

July Voters Meeting Minutes

A. Meeting called to order.

Time 10:24 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>E</u> Jack Novak	Treasurer		
<u>E</u> Greg Hlinak	Property		
<u>P</u> Fred Steffan	Property		
<u>P</u> Jake Hlinak	Evangelism		
<u>P</u> Jason Belter	Youth Christian Education		

B. Opening Devotion by Pastor.

21 members present of which 13 were voting members.

C. Reading of previous meeting minutes.

1. If no additions or corrections, they stand approved as distributed.
Motion: To approve the previous minutes. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.
2. Agenda Additions: None.
Motion: To approve agenda. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

D. Membership Changes

1. Baptism: Blake Christman
2. Transfer In:
3. Affirmation of Faith: Jason Obry
4. Confirmation: Asia Kittel, Samantha Ferron, Brooke Walechka, Alex Robinson, Emily Schunke, and Tyler Shemenkowski via Youth Confirmation. Linda and Jody Vandertie via Adult Confirmation.
5. Transfer Out:
6. Loss to Eternal Life: June Pelishek and Larry Wech.
7. Members Released:

Motion: To approve all membership changes. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

E. Reports

1. Pastor
Visitation
 - General visits have resumed this summer. The purpose is to get to know our members and to encourage Bible Study. Hoping to do more aggressively.
 - Please encourage family and friends to schedule a visit with me.
- Bible Classes
- Sunday (before and after)-on break during the summer. In the fall, I will most likely change topics from the "Life of Christ", to individual lessons on one of the Sunday lessons I am not preaching on.
 - Tuesday Bible Class – after our summer break, we will be studying Luther's Small and Large Catechism together.
 - Bible Information Class is on hold for the summer. The people who expressed interest said that they could not make it until fall/winter.
- Nursing Home

- Kewaunee Care Center – average attendance is 15: 2 members from Immanuel; 1 from St. Paul’s, Algoma; 1 from St. Peter’s, Carleton; .and 1 from St. Peter’s, Sturgeon Bay

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).
- At Paradise Estates: Gertruede Heuer and Lorraine Graff.
- At 3 in Luxemburg: Roland and Edward Jergenson, and Alvina Bargemann.
- At a nursing home in Green Bay: Carol Heiter (Bob).
- At Home: Ron Stangel (Leila), Ethel Bothe (Dale and Debra), Joyce Kalcheck (Randy), Dwayne Purzner, Alvina Bargemann, Lorraine (Donald) Wessel, and Milton Fager (Joyce Gaitch).
- Lavern Koehler is in Manitowoc.

Summer Rotation

- Greetings from all the congregations in Door County/Kewaunee.
- The summer rotations were a blessing. Most people I have talked to were happy we did this and found it beneficial.
- At our Study Club, most of the pastors expressed the opinion that we were happy to do this once, but we do NOT want to make this an annual/biannual event. (Maybe once every 4 or 5 years when there is a change in the circuit).
- We will, however, continue to rotate pulpit for midweek Lenten services with those congregations who wish to do so.

Up Coming Events

- August 12-16 VBS
- August 18 Church Picnic
- Sunday School Start (TBD) Note: Church members in favor of going away from “Live of Christ” for Bible Study.
- Confirmation Start (TBD)

Bible Translation Update

- Synod convention is meeting this week. Options presented to Synod are: 1) Use the NIV’11, 2) Take an “eclectic” approach and use one of the following Bibles for publications: NIV’11, ESV, HCSB, 3) Translate our own Bible (possibly using the AAT as a base for the New Testament), 4) Other options (a major revision of HCSB coming in 5 years, and our Synod has been asked to give input.) Much discussion.
- Regardless of what the Synod decides to use for publications, congregations have to make their own choice for congregational use.
- At Immanuel, I have emailed devotions to 19 members which included a reading from the NKJV, ESV, AAT, and HCSB. The following survey was sent this month. Pastor doesn’t recommend the NIV’11.
 - Which translation do you think would be best for worship?
 - Which translation do you think would be best for Bible Class?
 - Which translation do you think would be best for youth instruction?
 - Which translation is your personal favorite?
 - What is your opinion of using two translations (for example – an easier translation for Sunday School and Confirmation, a more liberal one for worship and maybe reference both for Bible Class)?
- Of the few that responded, the NKJV and the AAT came out clearly on top almost equally- NKJV edged out the AAT for worship, and the AAT was preferred over NKJV for Youth instruction. They were both tied for Bible Class. Most of those who responded said that they would be fine with whatever translation we pick (including the others), and that they enjoy reading the different translations. Many liked the simplicity of the AAT while others found it too simple. Many liked the majestic literary sound of the NKJV (reminding them of the KJV)

while others found it the most difficult version to understand. Most thought that there would be no problem using both.

- Depending with what happens at Synod Convention, our next step is to start using one of the versions for confirmation/Sunday School (my suggestion is the AAT). I suggest that we start alternating versions for worship until the next Voter's Meeting. I would suggest that we continue to use the NIV'84 for most Bible Class and Adult Instruction until we settle on the version(s) we want to use and start purchasing copies for the Church Library.
Question: "Why is this an issue now?" It was an issue back in the 40's and 50's. We needed a translation to instruct catechism. There have been a lot of translations. Lots of discussion.

2. Elders

- Elders in Action: contacted a previous member and brought him back in.
- "Forward in Christ" to be shared. If you contact members, let Elders know who they are.
- 2015 Anniversary coming up. Lot of smaller booklets for past dedications. We need to compile something for the upcoming event.
- If you have a question or concern about the Church, contact an Elder.
- AV Committee has Skype on line. This is a tool to contact the counselors. So far no one has requested counseling. AV Room is almost finished.

3. Youth Christian Education

VBS

- The date is set for Aug. 12-16th. 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.
- Laura and Jill are working on a video to show to the congregation before to see what fun events they will be doing. They also will be filming VBS this year to show after.
- We had a float in the Trout Fest Parade this year again. We used my boat with some signs we had made up at Office Max. We also handed out close to 1000 handouts, with info and registrations on them. Last year we received a good turn-out due to the parade.
- We also will be in the Shanty Days Parade on Aug. 11th the day before to help gather people from Algoma using the same float.
- I picked up a generic VBS banner that we can use year after year. We will just need to change the dates and times if needed.

St. Paul's

- We placed a banner from St. Paul's in the front of our school about registration.
- We are also looking into the cost of a van to run the kids to Algoma. This is noted in the "Planned Giving." We could also use it for transporting shut-ins that don't care to drive.
- We want to install brackets on the side of the school to post signs and banners.

4. Property

- A concrete approach was installed at the front entrance to the Church. Landscaping is expected to be completed this coming week by M&E Lawn and Landscape of Kewaunee. Other concrete repairs were to replace the driveway apron on the south parking lot and some of the broken sidewalk pieces were fixed at the west side of the property.
- Stained glass window repair has begun. First priority is given to the south side of the church building where the most deterioration is taking place. The glass appears in good shape. However, the decorative wood is rotting and needs to be replaced and repainted.
- A remedy was applied to fix the splitting of the wood veneer on the doors in the church. A scuff plate was attached to the doors needing attention, by Curt Gretz, Carpentry. As it turned out, the doors have a pleasing appearance that should extend the useful life of the door.
- The carpet installation is to take place upon completion of the concrete project.
- The elevators were inspected and are now certified.

- The new lawn mower is working great. Much to the delight of “Larry the Lawn Guy”(Ihlenfeldt).
- Your “hard working” Property Board is currently reviewing the Planned Giving and future project list. We are already considering projects for the next budget year. A hint involving the work will be the improvement of the restroom facilities adjacent to the Fellowship Hall, Pastor’s Office, and the Mother’s Room. We haven’t made any decisions about the school rest rooms at this time.

Question: “Railings?” We are undecided on how a railing will be installed. This should be looked at. The Property Board will investigate.

5. Adult Discipleship

- Audit Committee conducted an audit and found no discrepancies. Internal review makes no recommendations for procedures. Audit Report from Mr. Brian Dax to the President:
On June 27, 2013, the three active members of the Auditing Committee (Mark Chadoir officially resigned prior to the audit), conducted an audit with Treasurer, Jack Novak. We reviewed the account records, reconciliations, deposits, transfers and procedures used in the financial record-keeping of Immanuel’s finances. We compared Immanuel’s records against the bank’s records and found no discrepancies. We also reviewed the processes used in collection, depositing, check writing, transfers and reporting. An internal review was also completed, tracking monies from collections to deposits to transfers into appropriate accounts, and finally to check writing. All records through December 31, 2012 have been completely audited. At this time, the Auditing Committee makes no recommendations for any changes to the current procedures.
Also audited were the SCRIP Program (with Kristen Richard), ILSSA (with Rachel Christian) and YPS (also Rachel Christian). No discrepancies were found in any of these accounts. These records were also audited through December 31, 2012. The Auditing Committee makes no recommendations for any changes to these accounts.
Question: Was Ladies Aid audited? Glenn Brunner will ask Brian Dax if it was audited or if it should be audited.
- *Encourage and support planned giving.* The Planned Giving Gift Table has been updated. The line item for purchasing the hymnal supplement has been deleted because the Elders have purchased the electronic version. Repair of concrete sidewalks has been deleted; work is near completion. It is recommended that greater priority be placed on the purchase of a vehicle/bus for transporting our children to school. We have received a gift of \$500.00 for the church window repairs. A meeting of the Planned Giving Committee was held on 23 July. We are planning on conducting another Planned Giving/Stewardship Sunday service sometime next spring. We are pleased to hear that some people have shown an interest in estate planning as a result of the information put out when we had Pastor Kleist visit in March. Next month we will have completed one full year of the alms box program. Next month is dedicated to ministerial education.
- *Improve and cultivate the use of our church library.* We have produced a library index (adult reading section) and new checkout forms. New books: “The Foolishness of God”, by Siegbert W. Becker; “When Christ Walked Among Us”, by James F. Pope; additional books have been donated: “Triumph at the Cross”, by Harold L. Senkbeil and “Are You Ready”, by Lyle Albrecht. I have made a phone call and sent an email to points of contact associated with Kewaunee Power Station regarding furniture they may have available following their closure but their response was no furniture was available at this time.
- *Encourage participation in Bible Study and raise awareness of stewardship principles.* Provided a devotional on the Lord’s Prayer for the latest newsletter. The board is working on a devotion related to stewardship for the next newsletter. The board discussed with Pastor future Sunday Bible studies; which will concentrate on the sermon/Scripture readings from that Sunday service. The board recommends we do this. I will participate in an online Internet Bible study that starts in September. This study is offered by the WELS under their Interactive Faith Bible study series (4

Sept – 9 Oct, Wed evenings, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.). The WELS offers Bible studies on the website, including audio versions for those who may be visually impaired.

- *Open new lines of communication with various congregational groups to provide mutual support and encourage discipleship.* It is our hope that as we progress through the year we will find opportunities to provide mutual support and expand further our already wonderful Christian family relationships.
- *Find more ways to encourage our youth to participate in various church activities.* We have started a program to encourage our youth to get involved. We hope to get some participation in this. We need the congregation to encourage our youth to pick up a form and participate.
- *Investigate and encourage new opportunities for women's discipleship.* Jill Belter and Laura Sullivan attended the Women's Leadership Conference held this month. They felt the conference was rewarding. We hope to see more of the women in our congregation participate in other opportunities as they arise.
- As a MLHS Delegate, the Sweet Corn Program is starting. 17AUG is the pick date. Harold Shultz donates the corn. Looking for help.

6. Evangelism

- Purchasing Bibles: Lakeshore Vision Center and Mark Letter both accept us leaving them with a Bible. The hotels in town already have bibles placed in their rooms.
- Creating Handouts: We took pictures of the Church and added them.
- Mass mailing Christmas Cards: We will contact the Pastor at St. Paul's to see what they paid for mailing cards. USPS will mail for \$0.33 per card. Vista Print can do everything for about \$1250, or \$0.57 per card.
- Follow up: Deb Reimer, a former member of the congregation was in Church a few times. A new visitor, Carl Pelnar also attended a service. Thank you cards being sent.

7. Committees

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. Already covered.

G. Recommendations of the Church Council and New Business

1. Approve plan to disestablish the Adult Discipleship Board. Motion: Approve plan to disestablish the Adult Discipleship Board. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.
2. Update Constitution and Bylaws to reflect actual duties.

Much discussion about Women's Leadership Conference. Jill Belter and Laura Sullivan discussed their experience during the two days of the conference. More opportunities than just Ladies Aid. Great conference, well worth it. Wonderful experience. Much discussion on expanding Little Lambs, Women's Bible Study.

H. Elections/Ratification of Appointments

None.

I. Adjournment with Prayer

Time 11:59 AM