use the Baccus memorial for the accordion door, outdoor sign, and lights.

D. Elders;

- a. It has been nice to see some new members attending church!

E. Stewardship

F. Fellowship

- 1) Evangelism; Easter Family Fun Event 4-13-19: Approximately 80 people (Kids and adults) attended throughout the morning. We had enough volunteers to staff the event. We received 5 new email

contacts. Pastor stated there were lots of good conversations going on between members and guests. I did not attend because I attended my daughter's last concert at MLC.

- 2) Easter Neighborhood Canvassing 4-6:3 people visited 99 homes around the church. We shared the gospel with our neighbors at 18 different homes, and invited people to attend our Easter Family Fun Event and Easter church services. It is truly a blessing to be able share God's Word with others!

G. Education

H. Old business

- a. We purchased a new copier
- b. The furnace was replaced
- c. Tech committee, no update
- d. HR committee
- e. Early Childhood Committee
- f. Neola Baccus bequest; it was motioned by Fred and seconded by Steve to utilize the bequest in this order, as funds allow; accordion door, outside sign, balance to lighting the steeple. Motion carried

I. New business

- J. Next council meeting date is May 21 at 6:30

- K. Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer