

## **LHELC Council Minutes – 10/17/18**

### **Attendees**

Pastor Matt Pfeifer  
Dave Froehlich, President  
Steve Winecke, Elder (via phone)  
Brandon Otto, Treasurer  
Mark Behl, Secretary

### **Opening Prayer**

Pastor Pfeifer began with opening prayer;

### **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Pfeifer reviewed the Pastor's Report, including:

- Attendance, where September 2018 Sunday attendance was favorable to 2017 by 1%; YTD attendance is unfavorable to 2017 by (-1%);
- Christian Education, where Sunday School, Sunday Bible Class, Wednesday Bible Class, and Campus Ministry at Drake have continued successfully and Catechism attendance has been strong;
- Evangelism, where the Council reviewed Praise and Proclaim, which took place September 21-22. 25 people were trained, 500 homes reached, and 101 gospel seeds were planted the initial weekend with an additional 78 homes and 10 gospel seeds planted the next Saturday. Feedback on the event was very positive and the Council is considering ways to continue the initiative on an ongoing basis. The Fall Festival was October 13; attendance was disappointing due to poor weather and an inability to hand out flyers in local schools;
- Sudanese (Nuer) membeship class has paused again; the Eritrean (Kunama) group has discontinued Saturday school in Kunama since only one family was attending;
- Pastoral Studies Institute, where Luke and Pastor Pfeifer attended an Asian Ministry meeting at the Seminary October 3-4;
- Iowa Circuit, where Good Shepherd, Cedar Rapids, is being served by Pastor Degner but has not been able to fill their call. The Area Reformation Service is October 27 at 6:30pm at Grace Lutheran in Oskaloosa; Pastor is attending circuit pastor training at MLC, November 5-6;
- Membership changes:
  - o Gains:
    - None
  - o Losses:
    - None

### **Watrous Avenue Adoption & Park Adoption**

Paul Menzel presented on the Watrous Avenue Adoption initiative and proposed adopting Sayers Park in Des Moines. The obligation is one cleanup per month and the city may be willing to post a sign indicating the park has been adopted by Lincoln Heights. The Council agreed that adopting the park is a good idea and approved proceeding, with Mr. Menzel leading the initiative;

## **Financial Report**

The Council reviewed August financial information. YTD Net Income (Loss) is \$13,461.53, favorable to budget by \$8,392.11; the Assistance Program budget line item was discussed. It is over budget by \$568.73 YTD; the Evangelism line item budget was also discussed. The Praise & Proclaim program has been partially paid and applied with another payment of ~\$3,500 forthcoming soon; total cash balance as of September 30 was \$226,416.71.

We received funds for volunteer scholarships for the LWMS retreat. Those funds will be sent to the LWMS treasurer for disbursement;

## **Trustees**

There was no update on the railing;

We received a quote to repair the church steeple for ~\$15,000 (\$9,000 for repair and \$6,000 for scaffolding); the Council approved sending the quote to Jon for approval. Contingent on Jon's approval, we will proceed with repair;

Mr. Froehlich provided an update on the walnut tree. If we can find someone to take the tree down, we'll be able to have it cut up and removed;

Larry is going to move forward with the handicap rails for the downstairs bathroom;

There is a room in the parsonage that requires painting, The Council approved painting this room;

## **Elders**

No items were discussed.

## **Stewardship**

No items were discussed.

## **Fellowship**

No items were discussed.

## **Evangelism**

The Council discussed Fall Festival. It was agreed that we would brainstorm ideas to improve the effectiveness of marketing future events since we are no longer able to hand out flyers in schools;

## **Education**

No items were discussed.

## **Old Business**

The long-term ministry committees are continuing:

- HR (additional staffing to support ministry) committee met for the second time and discussed the staff ministry program and programs to train lay leaders, where a trained lay leader would be part-time and focused on one ministry;

- Early Childhood Committee met for the first time. They would like to collect input from the congregation on the various options and we are targeting the first Sunday in November to provide that feedback;

There was no update on the bequest from Neola Baccus of \$5,000-\$6,000;

The Child Protection Policies group continues to meet; the goal continues to be taking a vote at the Voters meeting in January;

The Council discussed expanding the parking lot. We are working on getting additional information on what is required to expand the parking lot by presenting to the Des Moines City committee;

No update on the tech committee;

### **New Business**

There was no new business discussed.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting date will be Wednesday, November 14, at 8pm.

### **Closing**

The Council closed the meeting with the LORD's Prayer.