

# **Concordia Lutheran Church**

## **Voter's Meeting**

### **January 17, 2021**

President Kenn Pettit called the Voter's meeting of Concordia Lutheran Church to order at 10:33 a.m. with 18 members in attendance.

Pastor Brown opened with prayer.

#### **Agenda Addition:**

Motion Tania Johnson to add to new business, the need to purchase a new computer for the church secretary. Second Lu Anne Reifschneider. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lu Anne Reifschneider to approve minutes of the December 15, 2019 Voter's Meeting. Second Laura Furne. Motion carried.

#### **Correspondence:**

The following correspondence has been received for the period of January thru December 2020.

- **Letter of Thanks received for 2019 Lenten Charities and Donations**

Charities listed below received \$100.00 each:

- American Bible Society
- Armed Forces Commission
- Bethesda Lutheran Home
- Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
- Lutheran Deaconess Association

Charities listed below received \$389.27 each:

- Lutherans for Life
- Lutheran Hour Ministries
- Vinton Lutheran Home
- Willis Dady Homeless Shelter Services
- Family Promise of Linn County
- Linn Community Food Bank
- Lutheran World Relief – Bahamas/Hurricane Dorian

Thank you from LCMS and Mission Central for our monetary support in the amount of \$2,867.02 for Rev. James & Angela Sharp

Thank you from the Cedar Rapids Police Department for our gift of \$456.12 to the Cedar Rapids Police Protective Charity. A charity that supports children in our community.

Thank you from Shoes that Fit for our support.

Thank you from the Salvation Army for our vegetable donation.

Thank you from Monte and Darla Lehmkuhl for the Christmas cards and holiday greetings.

Thank you from Faith Comes By Hearing (Military Biblesticks) for our donation of \$1,650.00

- **Letter of Thanks received for 2020 Lenten Charities and Donations**

Charities listed below received \$100.00 each:

- Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

Charities listed below received \$178.75 each:

- Lutheran Hour Ministries
- Vinton Lutheran Home
- Willis Dady Homeless Shelter Services

Thank you from LCMS and Mission Central for our monetary support in the amount of \$2,531.00 for Rev. James & Angela Sharp

### **Pastor's Report**

Since my last report to the Voters, I have been involved in the typical aspects of ministry at Concordia – as they are taking place during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

I have been delivering sermon and bulletins weekly along with video saved to USB to be played in portable DVD players now for several months – this will continue, most likely, on a regular basis to several of our shut ins. If you know others that need or would want, please let me know so we can coordinate.

We continue to watch and deliberate how best to serve the congregation through services and streaming services. Sometimes people online commenting on the service cutting in and out – I think we were just having internet issues here and we will continue to monitor it. BUT – when there is an issue here and there are people in worship – I cannot stop the service and try to correct an issue. There is no way I can do that. If there is someone here running the camera – THEY might be able to do that but it's possible there is still no solution without just stopping and restarting everything and even then it may not be better. I'm doing the very best that I can with what is here and the setup we have.

Confirmation – STEPP Up – Youth Group – All on hold until in January at this point. Will be reevaluated on the 5<sup>th</sup> and that decision will be shared at the voter's meeting.

Services for December 27 and January 3 will be prerecorded on December 15<sup>th</sup> – They will be posted just like they were when I was out for surgery.

Change to Christmas Eve Service times – changed to 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. both with communion. Communion will be distributed in the individual peel off type communion along with bulletins etc. The Sanctuary was wiped down between services and after the 7:00 pm service to prepare for

Christmas Day service at 9:30 am. We are evaluating Lenten Services and Easter Services and how to better handle them.

There is a proposal making the rounds in SYNOD to delay the 2022 Convention to 2023 – allowing districts to reschedule their conventions that were to be held in 2021 until the following year due to the possibility of COVID – I will forward all the documents to you all in email.

Thank you for your continued support of the church and ministries here. This year has not been an easy one at all. Navigating COVID and all that means for ministry here over the last 10 months has been difficult at best. Your continued support and prayers are GREATLY appreciated.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Total Receipts YTD:	as reported
Total Disbursements YTD:	as reported
Total Cash & Equiv. YTD:	as reported

### **Elders' Report**

#### **January 2020**

##### **Old Business:**

- Usher assignments have been posted in the narthex.

##### **New Business:**

- Cottage lists were assigned and distributed.
- Cottage members should be contacted at least once during the year.
- Discussed individual access and procedures for review of security camera footage.

##### **Around the Table** (Discussion of important topics from each Elder):

- Pastor Brown:
  - Update on the roof leak at the parsonage. All church properties will also be appraised for possible roof replacement by Blackhawk Roofing. If replacement is necessary and covered through insurance, they will rebate the deductible as a donation to the church.
- John Hohnstein:
  - Recommended motion for April Voter's meeting to use Thrivent Choice Dollars exclusively to reduce church debt principal. Other allocations for these funds may be allowed by special voters meeting if necessary.

## **February 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- Elder calls to cottages are ongoing.

### **New Business:**

- Sign cottage letters for Kathy to mail if not already complete.
- Discussion of other special types of services similar to contemporary services

### **Around the Table** (Discussion of important topics from each Elder):

- Pastor Brown:
  - Update on the roof leak at the parsonage and repairs to the rental, parsonage, and church roofs.

## **March 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- Elder calls to cottages are ongoing.

### **New Business:** None Scheduled

### **Around the Table** (Discussion of important topics from each Elder):

- Pastor Brown:
  - Update on the roof leak at the parsonage and repairs to the rental, parsonage, and church roofs. All replacement costs will be covered through insurance.
- Fred Mittan:
  - Additional inquiry on possible Audio/Video additions to the sanctuary.

## **April 2020**

Did not meet because of Covid-19

## **May 2020**

Did not meet because of Covid-19

## **June 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- Roof replacements are complete, and some flashing is still waiting to be installed.
- Bats continue to be a problem even after the roof repairs. Once the flashing is installed, we will reevaluate and take further action if necessary.

### **New Business:**

- Reopening for normal Sunday services
  - We have a checklist of recommended actions for opening that will likely need to be shared between the Board of Elders and church Trustees.
  - Streaming will continue after the resumption of normal Sunday services.

- We will meet each Tuesday to discuss progress and plan for a reopening to ensure that congregants are as safe as possible during services.
- DVD Players – Ten DVD players have been purchased to allow those without PC or internet access to view our Sunday services. The services can be written to a DVD or USB drive and viewed in the DVD players.
- Pastor Brown will be discussing some changes with the preschool. These changes will limit access of the preschool children and staff to certain areas of the building.

## **July 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- DVD Players – The DVD Players are working for those who received one. We will continue to distribute media weekly to them.

### **New Business**

- Requirements for reopening
  - See attached proposed checklist. Adjustments may yet be necessary, but the Board of Elders agree that it is acceptable so far.
  - Reopening Dates:
    - July 14<sup>th</sup> – Elders meet to review and finalize changes to attached checklist.
    - July 19<sup>th</sup> - Soft opening for Elders and Church Council members with their families
    - July 21<sup>st</sup> - Elder's meeting to review the service on the 19<sup>th</sup> and propose changes and adjustments to the procedures.
    - July 26<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Soft opening to confirm all existing and updated procedures to be used going forward.
    - 2 August – Formal reopening date

## **August 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> Service went very well. Adjustments will be made as needed going forward.
- Some of the gaps in the roof were patched but bats are still an issue.

### **New Business:**

- Fall Programs:
  - Stepp-Up will be restarting on September 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - No Sunday school scheduled yet.
- Board authorized purchase of a newer model iPad to use with the camera when streaming Sunday services.

## **September 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- John Hohnstein and Dean Teslik will contact Wildlife Solutions about bat problems to get a quote for the church council.
- Stepp-Up and confirmation start pushed back to November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Sunday School start pushed back to November 8th.

### **New Business:**

- Communion will be re-assessed after bat remediation depending on Covid-19 numbers at that time.

## **October 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- John Hohnstein and Dean Teslik worked with Wildlife Solutions to fix bat issues and prevent them from re-entering. Work was completed on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. Repairs to the ridge vent on the roof still need to be completed by Black Hawk Roofing to finalize the work.
- We will recommend that Loyalty Sunday packets be Emailed for those who have working Email addresses. Remainder can be picked up or delivered.

### **New Business:**

- Sunday school will be reopening for Kindergarten through High School on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Tentative date for STEPP-UP reopening is November 4<sup>th</sup>. It is planned to have classes every two weeks from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM with no meal.
- Date to resume Confirmation classes is unknown/undetermined.

### **Around the Table:**

- Gary Crow update for preschool – Preschool is going great so far with sixteen 5-day children, ten 3-day children, and six 2-day children. The children are happy and adjusting well to the necessary precautions for Covid-19.

## **November 2020**

### **Old Business:**

- No bats noticed since last meeting.

### **New Business:**

- Communion could be restarting as soon as the second week of December. Further planning needs to be done on how to distribute.
- Advent services will be held in the evening on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> from 7:15 P.M to 8:18 P.M.
- Christmas Eve and Christmas day services are planned but need to plan for disinfection between services or using the parish hall for one or the other.
- If Marlene is agreeable, services will be pre-recorded for December 27<sup>th</sup> and January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **December 2020**

### **2021 Elder Board Organization:**

**Outgoing Elders for 2020** – Gary Liedtke, Mike Schneekloth, Rich Schmitz, Dean Teslik

**Carryover Elders** – Gary Crow (2019), Todd Armstrong (2019), Steve Seltrecht (2020), Fred Mittan (2020), John Hohnstein (2020)

**Incoming Elder** – Jon Jaschen (2021), Steve Setter (2021)

**Board Chairman** - John Hohnstein

**Secretary** – To be determined.

**Usher Coordination** – Fred Mittan

**Altar Guild Liaison** – Jon Jaschen

**Music/Choir Liaison** – Gary Crow

### **Elder Assignments (January 2021)**

**9:30 AM** – Jon Jaschen / Todd Armstrong

#### **Old Business:**

- Church roof ridge vent and rental property siding still incomplete.

#### **New Business:**

- No poinsettia orders this year.
- Don and Jocille Dvorak transfer to Trinity in Vinton approved.
- Prefilled communion cups with wafers to be ordered.

Each meeting adjourned and concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

### **Additional Information added to report:**

Incoming Elder – Dave Nelson (accepted position after report was submitted)

### **Board of Education**

### **Share and Care Preschool**

#### **2020-2021 Enrollment**

- SWVPP – 16 (full – 1 learns virtually)
- 3 Day – 10
- 2 Day – 6
- 

A new contract received, budget was set and signed, and submitted to CRCSD. Share and Care started in-person classes following Labor Day. When CRCSD went virtual in November Share and Care

followed suit. Families were given materials to do each day and ZOOM meetings were set up. Sarah even organized a ZOOM pajama party-story time prior to Thanksgiving break. COVID relief grants were received in September. A Rejuvenation Grant was also received and will be used to purchase automatic paper towel dispensers for the fellowship hall bathrooms and the preschool classrooms. Following the derecho, the new shed was painted and as students graduate their handprints will be used to make butterflies and flowers. In the derecho the preschool lost some tricycles, a brand-new play cottage, and some shingles off the shed. None of this is being covered by insurance so Sarah applied for another grant and is getting a new playhouse this spring. We also plan to get materials and ask for any volunteer preschool families to help with that repair. Iowa Department of Public Health had their annual visit to Share and Care in October and even with all the changes that needed to be made this year to ensure the health of students and teachers they passed with flying colors. I have copies of the report if anyone would like to look at it.

### **Sunday School**

We made the change to CPH material last spring. This fall we started in person Sunday School the beginning of November. We had a good turn out but unfortunately this did not last. Packets were made up with materials from the Sundays missed for students to work through at home. We are hoping to start up again January 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **STEPP UP**

This year we are doing a program about Superheroes of the Bible. The first, and only, we met we studied Ark Man, AKA Noah. The kids enjoyed an escape room type activity. A special thanks to Sarah Hoffman for writing the material for us. We plan to start up again in person on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Confirmation students have been asked to continue with their schedule of lessons and will also plan to resume on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Additional Information added to report:**

Dates have been set for 2021-2022 Enrollment.

2-3<sup>rd</sup> year students will give automatic registration if they are interested.

January 19<sup>th</sup> – Current Share and Care Families

January 27<sup>th</sup> – New Families

Bible given out this year will be given in Mrs. Lehmkuhl's honor.

### **Trustees Report**



## **2020 year in review**

### **Some of the items completed in 2020:**

- Updated lower-level bathrooms – paint; floor trim
- Repaired/replaced toilets on main level/pre-school.
- Re-keyed building – sign out process in place for keys
- Lighting – replaced bulbs with LED: FH, offices, pre-school
- Roof replacement: church, parsonage, rental – insurance covered
- Repairs as needed on heating and cooling
- Security Cameras installed
- Preschool: fence, shed & deck built – move playground closer
- Derecho cleanup – 2 outdoor workdays – huge thank you to congregation for a lot of hard work
- Special thanks to Jane and Jim Hess for a week of time cleaning up debris
- Bat mitigation – thank you to John H and Dean T
- Working through insurance claims/bids
- Planted 1 new tree – donated by Lu Anne from employer
- Received memorial funds from Ron Aschbrenner family for a new tree to be planted on church property in the spring

Thank you to Ken Brown, Ron Floerchinger for their years of service to Concordia which ended in 2020. Thank you to Dan Blomquist, Randy Dee, Harry Hopp and Connor Kriegermeier for sharing their time and talents as Trustees.

## **2021 Projects/Plans**

- Develop Master Plan for repairing/replacing landscape
- Dirt and seeding for pre-school playground – spring
- Repair drainage basin between parsonage & church (workday)

- Develop a Trustees manual for care and maintenance of the church property
- Finish work on a Master Calendar for church maintenance
- Complete repairs from insurance claim
- Establish set of 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractors for use when repairs are needed (electrical/plumbing/HVAC) for consistency of service

We will be having workdays as 2021 progresses and we welcome any help that members can give us on those Saturdays as they are announced. Even if you cannot help us physically, there is the opportunity to provide drinks, snacks for the workers, and especially raising your prayers for the work we do on behalf of the congregation.

**2021 Trustees:** Mark Stauffer, Jim Justice, Lu Anne Reifschneider  
**Security/IT Consultant:** Rich Schmitz

We welcome anyone else who would like to give of your time and talents for the care of the church property. We meet the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Additional Information added to report:**

Filters have been changed.

Refrigerator in the kitchen is not working and is unrepairable. A replacement is being ordered. The Preschool, Stepp Up and Women's Mission Circle are donating funds towards the purchase of the new unit.

**Evangelism/Missions Report**

No Report

**Stewardship Report**

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper was February 26, 2020. It was a success and had a good turnout. We had venison chili made by Mike Schneekloth, Broccoli Cheddar soup made by Dorothy Teslik, and chicken noodle soup and chili soup made by the Stewardship Committee. Texas Roadhouse donated the ground beef for the chili and dinner rolls with cinnamon butter. Congregation members brought desserts. The supper collected \$391.25 and had expenses of \$53.50 leaving a total of \$337.75 for the Lenten Charities.

2021 Campaign – Stewardship Sunday was November 1<sup>st</sup>. Commitment Sunday was November

8<sup>th</sup>. Because of COVID, it was decided commitment packets would be picked up at church in the coat room and be available starting November 1<sup>st</sup> with times set up during the day and two evenings that week for those that could not make it during the day. The packets not picked up were delivered by the Stewardship Committee. Final pledge total was as reported. Thank you to everyone for completing the commitment forms and returning them. Thank you to my committee members, Judy Oehlerich, Mary Hudson, Lisa Byerly and Mike Schneekloth, for all the help and support this past year.

### **Additional Information added to report:**

Due to current circumstances, the committee anticipates a soup supper will not take place on Ash Wednesday this year. Two other options would be:

Drive thru or delivery soup supper.

In place of a soup supper, collect cans of soup for the community.

The committee will discuss.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **New Business**

- Proposed Budget – 2021

Motion John Hohnstein to accept the 2021 Proposed Budget. Second Christina Johnson.

Discussed:

- Mission/Evangelism – Budget \$1,000. Should we be doing more to grow our church?  
The following items promote our in-reach growth and will be implemented in 2021.
  - ✓ E-cards/mailed cards will be sent to members for birthdays and anniversaries.
  - ✓ An All-Saints Sunday will be held annually recognizing those we have lost in the past year.Our outreach has been movie night, VBS, events where people to come to the church. We need more ideas for outreach.
- Organist/Music Coordinator – Change on budget: Request from Marlene Loftsgaarden to waive her 3% increase.

Motion carried.

- Requests made to be removed or transferred from membership.

Motion Christina Johnson to approve the following transfers and releases:

Transfer membership of Chris, Jessica and Noah Dvorak from Concordia Lutheran to King of Kings Lutheran, Cedar Rapids, IA.

Transfer membership of Lisa Schmidt from Concordia to Trinity Lutheran Church, Vinton, IA.

Transfer membership of Don and Jocille Dvorak from Concordia to Trinity Lutheran Church, Vinton, IA.

Transfer membership of Bob and Bonnie Hull from Concordia to St. Paul's Lutheran in Marion, IA

Release from membership Ed, Corbin, and Alexis Ketelsen (Moved without transfer to another church).

Release membership of Zachary Ficken from Concordia to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Marion, Iowa

Linda Boie request for peaceful release from Concordia Lutheran Church

Harry and Kathy Hopp request for peaceful release from Concordia Lutheran Church

Bill and Peggy Blaylock request for peaceful release from Concordia Lutheran Church

Second Lu Anne Reifschneider. Motion carried.

- District and National meeting to be moved back one year.

A proposal is making the rounds in SYNOD to delay the 2022 Convention to 2023 – allowing districts to reschedule their conventions that were to be held in 2021 until the following year due to the possibility of COVID.

Motion Lu Anne Reifschneider to agree with Synod proposal moving District and National conventions back one year. Second Gary Liedtke. Motion Carried

- Election of officers – 2021

President	Kenn Pettit
Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Mark Stauffer
Secretary	Pam Glandorf
Elder Chair	John Hohnstein
Trustees Chair	Lu Anne Reifschneider
Education Chair	Laura Furne
Stewardship Chair	Christina Johnson
Mission/Evangelism Chair	Vacant

Elders:

2019 – Todd Armstrong, Gary Crow

2020 – Fred Mittan, John Hohnstein, Steve Seltrecht

2021 - Jon Jaschen, Steve Setter, Dave Nelson

Motion John Hohnstein to accept the 2021 candidates. Seconded by Laura Furne. Motion carried.

- Purchase of Computer for Church Secretary

Motion John Hohnstein to purchase a new computer for the church secretary. Second Gary Liedtke.

Discussed problems Kathy is experiencing and age of the computer being used.

Motion carried.

## **Adjournment**

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:43 a.m.

In His Service,

Pam Glandorf  
Secretary