

Church Council Minutes-Immanuel Lutheran church

April 11, 2017

In attendance: Pastor Paul Nelson, Pastor Susan Weaver, Beth Hansen, Bob Peterson, Mike Lindahl, Tony Szczepeniak, Pat Hammer, Scott Anderson, Cari Larsen, Jody Ebert, Martin Rathjen, Zack Hansen, Ruth Lunde, Christy Woll, Wendy Wurscher, Brent Apelt, Julie Tufford, Katie Thormodsgard, Jen Johnson

Devotions by Christy Woll

Faith story by Pat Hammer

March minutes approved with one deletion, motion by Tony, second by Christy Woll.

President's report: Beth reminded us that the council retreat is Saturday, April 29, 8 am -2:30 pm at Synod Offices. Paul and Beth are planning the retreat.

Vice President's and Long Range Planning report- Tony is meeting with Paul, plans are being made (two or three years out) to increase member engagement, vibrant and robust communication will increase connectivity.

Financial secretary – Bob Peterson reported that giving was off \$15,000 from March 2016, when Easter was in March. Attendance was down about 700. We hope to gain some ground in April.

Treasurer's report – Mike Lindahl- giving in March was short about \$15,000 after a good comeback in February. Our picture will be clearer after April, which should be good due to Easter and 5 Sundays. Pledging was up significantly but hasn't materialized yet.

Staff reports:

Martin Rathjen- Live streaming: our April live views so far total 249, FB views 1,249. All Easter Sunday sermons will be live-streamed. Worship will be simulcast to the Fellowship Hall and Luther Hall. Council members were urged to like and share Facebook posts as we feel moved. Luther's Way May content is due April 17. Sanctuary technology issues – lost connections have been covered under warranty with AVE.

Video Projects:

- **Best Retreat EVER!** - <https://youtu.be/WyP8G0jEQkA>
 - Peer Ministry trained Student Leader video, to be shown at the Peer Ministry Conference on April 29
- **Quilt Distribution in Tanzania:** <https://youtu.be/B-XNN2d2-r0> - to be shown Sunday, May 14 (Lutheran World Relief, Sunday).
- **Faure's Requiem:** <http://www.immanuel.us/music/concerts>
 - The best recorded audio that we have ever had, thanks to Gary, Clark,

Jackson (Clark's brother) and AVE's technical support.

- **Baptism videos:** providing baptism videos to baptism families. Example: <https://youtu.be/bq-nScySxww>
- **Youth Ministry End of year video** (working with Deb Lyngdal, Sienna Gambino and Lauren Stover) for video to be shown on May 10 (the last night of Confirmation).

Street signage is successful, anecdotally. Wiring has been buried to eliminate shorting out.

Stepping Stones for 1st, 5th, 6th grades will be celebrated.

Confirmation will involve 30 7th graders. Still need two adult guides and several student leaders.

Pastor Susan Weaver- noon Lenten services have attracted between 20-30 people each week. Wednesday programming will include two weeks of couples' check-up on April 19 and 26 featuring Karen Stevenson, plus reports on the Tanzania trip and Germany trip. SALT will sponsor a Learn and Grow Event on Thursday April 20 featuring Dirk Lange, professor at Luther Seminary, speaking about his part in the service celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Pastor Paul – Easter is coming...take note of our electronic sign with separate displays for each service. Stewardship is emphasizing the many ways our offering money is put to use. Council retreat will include Deb Stehlund from the synod. The retreat structure will include a session of SWOT – strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.

Committee reports

Youth- Jen Johnson- "cookies on a mission"-raised money for the mission trip. Easter breakfast is a fundraiser. Garage sale is May 6, will be a "no price" sale. Dropoffs for the sale begin 10:30 AM Sunday, April 30. HS Mission trip has 22 students signed up. Fleece blankets are being made for graduates. Senior Sunday is the first Sunday in June.

Fellowship - Wendy Wurscher -Wednesday evening meal had low numbers during spring break, something to keep in mind next year.

Worship, Music and Arts- Ruth announced that a choir for grades 7-12 is being discussed. Faure Requiem (last Sunday in March) was amazing with great attendance, an orchestra, and a choir of 55 from ILC. Can be watched on the website. Ruth urged us to listen respectfully during the prelude, use it as a time to prepare for worship.

Zack Hansen– called for faith-based art for the hallways. Tabled .

Adult Faith Formation- Jody Ebert –women’s ministry had a wine tasting, 40 attended. Pillowcase dresses for Africa will be sewn Saturday, April 22, 9 AM -1 PM. Women’s retreat had 19 in attendance. Cribbage tournament is April 22. Men’s golf league is planned for this summer, also two softball teams. The library is being weeded. Looking for new blood for this committee.

Children’s Ministry- Katie Thormodsgard announced that 25 kids going to Camp Wapo. Tie-dye party is planned for May 17. Only three weeks of Sunday school are left after Easter. Chicken change-God squad kids are bringing in “change for chickens” for 3rd world countries. Chicken suits will be worn when monetary goals are reached (Paul-\$3,000 Martin- \$2,000 Cindy- \$1,000). Vacation Bible School is July 17-20.

Social Ministry- Cari Larsen reported that Southwest grief coalition started last night at St. Andrew, through May 22. Families Moving Forward is in residence this week.

Properties- Scott Anderson –Spring cleanup is set for Saturday, May 13. LED lighting will be installed in the parking lot and office. Parking lot needs to be restriped, will get bids. The roof needs to be replaced, cost is upwards of \$600,000.

Evangelism- Julie Tufford proposed that we make Rally Sunday (September 9) a weekend event, looking at another event to get more use out of the tent. Perhaps bingo??? Food trucks??? Valuable prizes? Celebrity callers?

Old business-Prop fundraising during 4th of July-everyone parks here-donate a food item or cash for PROP. This was Zack’s idea-he’s running with it with council approval.

New business – faith-based artwork for our hallways. Zack will work with Ruth.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Pat Hammer, council secretary