

October Voters Meeting Minutes

A. Meeting called to order.

Time 10:11 AM

Roll Call	Present (P)	Absent (A)	Excused (E)
<u>P</u> Pastor Sullivan			
<u>P</u> Glenn Brunner	President		
	Adult Discipleship		
<u>P</u> Paul Jerabek	Secretary		
<u>P</u> Dan Fager	Elders		
<u>P</u> Charlie Novak	Treasurer		
<u>P</u> Fred Steffen	Property		
<u>P</u> Louis Richard	Evangelism		
<u>P</u> Jason Belter	Youth Christian Education		

Present: 24 Church Members of which 13 were Voting Members.

B. Opening Devotion by Pastor.

C. Reading of previous meeting minutes.

1. If no additions or corrections, they stand approved as distributed.
Motion to waive and approve reading of the previous minutes. MM and 2nd.
Motion carried.
2. Agenda Additions:
Motion to approve agenda. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

D. Membership Changes

1. Baptism: Abigail Cullen (non member)
2. Transfer In: Joshua Fager, Immanuel from Resurrection in Chesapeake, VA.
3. Affirmation of Faith:
4. Confirmation:
5. Transfer Out:
6. Loss to Eternal Life: Lorraine Wessel (3OCT2013)
7. Members Released:

Motion to approve all membership changes. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

E. Reports

1. Pastor

Visitation

- General visits have slowed down greatly this busy fall. I am still wanting and willing to visit anyone who would like me to visit them. Please feel free to call me and encourage others to call me.
- During the festival season, I will now focus on making some more “specialized visits”. Counseling people I need to revisit, evangelism, etc... as well as keeping an eye to making more “Every Member Visits” when possible.

Bible Classes

- Sunday (before and after)-for October we are studying 2 Timothy. Otherwise we have been and will continue to study one of the other liturgical lessons appointed for the particular Sunday.
- Tuesday Bible Class-We are studying the “Picture Catechism”.

- Bible information class will start up in December. I hope to have a definite time and date set soon. 3 more are interested in the class.

Confirmation

- So far confirmation is going well. We are using the AAT Catechism (a reprint of the old 1943 Missouri Catechism). This “pros” to using this Catechism are that it is smaller and simpler and less in depth. The “cons” of using this Catechism are that it is smaller, not always simpler, and less in depth. Generally speaking it is a fine Catechism.
- The 8th grade confirmation students are: Andrew Richards, Haylie Novak, and Mason Stauber.
- The 7th grade confirmation students are: Amber Pilgrim, Brianna Bertrand, McCoy Walechka, and Sara Dax.

Hospitalized this past quarter: Donald Wessel, Lorraine Wessel, Norbert Gaedtke, and John Siegmund (still currently hospitalized).

Nursing Home – Kewaunee Care Center average attendance is 15, 2 are Immanuel members. Current Shut-ins (members in parenthesis are not technically shut-ins, but are present for most visits. I visit the shut-ins monthly:

- Kewaunee Care Center-Wenzel Hrabik and Myrtle Luedtke
- Sunset Manor-Dorothy Salzeider (Dawn Kieckbusch)
- Paradise Estates-Gertruede Heuer and Lorraine Graff
- Luxemburg-Roland and Edward Jergenson, Alvina Bargmann
- Green Bay-Carol Heiter (Bob)
- Home: Ron Stangel (Leila), Ethel Bothe (Dale and Debra), Joyce Kalchek (Randy), Dwayne Purzner, Joyce Goetsch and Milton Fager, Lorna Habik.
- Manitowoc: Donald Wessel and Lavern Koehler

Bible Translation Update

- Our synod decided to take an eclectic approach to Bible translation-leaving it up to the individual congregations as to what translation to use.
- So far the AAT is admirably filling our need for youth instruction. Even if the old NIV were allowed to come back, I think I would still advise using this Bible with youth because of its simplicity.
- We have been using the NKJV and AAT in worship. Feedback?
- I contacted another pastor (a Bible translation expert) about the current situation. He advises to take a wait and see approach. Something may be in the works. Since there is no reason to rush, waiting and seeing is a good idea.
- Other good options to weigh-the NASB (one of my current devotional Bibles) or the ESV.
- St. Paul’s may be in dire need of 1984 NIV Bibles. We have a surplus. Would it be ok to donate from our surplus as needed until they come up with a plan?

Motion: Allow St. Paul’s to use (keep) the extra 1984 NIV as needed. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

- There will be a new AAT evangelism New Testament appearing soon. We are thinking about purchasing and giving them to every household in Kewaunee as part of celebrating our 150th Anniversary. (\$2 a piece, buys a Bible for each household).

Up Coming Events – 29-30 October, District Pastor’s Conference in Minoqua.

Question: Is there continuous work to have an AAT study Bible? Answer: No, all volunteers working this. Right now they’re trying to get an Evangelism Bible. Trying to get it in Kindle format. Next a large print version. Pastor likes the electronic version.

2. Elders

The Elders Board is always engaged in three areas of the congregation-ministry, worship, and membership. These areas are all discussed monthly during our meetings. Pastor presents a review of monthly activities-his visits, worship plans, and other church activities. Meetings are generally on the second Thursday at 9:30. Contact us with questions, concerns, and discussion on our church. There are 6 members on our board.

We review and discuss the worship details – examples are the summer rotation, outdoor service, and the Christian education efforts: Bible classes, member information classes, and Sunday School.

We have been contacting absent members by phone calls or personal contact. The pew registry helps us to track individual attendance for some help in this effort. Those are new covers in the pews.

The A/V Committee, specifically Wayne Kittell, has begun to scan many of the historical booklets from our church events. See them at our web site, along with other good information and links.

We are now reviewing our Elders duties and planning our goals for 2014, especially with the board changes that are coming.

The Anniversary Committee is starting to consider the 150th Anniversary details. Volunteers are needed for some current ideas, but not limited to:

- Research of historical information
- Event calendar
- Guest Pastors or speakers at functions
- Guest Organist or musical presentations
- Social events – Dinners with musical group, fellowship meals
- Flowers at church – list for special remembrance by members or out of town guests.
- Invitation to area churches
- Prepare an anniversary picture directory
- Print a commemorative item – cup, plate, embossed Bible, other mementos
- Distribute a contact to all in the Kewaunee community or surrounding area, include a paperback Bible

Hold several services/events – develop information brochure for historical data on births, baptisms, confirmations, deaths, marriages

Write articles for Forward in Christ, local papers, and other media

Conduct a special fund drive for missions, community, or improvement to the church

3. Youth Christian Education

VBS:

- The dates were 12-16AUG. The theme this year was “Gone Fishing, Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men”. It was a 5 day program with stories of Baby Moses, Jonah, Young Samuel, Jesus’ Death, and Jesus and the Catch of Fish. There were about 40 children with a lot of outdoor activities. The minimum age next year will be 4 years. 3 years old was just too difficult.
- There was a float in the Trout Festival parade. Did not go to Algoma’s parade.
- I picked up a generic VBS banner that we can use year to year. We will just need to change the dates and times if needed.
- Planning for next year will start in January.

St. Paul's:

- We placed a banner from St. Paul's in the front of our school about registration.
- The school year started; we have 4 children going this year. Dylan & Kayla Belter and Isaiah & Maria Sullivan.
- 6OCT2013 was St. Paul's Christian Ed. Sunday. The children from the Day and Sunday Schools sang in church. They had an Open House at the school. We had a chance to go through and see what the children were working on.
- One of the things we are looking into is the cost of a passenger van for the church to own.
- Other things we are working on:
- We mounted brackets on the side of the building to mount signs on. You may have seen the VBS sign from that spot.
- We are going to move the two sign poles on the west side of the property. We just need to move one of the poles. We want to have a permanent sign to post the times for Sunday School and Little Lambs.

Comment: In regards to signs. You may need a permit if it is mounted.

4. Property

All three of our major projects for this calendar year have been completed. They include the concrete work, carpeting, and, repairs to the south side stained glass windows. The cost of the three projects combined, came within the scope of our planned budget.

With the arrival of the autumn season, causes the switch from the air conditioning mode to heating. The furnaces are ready to go in preparations for a cold/snowy winter season as predicted in the farmer's almanac.

Budget planning for next year has begun. One of the projects planned the restroom upgrading along Fellowship Hall, Mothers room and the Pastor Office. The main reason for the restroom renovation is to replace the current plumbing and fixtures. Our engineering division has been hard at work obtaining price quotes and deciding what is needed.

The hot water heater at the basement of church has been replaced due to a leak. The electrical hook up to the appliance also received some upgrading.

Some illuminated exit lights have been replaced with new modern versions. This had been a project in the process for the last couple of years, replacing a few at a time and not all of them at once.

Inspections of the trees on the east side of the church property are due. It has been determined that some of the trees, due to age, growth, have developed deformities that could cause them to spit should Mother Nature become nasty. A tree expert will be contacted for advice of how we should proceed.

Question: Could someone look at the "bubbler" in the hallway? It has low flow.

Answer: We'll get Greg to look at it.

Question: Most bubblers have filters. When was the last time they were changed?

Answer: We'll have to check that.

5. Adult Discipleship

A. 2013 Goals

1. *Encourage and support planned giving.* The Planned Giving Committee met on 27 September. We discussed the way ahead and decided against doing another springtime stewardship Sunday. The PG Committee developed and submitted an information article for the newsletter. The committee will continue to seek ways of

informing the congregation about the various means of giving that is of benefit to the church as well as to their own financial benefit. The Planned Giving Table was reviewed and updated for presentation to the Church Council.

2. *Improve and cultivate the use of our church library.* Without funding, upgrades to the library furniture are not likely. However, I have been contacted this week regarding possible furniture donations from Kewaunee Power Station. I am their point of contact and am waiting to see what they offer.
 - a. A future project might be to put the library index into spreadsheet format. It is presently a Microsoft Word document. New books continue to be added.
 - b. I mentioned in the newsletter that it would be of benefit to have a volunteer to act as the church librarian. If anyone is interested please contact me.
3. *Encourage participation in Bible Study and raise awareness of stewardship principles.* This is discussed at length in every meeting. I also mentioned it after church on the 13th of October. Another stewardship related article was developed and approved for the newsletter. The board hopes these stewardship articles are being well received. We are looking for new ways to encourage Bible study and improve participation. The board thought a Women's Bible study would be of benefit to the congregation and should be researched. I participated in an online Bible study on the life of Elijah. It was part of what is called Interactive Bible Study offered by the WELS. I found it was worthwhile. The board recommended we offer participation to the congregation and try to get a group organized in the future. The Church Council agreed. The study was at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and ran for seven weeks.
4. *Open new lines of communication with various congregational groups to provide mutual support and encourage discipleship.* This particular goal is a goal of opportunity and difficult to assign specific action items. The Adult Discipleship Board is willing to help other groups in whatever way possible.
5. *Find more ways to encourage our youth to participate in various church activities.* The Youth Program point of contacts list was updated. We need to encourage our youth to get more active. There is an upcoming need of assistance for our church secretary.
6. *Investigate and encourage new opportunities for women's discipleship.* We hope a women's Bible study group is organized. The upcoming Women's Advent Candlelight Service is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and discipleship for all the women in the congregation.

B. Other Business

1. In August the board reviewed its list of duties and responsibilities from the Bylaws to determine where they should be assigned when the board was disestablished. This work was completed and sent to the CC for approval.
6. Evangelism
Nothing to report.
 7. Committees
Question for A/V Committee: Are we going to get a new system? Projector? Sound System? Answer: Whatever we can afford within our \$6000 budget.
 8. Treasurer

Reviewed the Treasurer's Report

Motion: To approve all reports. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

F. Unfinished Business

1. Update of Planned Giving Table. Remove the Hymnal Supplement from the table as we have an electronic copy that can be duplicated.

G. Recommendations of the Church Council and New Business

1. Member Help. Fund and Committee approval. Committee will consist of Head Elder, President, Treasurer, and Pastor. Much discussion.

Comment: Idea of paying our youth isn't right. Answer: We agonized over the wording, the intent was to say "Thank you". Idea to allow the person who received the gift to turn around and donate it back into the Member Help fund.

Comment: Not against the idea, just want to see how this would work.

Comment: Need to talk to congregation in December.

Motion: Establish the Member Help fund. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

Motion: Establish a Policy and Procedure by January Voter's Meeting for the fund operation. Use December's Alms Box for Member Help. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

2. Update of Rev 6 of Constitution and Bylaws. All inputs were received. 7NOV meeting scheduled to go over. Clean draft to website and hardcopy to the congregation by Thanksgiving. Draft to Northern District for approval. All C&B's must be approved by the Synod.
3. Article from WELS on Marriage and Sexual Relations for C&B. Adopt as Article 10.
Motion: Put into draft of Rev 6, so congregation has time to review before January. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

I. Adjournment with Prayer

Time 11:52 AM