

April 2018 Church Council Minutes
Immanuel Lutheran Church
April 10, 2018

Members present: Beth Hansen, Pastor Paul Nelson, Pat Hammer, Bob Peterson, Tami Ehlers, Pastor Angela Fairbanks Jacobson, Scott Anderson, Jackie Getchius, Kristina Heinzen, Anne Walbrun, Martin Rathjen, Cari Larsen, Zack Hansen, Wendy Wurscher, Katie Thormodsgard, Ben Orton, Jennifer Johnson, Ruth Lunde

Bob Peterson gave devotions.

Katie Thormodsgard related her Faith Story.

Secretary's report: Pat Hammer distributed March's minutes. Bob moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Katie, passed.

President's report: Beth will make an announcement about the change in Minister of Music, Gary Thrasher will make the announcement to the choir.

Financial secretary: March's attendance was lower than 2017's by approximately 400. Giving was \$15,000 higher than 2017's. Two more counters have been trained.

Treasurer's report: Financial summary showed the giving for March slightly behind budget, expenses were over budget due to timing and higher than budgeted utilities. The Opening Doors tracking report showed us completing about 2/3 of our drive.

Bob asked what the GivePlus usage rate is in our congregation. Of the \$90,000 given last month, \$39,000 was electronic. Number of households who have set up recurring giving would be the goal piece of information. Members who wish to opt out of envelopes should contact Tammy or MaryKay. Martin will include this in the e-blast.

Staff reports:

Tammy reported our first online donation on Easter Sunday (live stream feed has a donation option). Like and share!

Martin Rathjen sent out the first Faithbit via e-mail. He encouraged us to write our own Faithbit, 250 words, short and concise. Thanks to Todd Monge for creating the design.

Two 15-year-old girls, new to church, will participate in a condensed confirmation experience with an adult mentor.

Working on forming small groups in the 6th grade class, a smaller class this year.

19 climbers have committed for Kilimanjaro, 17 confirmed for the Taste of Tanzania, July 1 is the cutoff for commitment.

30 are signed up for the Bighorns trip this summer.

Angela will have minor foot surgery on Monday; she will be gone for a couple of weeks and so has Wednesday nights covered. She shared a quote from Canoeing in the Mountains: "Adaptive leadership is disturbing your people at a rate they can handle." Favorite acronym: PZD, Productive Zone of Disequilibrium.

Paul announced that council retreat will be held at PROP Headquarters on April 28 at 8:30 AM.

Program staff met today, recapped Lent and Easter, which went very well, even with four spring breaks concurring in this area.

Contemporary worship is under review, there is a group working on changes/improvements to this service.

Christmas Eve worship-Due to the popularity of the morning children's service, we will add a 10:30 AM service. Attempting to spread the 3:30 worshippers (by far the largest Christmas Eve service) by having 2:30, 4:00 and 5:30 services. The evening service will be at 10:00 PM.

Long Range Planning is meeting and they encourage the council to be guided by our "Called to care, sent to serve" mission. Our guiding values are: loving God and one another, intentional faith development, active service in the community, and practicing transformative generosity.

Committee reports:

Properties (Scott) will meet next week, spring cleanup on May 12 with ceiling tile replacement.

Children's Ministry (Jackie and Katie) will meet next week, researching camping and talking about items for their wish list. VBS begins July 16. There are four Sundays left of Sunday School.

Middle School (Kristina Heinzen) Easter Continental Breakfast served 158 people, made \$650.00. Low numbers probably reflect area spring breaks. Garage sale is May 5, will do free offering instead of pricing everything since that worked so well last year.

Worship Music and Arts (Ruth) the contemporary service is being revamped. Many musical groups enhanced the Holy Week and Easter worship experience.

Evangelism (Anne Walbrun) asked for a couple of awnings for the bingo event (to come out of Memorials). Two food trucks confirmed for the bingo event. MaryKay Copp and Carla Beach will work on Tables of 8 this summer.

Social Ministry (Cari Larsen) Sheridan's Story, a program that distributes food to kids with food insecurity, began last week, distributing weekend food to 5 kids at Prairie View. Families Moving Forward will be here April 15-22. Help for this week is still needed.

Senior High (Jen Johnson) Kids who are not student leaders will meet on Wednesday nights next fall from 6:15-7:45 and be invited to help with service projects.

Stewardship (Ben Orton) is formulating a Stewardship information packet, which will highlight the many ways Immanuel is committed to caring for and serving people within and outside of our building.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Pat Hammer, Council Secretary