

April Voters Meeting Minutes

A. Meeting called to order.

Time 10:31 a.m.

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>E</u> Dan Fager	Elders		
<u>P</u> Scott Kieckbusch	Elders		
<u>P</u> Jack Novak	Treasurer		
<u>P</u> Greg Hlinak	Property		
<u>P</u> Jake Hlinak	Evangelism		
<u>E</u> Jason Belter	Youth Christian Education		
<u>P</u> Scott Karnitz	Youth Christian Education		

22 Attendees, 17 Voting Members

B. Opening Devotion by Pastor.

C. Reading of previous meeting minutes.

1. If no additions or corrections, they stand approved as read. Motion to approve minutes. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

2. Agenda Additions: Discuss Minutes under New Business. Motion to approve agenda. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

D. Membership Changes

1. Baptism: Emily Sullivan, Bryson Fenendael
2. Transfer In:
3. Affirmation of Faith: Roger Ihlenfeldt, Jr.
4. Confirmation:
5. Transfer Out:
6. Loss to Eternal Life:
7. Members Released:

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

E. Reports

1. Pastor

Visitation

- General visits were on hold during Christmas/Easter season. They will resume in earnest over the summer.
- The purpose of my visits is to get to know our members and to encourage Bible Study. Visiting Confirmands and their families to get them to go to Church.
- Please encourage family and friends to schedule a visit with me.

Bible Classes

- Sunday (before and after)-around 12 people attending. We are studying the Life of Christ.

- Tuesday Bible Class starting a study called: “Connecting Sinai to Calvary.” About 8 enrolled. We have two more lessons. After summer we will be studying Luther’s Small and Large Catechism.
- Bible Information Class is almost finished: Matt Bothe, Jody and Linda Vandertei will soon be invited to be members.

Nursing Home

- Kewaunee Care Center – Average attendance is 15. Two are members of Immanuel and two are members of St. Paul’s Algoma.

Current Shut-ins

- The members in parenthesis are not technically shut-ins, but are present for most visits. I visit the shut-ins monthly.
- At Kewaunee Care Center: Wenzel Hrabik and Myrtle Luedtke.
- At Sunset Manor: Dorothy Salzseider (Dawn Kieckbusch and Larry Wech).
- At Paradise Estates: Gertruede Heuer and Lorraine Graff.
- At the nursing home in Luxemburg: Roland and Edward Jergenson.
- At home: Ron Stangel (Leila), Ethel Bothe (Dale and Debra), Joyce Kalchek (Randy), Dwayne Purzner, Alvina Bargmann, Lorraine (Donald) Wessel and Milton Fager.
- Lavern Koehler is in Manitowoc. Have not visited her since JAN. WELS Services are available to her.
- At the nursing home in Green Bay: Carol Heiter.

Summer rotation is set. Starting 2JUN to 3rd week in JUL. Lenten schedule was at 1PM and 6PM. Next year, the 6PM Service will be at 6:30PM.

Confirmation

- 9 students are enrolled. 6 will be confirmed. 3-7th graders: Andrew Richard, Mason Stauber, and Haylie Novak. 5-8th graders: Asia Kittel, Sam Ferron, Brooke Walechka, Alex Robinson, Emily Schunke. 1-9th grader: Tyler Shemenkowski. Jared Zellner has been attending St. Paul’s, and will be confirmed there.

Devotions sent out everyday via email.

Bibles are available for purchase.

Upcoming Events: 28APR-Voter’s Meeting, 9MAY-Ascension/Examination, 14MAY-Circuit meeting in Kewaunee, 19MAY-Confirmation, 2JUN-Summer Series Rotation begins, 11-28JUN-Pastor’s Vacation, JUL-Hebrew School, 12-16AUG-VBS, 18AUG-Church Picnic.

2. Elders

Goals for 2013:

Develop an expanded Elder’s Board to engage in: member contact, studying worship activities, Called Worker Care and Support, spiritual guidance, and supervision of committees as assigned to Elder’s Board. We are currently working on:

- Contacting inactive members by phone call or sending letters.
- Summer worship services will include a Pulpit Exchange program and an Outdoor Service.
- Pastor will be attending Hebrew Study this summer.
- Elder’s Board is finalizing a counseling program for members, more info in a moment.
- Considering the Bible translation question with a congregational interest group. Anyone is invited to receive the email comparisons from Pastor.

Information: The Altar Guild requested permission to purchase flowers on the altar if needed. Purchase would be covered by the Elder’s budget. Members are encouraged to consider the flower list in back of church to sign up for providing Sunday altar flowers.

Recommend ratification by Voters. The Elder's Board has presented to the Council, the details on the counseling program available to us through WLCS. This was approved by the Council. The program would be offered through Pastor to individuals in need. Much discussion.

3. Youth Christian Education

VBS: The date is set for 12-16AUG. The theme this year is "Gone Fishing." "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men." It is a 5 day program with stories of Baby Moses, Jonah, Young Samuel, Jesus' Death, and Jesus and the Catch of Fish. Jill Belter will be the head of VBS this year.

Sunday School: We started the children's bulletins. The greeters are handing them out to kids ages 3-6.

St. Paul's:

- Building Rockets together. Having our kids work together with them and have a launch in Algoma at the school. The first meeting is set for 30APR.
- We had Christian Education Sunday on 21APR. We had the kids from St. Paul's come to sing at our church. With Lady's aide putting on a pot luck after church for fellowship.

We purchased 20 books on Christian Education. The books will be used to hand out to parents of our congregation to help them understand how important Christian Education is.

4. Property

Goal is to keep the facilities in good order.

3 projects scheduled:

1. Concrete-Northern doing the project for \$4300, we budgeted \$10,000. With extra work it will be \$7800.
2. Stained Glass Windows. Fred Steffens coordinating but we are waiting for warmer weather. South side needs attention first. We plan on doing 3 windows first. Planning about \$2000 per window. Coming in under budget.
3. Carpet in back of Church. Weisner/Massart doing the work for about \$4300.

Future projects: Remodel Bathrooms. Need the plumbing updated as the lines are deteriorating. Bathrooms in the school need to be remodeled. Add those to the "Planned Giving List".

5. Adult Discipleship

The board established the following specific goals for 2013. Status of these goals:

The first three goals are continuing from 2012.

1. Develop and improve our planned giving program. The Planned Giving Committee developed a plan of action for 2013. The committee invited Pastor Kleist for a Christian Estate Planning Seminar, held after the service on 10MAR. The committee is providing inputs related to planned giving for our quarterly newsletters. The Planned Giving gift table was updated and will be reviewed and updated quarterly as needed, and will be provided to the voters at voters meetings, starting in April. We've added Bibles to the list.
2. Improve our church library. We are still researching/looking for suitable tables/chairs (not in budget). New books have been purchased and added to the library. We will continue to purchase new books as budget allows. Our next step is to develop an index of all the books in the library so it can be presented to the congregation.
3. Work to improve our Bible Study participation and stewardship opportunities. We've had a slow start in this arena in 2013 although we had seven members attend Seminars for Christian Service held at Fox Valley HS on 16MAR (Thank you Dan

and Mari Fager, Scott and Sue Kieckbusch and Pastor). We hope for an even greater turnout next time. In 2012 we published several articles and a tithing table in the newsletters. In the next 2013 newsletter an article on the Lord's Prayer will be provided. The board will continue to sponsor/support the use of the Alms Boxes. The following goals were added following a review of the list of duties for the board given in the Bylaws.

4. Open new lines of communication with various congregational groups to provide mutual support and encourage discipleship. It is our goal to encourage and improve cooperation and communication wherever we can and find ways to support and develop opportunities for discipleship. I attended the last Ladies Aid meeting and the board plans to attend more group meetings in the future. The board is open to anyone's ideas in developing this goal and the means to accomplish it.
 5. Find more ways to encourage our youth to participate in various church activities. The board developed a youth program to encourage participation in various service opportunities. A signature sheet and list of points of contact was developed so young adults would have some level of guidance and information provided to them in the hope of generating some interest and participation. The target youth are high school students. A \$25 gift in recognition of participation was approved by the Church Council and will be provided for each 25 hours of service. This program kicked off on 21APR.
 6. Investigate and encourage new opportunities for women's discipleship. The board decided to advertise and encourage the WELS Women's Leadership Conference to be held 19-20JUL. The board requested and the Church Council approved funding the cost (registration fees and hotel room). Jill Belter and Laura Sullivan indicated a desire to attend the Women's Leadership Conference. The board will continue to look for other opportunities within the congregation.
 7. Prison Ministry book added to the library.
6. Evangelism
- As of the start of the 2013 year, our goals are as follow:
1. Develop 2 different handouts. The first one to be mass mailed to everyone informing the community about our church, our fellowship, and our beliefs. It will be as simple and noncomplex as possible to get an interest in our church. The second to be used as a tool for when visitors attend our church, to help them better understand what we are about and our practices. To give a home if they do so choose.
 2. Canvassing the community, doing our part as an outreach. Talking with people face to face. Proclaim the Gospel, answer questions, and provide a church home. Not to just adults, but to children and young adults. Encourage them to get involved with Sunday School, tell them about our wonderful Vacation Bible School.
 3. Follow-up with the children that attend Sunday and Vacation Bible School. Many of those children either attend Sunday School, but don't go to church. Attend Vacation Bible School but don't have Immanuel as a church home. Encouraging them and their parents to come to church more often so they can grow in the Word of God. Also following up with visitors that attend our church.
 4. Mass mailing Christmas Cards to the community. Inviting members, visitors and guests to worship with us as we celebrate Christ's birth. As simple as can be to help encourage.

5. Purchasing Bibles, depending on which translation, to give to our visitors as a thank you for attending our church. To really show them of how loving and caring we are, welcoming anyone wanting to participate.
 6. Looking to sponsor the Koine band at the Concert in the Park in downtown Kewaunee. They are a wonderfully blessed group that wants to show their love for Christ. Perfect opportunity to bring our evangelism to the community.
 7. Sending cards to released members. It may have been their decision to fall from the Gospel. But now they fall into the category as possibly being un-churched. It is our duty to encourage them with the Gospel and to encourage them to attend church out of their love for God.
7. Committees None.
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. Discussed.

G. Recommendations of the Church Council and New Business

1. Approve of Elders Plan to purchase professional counseling. Pastor explained how it works. Suggestion: Approve either \$980 or \$1050 for the amount. Question: Where would we do this? Answer: Either of the Church computers would be used. Motion: Approve the counseling with \$1050 for 15 sessions. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.
2. Print the Minutes and distribute in the back of the Church. Post copies in the Narthex. Redact any financial information. Dispense with reading the minutes. Motion: Make the Voter's Meeting Minutes available to print and the internet. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

H. Elections/Ratification of Appointments None.

I. Adjournment with Prayer Time 11:40 AM