

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – Immanuel Lutheran Church
October 2, 2017

In attendance at the meeting were: Robert Berkelman, Mitch Cottrell, Nidge Cottrell, J.D. Cox, Alan Elsing, Pastor Goddard, Pastor Kamprath, Pastor Roedemeier, Christy Rush, Suzan Van de Mark, Jana Wassilak, Jim Wassilak, and Bill Wuenscher.

Action Items

- A motion was made by Bill Wuenscher and seconded by Pastor Goddard to hold a door offering on Sunday, October 22nd, with the proceeds going to Holy Cross Lutheran Church—Houston, TX for their rebuilding efforts after the recent hurricane. Motion carried.
 - A motion was made by Pastor Goddard and seconded by Nidge Cottrell to move forward to pick up an additional two months of payment for the Lutheran Hour broadcast on a local radio station, to then equal Immanuel supporting 50% of the yearly cost. Funds to come from the Lutheran Hour Special Fund. Motion carried.
 - A motion was made by Bill Wuenscher and seconded by Pastor Goddard to nominate Pastor Kamprath for Circuit Visitor. Motion carried.
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The meeting was called to order by President Mitch Cottrell. The devotion was given by Christy Rush. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as distributed via email.

President – Mitch Cottrell

The minutes from the previous Council meeting were distributed to the congregation. Everyone agrees the process went well. It was requested that Council members wait to distribute the minutes until all corrections are made and the final version is ready to be given to the congregation.

Vice President – Alan Elsing

No report

Secretary – Jana Goddard

No report

Treasurer – Jim Wassilak

As of September 30, 2017, the General Operating Account trial balance was negative \$17,341.94; the Memorials & Special Funds Account balance was \$188,010.68; the SCRIP account balance was \$4,739.82; the Thrivent account balance was \$3,524.78 and the REACH Checking/Direct Deposit account was \$500.00.

Tithes & Offerings for the fiscal year were \$62,206.02; ILS revenue for the same period was \$9,034.21 and REACH income was \$43,758.05.

The tuckpointing project has a balance of \$50,194.33, and the HVAC project balance is \$835.00.

The PCB line of credit (LOC) balance was reduced by \$896.22 and the LCEF mortgage balance was reduced by \$150.00 during the month of September.

Suzan reported there are still issues with the new system that we are trying to work out. The semi-monthly payroll is going more quickly, though.

Financial Secretary – Christy Rush

No report

Pastor's Report – Pastor Roedemeier

The attendance for church has climbed to an average of 169 per service (over a four week average), with Sunday Bible Class holding steady at 54 per Sunday. We have moved our time from 10:15 to 11:00 to the new time of 10:30 to 11:15 for Bible Class on Sunday morning. This allows for the increased time required for our service, which now includes communion and our children's message every Sunday. There have not been any complaints voiced about the change in Bible Class times. It has been decided that Bible Class will begin to use the readings for the week as the basis of the adult Bible Study.

Our shut-in visitations remain at nine of our members, but we had an increased number of hospital visits with our members over the past two weeks. These included visits to Mary Staat, Don Olds, Earl Huebner and Don Swetnam.

Our Confirmation class continues with our six participants, and our new Lutheranism 101 adult class now has six members, with an additional person signed up to begin attending.

We have made contact with the Lamb of God Church through the efforts of Bill Wuenscher with Tom Eldridge, who is the Director of the Church. Tom has been teaching English to the Chinese students by teaching the Book of Genesis. He would like some help with conversing with them in Chinese also. We have made contact with a retired Pastor from the Seminary by the name of Henry Rolwold who teaches Chinese and has volunteered to preach the Word to the 20 to 25 Chinese students at the church here in Rolla.

We have put in place our advisory team for the STEAM initiative in our preschool. The members of the team are John Petrikovitsch, Ken Haas, Mike Van de Mark, Tom Evers, Sue Burgdorf, Brook Boen, and Mitch Cottrell. The goal is to develop a curriculum which can be used in the educational development of our preschool students.

Board of Elders – J.D. Cox

At the last Board of Elders meeting, the Elders discussed the following:

- The BOE reviewed the new single service Usher Duties List. The updated list of procedures for the ushers can be found in the Church Secretary's office.
- A letter has been mailed today to the local inactive members. We hope to encourage some of them to come back to church.
- The BOE approved a motion to begin Bible Study at 10:30 and end at 11:15.

- The BOE determined it would be helpful for our visitors if a printed Order of Services (without hymn numbers) was available each Sunday. Greeters and Ushers will be informed to ask visitors if they would like one. These were available beginning this past Sunday.
- Discussed the present REACH Information Packet and working with and supporting the Board of Christian Education (BOCE) as they revise it. The emphasis will be on simplifying the programs provided, payment amounts and structure, and making tracking payments simpler. Nidge stated the BOCE is already working on updating the fee schedule, etc. JD suggested that the BOE could work with the BOCE.

Board of Christian Education (BOCE) – Nidge Cottrell / REACH – Brook Boen

REACH currently has 52 students. There are 37 children in the daycare (infant through age three) and 15 in the Preschool program. We have four infants, one is part-time. We have ten one-year-olds, four are part-time. We have eight non-potty training two-year-olds, four are part-time. We have nine potty training two-year-olds, two are part-time. We have six three-year-olds, two are part-time. We have 15 in Pre-K, eight are part-time. We have 11 after-school care kids.

We would like to put more focus and effort into creating a quality toddler/preschool center and hopefully grow from there. We feel it would benefit us to simplify and downsize. A first step would be to eliminate part-time fees and drop-ins in our downstairs classrooms, which includes all children who are not currently potty trained.

BOCE met last Monday and voted to change the fee schedule to only include full-time rates. The fee for non-potty trained would be \$120 per week, and potty trained children would be \$100 per week. The hope is that this will simplify the billing process and will allow teachers more consistency, so they are better able to plan lessons and activities.

Eventually, we would like to have one weekly/monthly theme that all of the teachers could use to create their lessons. Hopefully this would help unite the classes and improve communication if everyone is working on a similar unit. The idea is to become more of a learning center and less of a daycare.

The before/after school care fees will also change to a set rate of \$45 per week. Letters will be sent home with each child, explaining the changes in fees and the reasons for these changes. These letters will be sent home around mid-November, which will allow the parents to adjust and/or make decisions before the changes take effect on January 2, 2018.

The STEAM board has met. It seems the biggest obstacle will be to find a complete curriculum for Pre-K. Several ideas were presented. One was to create a STEAM room, where all of the equipment would be kept and where the children would work on their projects. This would be a great asset to show off to parents, so they can actually visualize us as a STEAM school, setting us apart from other preschools.

Nidge contacted Alan Freeman, the Missouri District Schools coordinator. He was able to email a number of resources for us to explore. Additionally, he is working with Lee Wagoner of Immanuel Lutheran School-St. Charles, MO to see if we can share their Pre-K curriculum.

We are still in the process of working on sending out weekly statements to parents. An after-school care letter outlining billing procedures and current bills started going home with students today.

Pumpkin Palooza was held this past Sunday. Most of the children who participated were the Sunday School children. The children that attended had a lot of fun. Brook is getting feedback from the REACH staff and families of the children that they have their own home churches already, which is why they don't come to events on Sunday mornings. Brook would like to find a day/time that works for the majority of families and schedule an event to see if that increases the participation.

The Zone fundraiser was held on September 14th. Participation was low, with only 26 children (21 of whom were from a playgroup, not REACH children). The receipts from the event totaled \$104.

Brook will be out of the office from October 15th through November 7th. She will try to handle issues over the phone when possible. Sue Burgdorf will handle any issues that need immediate attention, give tours of the facility, and meet with the parents as needed. Anna will take care of scheduling and combing classes, if needed.

JD asked if we need to revise Sue Burgdorf's call since there are no school-aged children enrolled. Nidge stated the BOCE have already agreed to allow her to continue on a normal "school" schedule, in which she works ten months out of the year. If this were to change, we may need to address the issue.

Robert reported the Sunday School is averaging seven children weekly, which is an increase.

Board of Missions –Bill Wuenschel

The Mission Board discussed many ideas at their recent meetings:

- Lamb of God Church update: Dr. Henry Rolwold may be able to be the Chinese minister. Mr. Tom Eldridge is the organizer and leader of the church.
- The visitor program is progressing. Eight cups have been given to visitors so far.
- The men's bathroom in the church basement needs to be remodeled. The Trustees will look to see what can be done to improve it. It was suggested that this could be a request for an Endowment Fund grant.
- The new church website is up and running. Joshua Baumer and Robert Berkelman are working to keep the site updated. More content will need to be added.
- Informational folders about the church have been printed and placed on the entrance table.
- The bike rack is painted and ready for use.
- We are working with the KA fraternity as a possible mission project. Pastors Kamprath and Roedemeier are working together with the Director of Religious Affairs at KA (who happens to be Lutheran).
- The electronic sign is working. We are waiting for the Trustees to find a place to hang it.
- Pastor Kettner of Holly Cross Lutheran Church in Houston, MO would like us to help collect funds for Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Houston, TX for rebuilding efforts after the recent hurricane. The Mission Board would like to have a door offering one Sunday in October.
 - A motion was made by Bill Wuenschel and seconded by Pastor Goddard to hold a door offering on Sunday, October 22nd, with the proceeds going to Holy Cross Lutheran Church—Houston, TX for their rebuilding efforts after the recent hurricane. Motion carried.
- We have applied for an action team grant from Thrivent for the birthday cards project.

Campus Ministry – Pastor Kamprath

- The Campus Bible Class is meeting every Thursday in the church's Fellowship Hall, with an average of 23 students in attendance.
- One student is currently living in the Campus House. There is a problem finding tenants, as the university rules for living off-campus are fairly strict.
- The Infinite Tacos event will be held in the school cafeteria on October 15th from noon until 6p. They will be selling tickets at church
- A hayride may be planned for October 29th. Details are still being discussed.
- We are working to set up the Sunday night dinners for the students again.

Fellowship Committee

The church picnic was attended by 75 people. With the rain that day, this was considered a successful event. The next event will be the Thanksgiving Dinner.

Youth Coordinator

There are three TVs in the Youth Room. Bill found that the biggest TV is not very bright and is probably too old to fix. We may look at getting rid of it to make more space in the Youth Room. The TV on the cart works great, though.

Board of Stewardship – Robert Berkelman

No report.

Board of Trustees – Pastor Goddard

Due to lack of a quorum, no actions were taken at the last meeting. Following are topics of discussions and additional areas needing attention:

- The phone system problems at school appear to have been fixed. The staff will be checking the phones out to make sure things are working well.
 - Mitch has instructions for call forwarding of the school phone system. He will give this information to the BOCE.
- For lack of volunteers, the last scheduled work day at school did not happen.
- Jack Geiger of Karr Tuckpointing has said that we are at the top of their list. They should be getting to us before the end of the year. He hopes to be here fairly soon and promises to keep us updated.
 - The bushes around the church need to be trimmed prior to the tuckpointing to allow for easier access for the workers.
- The endowment fund paperwork for rekeying the buildings will be turned in this week.
- Locations for new security cameras in and around the school are being considered.
- Estimates on new inserts and letters for the church signs are coming in at roughly \$900. Miller Glass can construct new sign fronts for \$680.42 (before calculating the cost of locks). We are trying to contact the electricians to get estimates on running new electric lines to the signs. We are looking at using a white backboard with black lettering for the sign, as this will make it easier to see.

- Determining a location in the narthex for the electric sign, landscaping issues, and other items will be discussed at the next Trustees Meeting.

Call Committee – Mitch Cottrell

The call committee is finishing the work on the ministry description. Once completed, it will be sent to the Voters' Assembly for approval. JD feels we should give the congregation 2-3 weeks to review the finished document prior to approval at a Voters' meeting.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Lutheran Hour funds: It has been reported that we have been one of four churches to fund the broadcast of the Lutheran Hour on a local radio station. Two of the other churches are no longer supporting this broadcast. Redeemer would like to split this funding evenly. Suzan believes we are scheduled to pay \$450 twice each year (January/February and September/October).
 - A motion was made by Pastor Goddard and seconded by Nidge Cottrell to move forward to pick up an additional two months of payment for the Lutheran Hour broadcast on a local radio station, to then equal Immanuel supporting 50% of the yearly cost. Funds to come from the Lutheran Hour Special Fund. Motion carried.
 - Mitch will talk to Ron Fannin (the contact person at Redeemer). Jana Wassilak will post a notice in the bulletin, as we are currently below budget for this support.
- Our congregation must submit our nomination for the Circuit Visitor election before October 28th.
 - A motion was made by Bill Wuenscher and seconded by Pastor Goddard to nominate Pastor Kamprath for Circuit Visitor. Motion carried.
 - Mitch volunteered to be the lay person to attend the meeting in which the choice for Circuit Visitor will be decided. This meeting will occur on October 29th. The pastor chosen will have his name forwarded to District to be officially elected at the convention in the summer.
- The Nominating Committee has been activated. Election of offices/boards will be held at the Voters' meeting on November 12th.

Announcements

The next meeting of the Church Council is Monday, November 6th at 7pm. Suzan Van de Mark will give the devotion.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy Rush, Financial Secretary