

October Voters' Meeting Minutes

A. Meeting Call to Order / Roll Call. *(All voters sign in.)* Time 10:22 a.m.
22 members attending of which 16 are voting members.

Present (P) Absent (A) Excused (E)

P Pastor Sullivan
P Glenn Brunner (President)
P Paul Jerabek (Secretary)
P Dan Fager (Elders)
P Brian Dax (YCE)
P Greg Hlinak (Property)
A Lloyd Nimmer (Evangelism)
P Lou Richard (Evangelism)
P Jack Novak (Treasurer)

B. Opening Devotion/Prayer.

C. Reading of previous meeting minutes. Motion: To waive reading of the minutes and approve the previous voter's meeting minutes. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

D. Membership Changes.

1. Baptism: Levi Fenendael 18OCT2015
2. Release: Jared Christman
3. Transfer In: Janine Bowers and children
4. Members who have reached the age of 18: Dylan Pilgrim

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

E. Pastor / Board / Financial Reports.

1. Pastor

Membership

- Janine Bowers and her children would like to transfer in from Messiah. We have already received their letter of transfer.
- Levi Scott Fenendael was baptized on October 18 by Pastor Joel Sauer.
- Release: Jared Christman (by request)

Christian Education

- Vacation Bible School. Little more than 37 children consistently attended-a manageable amount for the volunteers we had. We received some new and reoccurring prospects. We were a little disorganized (some miscommunication), had trouble getting experienced volunteers to help.
- Sunday School
 - Started on Sunday 13SEP and was well attended by students and parents. Seems to be going well.
 - Revamped devotions are going well.
 - 3 parents have started staying for Bible class
 - Christmas service has been set. 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Confirmation
 - Started Wednesday, 9SEP. 5th and 6th grade enrollment was encouraged, but not made mandatory. Only 2 sixth graders opted out.
 - 5th grade: Abigail Cullen, Cal Ihlenfeldt, Makayla Stauber
 - 6th grade: Toni Bortolini, Benjamin Dorner, Aidan Gretz
 - 7th grade: Emma Ihlenfeldt, Bradley Vandermause, Miranda Vandertie, Justin Zellner
 - 8th grade: Dylan Belter, Tanor Bortolini, Dana Richard, Michael Stauber
 - A couple of non-member parents are expressing interest in an adult Catechism class.

- Parents have agreed to help monitor the class.
- A couple of students may need extra tutoring.
- Bible classes
- Sunday before Church: Started 20SEP, following the Sunday School Curriculum.
- Tuesday Bible Class – We started a study on the book of Acts. 8 are in attendance.
- Sunday after Church- TBA. I would like to present the course “My Brother’s Keeper”, which the Elders and Council went through as a Saturday Seminar..
- Bible Information Class
- BIC with Elena moved to Tuesdays – although we haven’t had a Tuesday class yet.
- I have not scheduled a new BIC class (which I need to do soon, since there are people who expressed definite interest.

Nursing Home

- Kewaunee Care Center attendance is around 10-15. We have 3 members in the nursing home: Wenzel Hrabik, Dorothy Salzseider and Myrtle Luedtke. We meet on Monday at 10:00 a.m.
- Pastor Saatkamp conducts services on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. This will change if he accepts his call to Michigan

Hospitalized

- Lyle Siegmund (heart surgery) - SEP
- Alvina Bargmann (mini strokes?) – SEP
- Lyle Siegmund (heart attack) – Current
- Ron Stangel (severe flu symptoms) - Current

Miscellaneous

- WELS Christian songwriter and singer Stephen Bautista is offering to hold a sacred concert for us in November/December. Much discussion. Motion: If he can do a November, then “Yes”, otherwise “No”. MM and 2nd. Motion carried.

Upcoming Events

- October 27-28 – District Pastor’s conference in Wisconsin Dells.
- November 1 – Reformation and Time and Talent event.
- November 8 – MLHS choir singing.
- November 10 – Circuit Meeting (Kewaunee)
- Suggested 15th for Bautista Concert.
- November 26 – Thanksgiving

2. Elders

150th Anniversary report – Koine Concert and Picnic was a big success. There was about 80 people at the service and another 50 people came later for the picnic and concert. The recent Anniversary Sunday in October with the Sauer family doing the service was well attended, there was 270 in church and 150 attended the potluck that followed. A big thank you goes out to all the many that helped in planning and helping to make these 150th observances a success. We must now try to finish a booklet documenting the events and some of our church’s history for posterity.

Another social activity that happened this summer was the bus trip to the WELS night to the Brewer game. 50 people went on the bus, including members from neighboring congregations. Everyone enjoyed a tailgate lunch and fun time, although it was hot at the game. We will probably do this again.

The Organ Repair Project was finished in time for all our events, and paid for, but as the sign in the back of church emphasizes, we need a few more funds to pay off the loan secured to pay the bill. Then there is a plan to complete a final upgrade of the instrument as funds become available.

The Elders and Church Council members had a study in a program called “My Brother’s Keeper” this past Saturday. It was a Biblical study in why we continue to encourage fellow Christians to stay faithful to the church. Absent members are an ongoing concern and focus for our Elders group.

Pastor was having Bible Class in church using the screen and projection technology, and covering the same lesson as the Sunday School. People arriving for church can see what the Bible Studies are about, and maybe more members will come earlier and take in the whole discussion. While it may resemble a comic book format, it is a good media to present to the children to teach the lesson.

Our Technology Committee continues to enhance our services with projections, and providing copies of service DVD’s that can be shared with family and friends. Please let these people know you appreciate their efforts, and share any comments you may have or ideas on how this is all working.

The year is coming to a close and it’s time for elections, budget planning, and goals or task planning for 2016. If you have ideas or can help by serving on a position in your church – our church, please talk to an Elder.

3. YCE

Minimal activity this quarter due to conflicts in schedules.

Full agenda for this Thursday, back in action.

4. Property

Projects: Your hard working Property Board has identified nine projects that will be attempted this upcoming year. Those projects are listed below in priority order:

1. Church Pipe Organ: Finish the organ work. Additional repair to the musical instrument is needed after the tuning project completed recently. It was identified by Jack Breedis, who tuned the organ, that water damage ruined a set of oboe pipes and a set of trumpet pipes. This damage made them inoperable and they need to be replaced at a cost of about \$10,000. We are determined to have the organ at 100% operational. This budgeted line item will be identified in the project outlay of the Property Board Budget.
2. Stained Glass Window: Repair of the Altar Window and the West Side Organ Loft Window is urgently needed. Inspection, proper repairs applied, and the woodwork are in need of paint. Chances are that dry rot may be seated in the woodwork and some boards need replacement. The windows are huge and may be difficult to reach, where a professional company, with the proper sized equipment, will be necessary.
3. Church Roof: We cannot forget about the roof of the church. Inspection and necessary work will be required to keep the roof water tight. We want to avoid any water damage from staining the interior plaster walls such as what happened a few years ago.
4. Parsonage: We need to keep our attention on the moisture problem within the parsonage. Curt Gretz was working on the issue as the problem may be connected with air leakage or improper ventilation involving some of the windows.
5. Parking Lot: The Family Life Center (FLC) parking lot is in need of surface repair. A price quote of \$3,800 was received that includes crack repair, sealing, and painting lines.
6. Pastor’s Office: A number of improvements could be cast upon the Pastor’s Office as the restroom needs a new toilet and sink that should be replaced. One of the windows needed to be replaced with a new version, or at least a storm window to help keep the draft off of Pastor’s back while he is seated at his desk during the winter months. It was talked about that an additional counter with faucet and sink could be installed to assist the Ladies Aid Group with their duties of altar preparation.

7. Ceiling Fan: The church ceiling fan replacement is still tabled and undecided. The fan replacement will require specialized equipment to be brought inside the church to get to where the work needs to be done. It is estimated that this will not be an easy project.
8. Floor Tiles: The FLC gym entrance floor tiling is coming loose, causing a tripping hazard. This condition only happens during the winter months as the cold ground must affect the square tile causing the tile corners to curl upward. It is obvious the tile flooring is not the right type of installation and another form of flooring should be used. Investigation continues.
9. Trees: The maple trees along the east property line of the parsonage still need attention. The tree trunks are cracking and splitting causing them to become weak, increasing the chance of falling onto nearby buildings or upon someone. However, the trees serve as shade comfort to the parsonage. The trees support plenty of wildlife and do all the natural things nature provides. It is with reluctance that the trees be cut down.

Question: "What is the status of the Hand Rail Project?" Answer: "Curt Gretz will provide information to the board."

5. Evangelism

- Issues with schedules getting the board together.
- Christmas Cards. Positive feedback from all.
- Mary videos – purchasing 100 for guests and non-members. Christmas message.
- Airtime for radio. Pastor's Christmas message. Comment: "It would be nice if we knew when they broadcast those messages."
- Next meeting, working on budget and planning Easter.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Anniversary- covered.
- b. Audio/Visual – no report.

7. Treasurer's Report

Reviewed Treasurer's Report. Question: "Is there a recommendation for a budget for next year?" Answer: "It will be very similar to the 2014 budget, \$246,000 roughly."

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

F. Unfinished Business.

1. Church Front Entrance Sidewalk Railings. Covered. Still being worked.
2. Guest Pastor / Visitation Ministry. No significant changes since last Voter's Meeting. Training session on Saturday 24OCT. Getting more guest pastors to free up our Pastor's time. Trying to get visitation up and working.

G. Recommendations of the Church Council and New Business.

1. Review/Approve Planned Giving Table. Done. See attached Planned Giving Table below.
2. 2016 Budget is being developed. Input/questions from voters? 1 student for sure, probably 2 students going to MLHS next year. No policy in place for funding. Costs about \$5500/year to attend MLHS.
Consider goals for 2016. Congregational goals recommended by President Brunner: "Pay off loans and organ repairs."
3.
Pastor: "Mary videos, "My Son, My Savior", should play during service?" Comment: "As a Bible Class after Service."
Comment: "Could the Young Peoples Society help get the elderly to service?" Answer: "YCE will look into this."

H. Elections/Ratification of Appointments. Nomination Committee is actively working. Nomination Committee Meeting on 29OCT.

I. Adjournment with Prayer. Time 11:25 a.m.

10/24/2015

PLANNED GIVING - CONGREGATION CURRENT NEEDS / DESIRES

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	EST COST \$	STATUS \$
AUDIO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT	Replace existing sound system and begin the process of installing video projection and recording equipment.	15,000	0.00
CHURCH LIBRARY	Carpet the Church Library/ Classroom	1,000	0.00
REFERENCE BIBLES	To be used in Sunday School, Bible Class, Church Library.	Note 2	0.00
PASSENGER VAN	Purchase a passenger van for transporting students attending our elementary school in Algoma or MLHS.	20,000	0.00
CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT FUND		Note 3	
BELL TOWER	Replace bell supports and operating system.	Note 1	0.00
BOILER ROOM	Remove old boilers and piping. Clean/Repurpose the room.	Note 1	0.00
FELLOWSHIP HALL	Enclose piping to improve overall appearance.	Note 1	0.00
ORGAN REPAIRS	Conduct repairs and consider additional upgrades to commemorate our 150th anniversary.	13,000 40,000	0.00
STAINED GLASS WINDOWS	Inspect and repair window frames and glass.	10,000	0.00

BOLD = HIGH PRIORITY

Notes

1. Not priced out yet, but contributions will be tracked and held in that category until sufficient funds exist to purchase/repair.
2. \$10 to \$20 per Bible.