

LHELC COUNCIL MINUTES; MARCH 21, 2019

Attendees;

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

Opening devotions: Psalm 2 and a prayer

A. Pastor's Report

March 2019

February Statistics

| | February | | | YTD | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 | Change | 2019 | 2018 | Change |
| Sunday Worship (avg) | 68.8 | 105.3 | -35% | 91.3 | 102.3 | -11% |
| Bible Class (total) | 132 | 154 | -14% | 249 | 316 | -21% |
| Sunday School (avg) | 16.0 | 19 | -16% | 18.6 | 19.1 | -3% |
| Visits | 14 | 33 | -58% | 32 | 50 | -36% |
| Website Visits/month | 169 | n/a | | 137 | n/a | |

Worship

Snow significantly impacted 3 Sundays in February. Only one afternoon (Kunama or Nuer) service was held. We used recorded music for two of the services. We also streamed two of the services and had 24 views for the second one. Several people commented that they liked having the entire service available through the website. This probably boosted the website visits for the month as well. Offerings were significantly impacted by the bad weather. As a reminder, offerings are not "admission price" for attending a service. Instead offerings are another way to thank the Lord for his grace and mercy to us every day. Some members do not attend evening services, likely because they do not like to go out after dark. Would it be good to consider offering a service during the day for special services such as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday?

Christian Education

Weather affected Bible classes with some being canceled and some with few attending. Sunday School was also affected with one Sunday having no students and another with 4 in attendance.

Evangelism

I am continuing a Bible information class with one adult. Easter Family Fun and Egg Hunt is April 13. We will knock on doors on April 6 to invite neighbors to the egg hunt and to Easter services.

Pastoral visits are significantly down this year compared to last year. The weather made it difficult to make Saturday visits to prospects and members. In addition, many of last year's visits were to the hospital. We thank the Lord that two members who were very sick last year are well again.

Sudanese Ministry

The Sudanese (Nuer) did not have a service in February. I am attending a WELS gathering of Nuer believers in Omaha in March.

Eritrean Ministry

One Eritrean (Kunama) service was held in February.

Grace – Hmong Outreach in Vietnam

Professor Brad Wordell of our Seminary has agreed to preach and present during Bible class on April 7. He

will have just returned from three weeks of teaching in Vietnam. He will also use that weekend to teach Luke a course. We will give members opportunities to support the Hmong Outreach in Vietnam through their offerings.

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.

Vacation

I request July 11-19 for vacation (July 14 is Sunday).

Summer Communion Dates

Due to having guest pastors on June 30 and July 14, I propose the following dates for Communion in June & July: June 9 & 23, July 7 & 28.

- B. Finance
 - a. As Pastor noted, offerings are down from last year due to the weather and lower attendance
 - i. See Yearly Budget sheet
 - b. Review of investment options is tabled until a future meeting
- C. Trustees
 - a. The railing will be repaired, hopefully prior to Easter Sunday
 - b. The cross steeple – we will get a detailed quote to repair
 - c. Working with the city to determine process to extend the parking lot to the north.
- D. Elders
 - a. Continue to make member contacts. WELS is developing a new plan to make member contacts and anticipate a rollout this fall
- E. Stewardship
 - a. Will review the next few months
- F. Fellowship
 - a. No report
- G. Evangelism
 - a. Easter for Kids – see Pastor's report
- H. Education
 - a. No report
- I. Old business
 - a. No update on copier.
 - b. Tech committee report; has developed a plan to stream everything in the facility and will be updating the Wi-Fi system. Will be purchasing a new TV cart to accommodate a, preferably 55" or larger, flat screen TV
 - c. HR committee: meet on April 25 at 6:30PM
 - d. Early Childhood Committee: The fire marshal inspection still needs to be done. They will determine if we need to install a sprinkler system, which may be cost probative.
 - e. Bequest from Neola Baccus is \$5,000. Still on progress looking at replacing the drop ceiling in the narthex and library, or replacing the accordion door between the library and the sanctuary.
- J. New business
 - a. Open Forum agenda; Tech committee, HR Committee and Early Childhood Committee
- K. Next council meeting date is Tuesday, April 23 at 6:30
- L. Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer