

## **Voter's Meeting April 15, 2018**

President Kenn Pettit called the Voter's meeting of Concordia Lutheran Church to order at 9:15 am with 66 members in attendance.

Pastor Brown opened with prayer.

Motion Lu Anne Reifschneider to approve minutes of the December 17, 2017 Voter's Meeting. Second John Sperry. Carried.

Correspondence:

2017 Lenten Charities – Thank you from:

Lutherans for Life  
Lutheran Hour Ministries  
Vinton Lutheran Home  
Bethesda Lutheran Home  
Camp IoDisECa  
Linn County Correctional Center Chaplain  
Linn Community Food Bank  
Lutheran World Relief

Thank you from Lutheran World Relief – Hurricane Relief \$800.65 from Sunday School Offering

Thanks to our youth from the Ronald McDonald House for providing a meal of Super Bowl snacks at St. Luke's family room

### **Pastor's Report**

Since my last report to the Voters I have been involved in the typical aspects of ministry at Concordia.

#### **Official Acts For 2018:**

**Baptized:** Dominick Conrad 1/7, Lily Buhr 2/18

**Wedding:**

**To Be Confirmed:** Hailey Cutter, Leah Deimerly, Rylee Jaeger, Keegan Oehlerich, Kalena Parks, Ashleigh Rensing, Michael Rensing, Libby Setter, Tessa Timmerman

**Planned Weddings:** Ryan Spellerberg and Kaitlyn Botine 6/2/18

**Funeral:** Margaret Perkins 3/24, Bill Peters 4/3

**Visitation:** 16 home or Hospital visits between 1/1/18 and 3/27/18

Work continues on safety and security plans for Sunday School Classrooms and the Church. Security practices being put in place to make church more secure. Be prepared for the possibility of drills practicing Emergency Evacuation of the church for things like weather events, fire, or the possibility of an intruder on the property. As much as I would like to think something like this could not happen here, the hard truth is that it absolutely could.

I am attending ACG-IA/NE Spring 2018 Safety Seminar on April 24. Conference regarding church and school safety.

Continue STEPP Up and Confirmation. The Theologian Throwdown is TODAY! Confirmation is on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Road Construction is absolutely coming soon. They obviously have been working on the southeast corner of the property installing underground cable and setting in an on the ground transformer for the church. With construction coming we'll have to "play by ear" things like outdoor service, movie night outside, and basically any other thing that usually takes place outside. PLEASE be flexible because there is no set absolute plan that we can lay out for what is happening.

With the passing of Bill Peters on March 26<sup>th</sup>, we are currently without a chairman for the congregation. He was a great advocate for everyone here and a great friend. As I write this, 3/28/18, we will be planning on discussing this at the next Council meeting on 4/9/18, and the result of that discussion will be made to the voter's today, with recommendations of how to proceed from this point forward.

Recommend to the congregation that the Confirmands listed above be added as Communicant Members – pending completion of Confirmation on 4/29.

### **Director of Christian Education Report**

#### **STEPP Up**

- Our last STEPP UP for the year will be Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- We have had some amazing volunteers, and several new ones that started helping out this year. If you are interested in volunteering (in a variety of ways), let me know. The more people that help, the less taxing it is on one person week to week.
- We have been busy covering a variety of topics this year:
  - Since January we have covered: David, Esther, Job, Daniel, Jonah, Mary, and will finish the year with Jesus!
  - We get to discover these stories through games, science experiments, cooking, storytelling, drama, and crafts – we are always on the move learning in a variety of ways!

#### **Youth Group**

- Youth Group continues strong. We are never short on laughter, and we have been going through the book "Can I Ask That" which focuses us on 8 relevant topics and what the Bible has to say, and how we as Christians respond. We intended it to be a semester length study, but due to great discussion, it has lasted the entire year!
- The leaders (along with myself) are: Jody Lippman, Gary Crow, and Wes Aquice.
- We meet Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:45 for large group games, dinner, Bible study, and high's/low's of the week.
- Each week parents and other congregation members sign up to make/bring a meal for our youth, which provides a time of fellowship (and yummy food in our bellies). If you would like to sign up, talk to me.

- The youth have selected topics that they want to study, community service they'd like to do, and large group activities/outings.
- Since January, the youth have:
  - Middle school youth attended Youth Quake (a middle school youth gathering) in Des Moines.
  - Prepared a meal for our local Ronald McDonald House.
  - Had a Superbowl Party.
  - Had the Superbowl "healthy" fundraiser.
    - Thank you to everyone who helped support the youth! This will now become an annual fundraiser with a few changes as needed.
- We have several plans in place before the new school year kicks off:
  - Update the Youth room
  - Paint confirmation blocks
  - A kickball tournament fundraiser
  - Thank you meal for all our cooks this year
  - End of the Year party
  - Bonfire with another church in the area that we traveled with last summer on the Mission Trip

#### Women's Retreat

- The Women's Retreat was on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 – 4:00 pm.
- This year's theme was "Seaside Escape".
- A huge thank you to all the helpers this year!

#### Confirmation

- Theologian Throwdown is: TODAY April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Confirmation is Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. We have nine youth being confirmed this year.

#### Sunday School

- Sunday School meets every week during education hour (9:15-10:15). Everyone ages preschool thru adult have something available to them to come and dig deeper into the Bible!
- Remember, the last day for Sunday School for this school year is May 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### Vacation Bible School

- **June 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.**
- Join us this summer for "Shipwrecked" where the kiddos will "Discover how they are rescued by Jesus". Monday thru Friday we will join together for praise, games, interactive Bible lessons, crafts, and all around Shipwrecked fun as we learn more about God's presence. Vacation Bible School is open to children aged 3 (FULLY potty trained) through students who have finished 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Middle and High School youth as well as adults, you are not to be left out as we need your help during the week! Registration sheets are currently available! Listen and check the announcements in church! Remember you don't have to be a member to attend Vacation Bible School! **\*Registration is due Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>\***

## Treasurer's Report

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

## Elders' Report

Meeting March 6, 2018

- Opening Prayer
  - An opening prayer was led by Pastor Brown
- Pastor's Report
  - Pastor Brown presented his report
- Elder Assignments (March)
  - 08:00AM: Steve Seltrecht
  - 10:30AM: Steve Setter
  - 11:00AM Lenten Service: Mike Schneekloth
  - 07:15PM Lenten Service: Dave Pearson
  - **Holy Week**
    - Maundy Thursday 07:15PM: Gary Liedtke
    - Good Friday 07:15PM: Gary Liedtke
    - Easter Sunday 07:00AM: Jon Jaschen and Steve Seltrecht
    - Easter Sunday 09:30AM: Rich Schmitz and Gary Liedtke
- List of Current Elders
  - 2018 – James Justice, Ryan Parks, Steve Seltrecht
  - 2019 – Steve Setter, Dave Pearson, Jon Jaschen, Scott Bekebrede
  - 2020 – Gary Liedtke, Rich Schmitz, Mike Schneekloth
- Old Business
  - Discussion of phone calls to members absent from Church in respective cottages, this activity to be complete 31MAR2018.
  - Metal Crosses to members of cottages
  - Continue phone calls to cottages
  - Discussion of volunteer Elders for Theologian Throwdown on 15APR2018, we need as many as possible
  - Discussion of upcoming outdoor events and the effect that street construction may have on these events, we will have to monitor progress and review status as the construction moves forward. We need to maintain and convey a positive and flexible outlook when approached by members regarding the construction
  - Discussion of adding Bibles in pews to provide a means of following the scripture readings
  - Discussion of cost savings from reduced bulletin size and elimination of mailing the newsletter
  - Elders to review Elders Responsibilities in handbook for update in APR2018, (last

update was 2010)

- New Business
  - **Around the table** (Discussion of important topics from each Elder)
    - Everyone seems to be in agreement we need to increase membership, further discussion in APR with ideas and plans
    - Discussion of Single Service
    - Discussion of ways to fill needs of new members, (i.e. additional Bible evening studies, nursery, family night activities, etc.)
    - Discussion of ways to support DCE for strengthening program
  - Anyone interested in attending the Spring 2018 Safety Seminar can join Pastor Brown on 24APR, it is an all-day seminar. Cost would be \$50 for each person

## **Board of Education**

- January

In January we discussed proposed tuition for the 2018-2019 school year and the snack fee. Dates were finalized for current family and new family registration. Sarah hosted a district-wide networking meeting for preschool directors in the LCMS. Stepp Up was resumed following winter break. The Cookie Walk was a great success. Jessica brought two youth to Youth Quake in Des Moines. The decision was made to try a new curriculum that is cross-generational (would include pre-k – adults.)

- February

Details were finalized for the Women's Retreat being held this month including set-up and tear-down. We also discussed preschool registration for current families and how this should look. New family registration will begin on March 1.

- March

On March 1 preschool registration was opened up to new families. As of March 6 enrollment is as follows:

State-Wide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP) – 16 (FULL) with 2 on the waiting list

3 day – 9 (7 spots available)

2 day – 5 (11 spots available)

With starting the SWVPP next year the preschool needs to have a certified substitute should Sarah ever need to be off. Jessica is looking into what this incurs, if it is something she would be willing to undertake. The preschool has achieved a QRS 2 star rating. With this certification they will purchase technology with the money.

There will be no Sunday school or youth group on Easter (April 1<sup>st</sup>). The last day of Sunday school will be May 20<sup>th</sup>. The youth group will be preparing Easter brunch. VBS registration will also start Easter Sunday.

## **Stewardship Report**

The Stewardship Committee has not met formally.

The Ash Wednesday Soup Supper was held on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Attendance seemed good however the donations only totaled \$203.00

Thank you to the members of the Stewardship Committee in helping with the preparation, set-up, serving and clean-up, especially to Mike Schneekloth for helping with the grocery shopping and prep for the chili and relishes. Thank you to Chris and Heather Scheck and the Texas Roadhouse for the donation of ground beef, for the chili, and their famous rolls and butter.

Thank you to the confirmation students of the congregation who assisted with serving, washing dishes and clean-up.

Thank you to Gary Liedtke for his Elk Chili, Mike Schneekloth for the Venison Chili and Ken Brown for his Spicy Chili.

Thank you to the members of the congregation who provided bars for the Soup Supper.

## **2018 Designated Lenten Charities**

Money from Ash Wednesday Soup Supper and Lenten offerings are divided as follows.

*The six charities listed below receive \$100 each.*

American Bible Society  
Armed Forces Commission  
Bethesda Lutheran Home  
Camp IoDisECa  
Linn County Correctional Center Chaplain  
Lutheran Deaconess Association

*The remainder of the funds is divided equally among the charities listed below.*

Lutherans for Life  
Lutheran Hour Ministries  
Lutheran World Relief  
Vinton Lutheran Home  
Dave and Karen Sifert  
Willis Dady Shelter  
Cedar Hills Community Church  
Linn Community Food Bank

## **Trustees Report**

The Board of Trustees is entrusted to see to the proper keeping of God's house as a way to honor God and to facilitate the ministry of the church. The primary purpose of the church building and facilities is to enable the vision and mission of the congregation. The goal of the trustees is to provide a physical plant that is well groomed and attractive so as to make it more welcoming, safe and hospitable.

The Board of Trustees meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. We are always looking for additional team members.

- List of Current Trustees

Dan Blomquist, Chair; Lu Anne Reifschneider, Randy, Dee, Jim Welsh, Harry Hopp, Connor Kriegermeier, Mick Setter

- Dedicated Guests

Pastor Brown, Ron Floerchinger, Ken Brown

- Update on road construction

Work has started. Attended the meeting with the City Planners on 3/22. Information is posted on the bulletin boards. The presentation should be loaded to the city's website soon.

You can sign up for a Bi-monthly newsletter from the city and it can be specific to the Johnson Ave. construction. You can also get text updates on your cell phone if you would like.

Email: [pavingforprogrss@cedar-rapids.org](mailto:pavingforprogrss@cedar-rapids.org)

Website: [www.cityofcr/pavingfor progress](http://www.cityofcr/pavingforprogress)

Contractor: Ricklefs Excavating

- 1Q 2018 completed projects

Grounds keeping:

- Snow and ice removal
  - Parking lots, sidewalks, walkways and driveways
- Created additional handicap parking spaces
- Inspection and maintenance of boilers
- Maintenance of equipment (snow blower & mowers)

Deep clean of the sanctuary (two inside cleaning days. **(Special Thank You to all the volunteers)**)

- Area above the altar was cleaned, insulation was applied, wooded spacers installed
- Painted both sides of sanctuary
- Installed additional lighting to both sides of the sanctuary
- Replaced lighting in the foyer
- Washed windows in the foyer
- Cleaned all of the pews
- Repaired flooring in front of the altar
- Replaced toilets downstairs

- Repaired outdoor lighting timers

#### Work at the parsonage

- Replaced the gutters on the house
- Fixed sewage issue, bathroom faucet and vent (contractor)

#### Work on Jessica & Chris'

- Replaced bedroom door
- Replaced the garage door opener

#### • Needs of the Church – 2018

\*Trustees will perform all listed work items, unless otherwise noted

#### Jessica & Chris' house

- Siding inspection – April
- Partial roof replacement – June
- Replace built in microwave oven – April
- Air conditioning for upstairs – April/May
- Lighting for outside of the garage (safety) – April

#### Parsonage

- Hot water heater, awaiting quote ~2k (Installed by contractor) – April
- Fenced privacy area north side of property – May
- Replacement of driveway, sidewalk & footing for front steps (in conjunction with road replacement) awaiting quote, contractor will install June/July
  - Western property hill leveling (increased safety when mowing) – June/July
- The South side (water removal from foundation) awaiting quote, contractor will install – June/July

Repainting the parking lot lines (joint project) with Elders – May

Fixing lights around the wooden cross on the eastern entrance – April

Fire alarm system upgrade. Connecting our local fire system directly to the Fire Department to respond when vacant. One-time cost to upgrade \$600.00 (not currently in the 2018 budget) – April

Security system upgrade for the Church (e.g. remote video system) – June

### **Evangelism/Missions Report**

The combined Committee of Evangelism/Missions/Human Care meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. We are combining the two committees and our group will now be called Evangelism/Missions.



- January - March Outreach Projects
  - We are continuing to send out “Visitor” postcards to visitors each week.
  - We have sent 2 mailings of hand written “Miss You” postcards to members that have not been to church for 3 months and had responses from several families. Our first mailing we sent out 64 postcards inviting them to Friendship Sunday. The second mailing we sent out approximately 50 postcards, inviting them to Easter. We will continue this effort for a year and see how it helps our membership. We received money from one of our Thrivent members to purchase stamps, card stock and paper for this project.
  - The committee designed and ordered 500 door hangers with an invitation to Easter worship and breakfast. Volunteers walked around area neighborhoods and delivered them. The cost was \$64 which is coming from Evangelism/Missions budget.
- Possible Out Reach Projects
  - Concordia Closet/Cupboard to have along the street, by the church and put items that are needed for those who would like to take them. Jessica is looking into the permit and what size we could get. **This would take place after construction is completed.**
  - We are planning to design and put together a packet/brochure for new members with information about our Sunday School, Bible School, and what is offered at Concordia. Our committee will be looking into that.
  - We are planning a neighborhood/community Easter Egg Hunt in 2019. We are starting to collect 1000 plastic Easter eggs now and have asked for donations.

We plan to keep reaching out to our community in different ways and hope to see growth in our church.

- Also Discussed:
  - Habitat for Humanity – April 23, 2018 7:30 – 8:30 am at St. Ludmila Catholic Church
  - Crop Walk – May 6, 2018. Registration begins at 2:00 pm.

## Unfinished Business

## New Business

- Recommendation from Council regarding Chairman of the Congregation

Kenn Pettit will fill the position of President for the remaining 2018 term.

President Kenn Pettit and Elder Chair, Dr. Jim Justice will begin looking for a Vice President replacement.

- Transfer of Charles Boyd to St. Paul’s Lutheran, Marion, IA

Motion by Sally Seltrecht to approve the transfer of Charles Boyd to St. Paul’s Lutheran in Marion, IA. Second Steve Seltrecht. Carried.

- Recommend Confirmands to be listed as Communicant Members.

Motion by Elder Chair, Dr. Jim Justice - Recommend our confirmands; Hailey Cutter, Leah Deimerly, Rylee Jaeger, Keegan Oehlerich, Kalena Parks, Ashleigh Rensing, Michael Rensing, Libby Setter, and Tessa Timmerman be accepted into church membership as of today, pending the completion of Confirmation on April 29, 2018.

Second Lu Anne Reifschneider, Carried.

- Reporting of Fundraising/Freewill offerings

Members have asked if we could report results back on Fundraising/Freewill Offerings that have been collected – amounts and designated charity. This information will be listed in bulletin announcements going forward.

## **Adjournment**

Closed with the Lord's Prayer and Peace of the Lord at 10:12 pm

In His Service,

Pam Glandorf  
Secretary

Next Council Meeting May 8, 2018 at 9:15 am