

Ohio Region NALC – Executive Council meeting December 09, 2017



Present:	Unable to Attend:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dean Bill Maki• Dean Paul Larson• Dean Jeff Morlock• Dean Bob Quaintance• Dean Dan Powell• Don Karger• Paula Caso• Jack Walker• Elizabeth Ridenour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethel Briggs

Minutes

Meeting @First English Lutheran Church-Mansfield, OH: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

- I. Call to Order & Prayer – At 10:10 Pastor Bill opened in prayer.
- II. Roll Call – listed above. Ethel Briggs was out of town and unable to attend.
- III. Treasurer’s Report – presented and reviewed by Don Karger. Also, Don reviewed the financial standing from the 500th Reformation Anniversary Celebration in November. A motion to accept the report was made by Jack Walker and seconded by Pastor Paul. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.
- IV. Minutes from September 23, 2017 – Review/Comment/Approval – Pastor Dan moved and Pastor Bob seconded the approval of the minutes as submitted and posted online previously. All voted in favor.
- V. Review of OMR 500th Anniversary Event in Mansfield, Nov 18, 2017 – Pastor Bill started the discussion with his comments from statements made by attendees with whom he had conversed. Additional appreciation was noted for the incredible guidance and assistance of the FELC congregation during the event. Also, notable was the incredible work done by Ethel in the registration process. Her work in organizing and follow-ups that were needed was noted and appreciated; It was a huge task and handled very well. From Ethel, we learned that there were 404 registrations ahead of time and a substantial number at the door. There were 59 name badges not picked up, leaving 345 in attendance at the event.
 - a. Discussion turned to the Oromo appeal for capital funds, Pastor Jeff said it is progressing and gave many wonderful reports of sacrificial gifts both from within the Oromo congregation and from around Ohio. Pastor Jeff talked about how the UALC congregation has supported them with pro-bono realtor and legal services and other guidance in the loan process.
 - b. Pastor Jeff also informed us that the process for donations is through the NALC offices so that proper accounting can be maintained. The address to send donations is: Oromo Evangelical Church %North American Lutheran Church, 3500 Mill Run Drive, Hilliard, OH 43026.
 - c. Discussion turned to the Ohio Mission Region donating from its own funds to this project. Jack Walker moved that, ***in honor of the 500th Reformation, we (the OMR Council) donate \$5000 from its savings to the Oromo Church capital project*** and the motion was seconded by Elizabeth Ridenour. Pastor Dan called the question once we were assured by treasurer Don Karger that the funds were available. The vote followed and was unanimously approved.

- d. Jack suggested that the mission districts encourage members of congregations from around Ohio visit the Oromo congregation and build relationships and experience worship in the manner which is customary to them.
- e. Pastor Bob motioned that ***the Executive Committee of the OMR voted to give \$5000 (in addition to the Reformation Celebration offering) and are inviting and encouraging the 5 Ohio mission districts to make contributions to the project. This appeal is to be extended to the congregations in each of the districts.*** Don Karger seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

VI. May 5, 2018 Convocation – with keynote speaker, Gemechis Buba at Grace in Westerville (Pastor Will Hartfelder) hosting the convocation.

- a. Workshop suggestions from the last meeting and new ideas from this meeting:
 - i. Why we do infant baptism in the Lutheran church. Evangelizing the baptized.
 - ii. Hurricane and other disasters... how do we use disaster response to reach out and share Jesus as we help in the human response?
 - iii. Reaching out to anyone in crisis... bring a casserole.
 - iv. How do we get our people out of the church to reach out meeting the needs of our communities and sharing Christ? Building discipling relationships with those outside the church family.
 - v. How can we motivate people to get involved in helping others in need even if they can't go to the site of the disaster... such as organizing collections, helping pack trucks, prayer groups for those who are going? NOT just sending money. Speaking Jesus in the midst of helping those in need.
 - vi. Apply spiritual gifts. Cultivating relationships. Exalting God through the church.
 - vii. Growing in the ability to do what Jesus did and say what Jesus said is the basics of discipleship.
 - viii. Approaches to discipleship based on the chapters/topics in the Navigators materials.
 - ix. "I'm just not comfortable..." as a title for a workshop on prayer.
 - x. Pastor Jeff talked about prayers for discernment and how to listen for God's answer in making decisions. This is an area where we could really learn from the Oromo. Manifestations of the Spirit are something they are comfortable sharing where most Lutherans are leery of discussing.
 - xi. How to be open to praying WITH people on the spot. "May I pray with you... now?"
 - xii. Prayer partnering between youth and older generations. (Faithwebbing)
 - xiii. Learning how to listen and trust the Holy Spirit to give you the words rather than trying to plan out what you need to say. It's not a formula.
 - xiv. Learning how to trust God to catch you when you think you're going to fall flat on your face.
 - xv. Pastors Dan and Paul suggested Discipleship: Fear-less, Praying: Fear-less, Giving: Fear-less.
- b. Themes and scripture discussion:
 - i. Pastor Dan suggested that we title the Convocation "Equipping the Saints for..." and title the workshops "...(Prayer/Outreach/Discipleship/etc)" Jack Walker added that each workshop should be designed as a train-the-trainer with handouts that can help implement ideas in congregations.
 - ii. Pastor Bob suggested "Beyond Justification: the work of the Spirit". Other suggestions were "I'm saved, now what?", "Follow me and...", "Calling people out of their comfort zone", "Created to...."

- iii. Pastor Dan asked about the Oromo musical styles and could we incorporate their music in our worship at the convocation.
- iv. “Created to” could be combined with the “Saved, Now what?” idea and lead to a created “beforehand” discussion (Ephesians 2: 10).
- v. Ephesians 6:18 (ESV) about praying in the Spirit, making all... The word “all” came up 4 times in the one verse. It was suggested to add on verse 19 to complete the thought.
- vi. The title “Fear-less” was suggested as a “How to become more fearless” and then lead to what’s next. That was modified to “Prayer: Fear-less”
- vii. Pastor Dan motioned that ***the theme be “Prayer: Fear-less” with the scripture being Ephesians 6:18-19 and Gemechis’ first keynote be on “Praying in the Spirit”***. Don Karger seconded and the vote was a unanimous “aye” with one “Alleluia”.

c. Format:

<p>i. <u>Last year:</u> 7:30 – 8:00 Vendor Display setup 8:15 – 9:00 Registration 9:00 – 10:15 Opening Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15 – 10:30 Break 10:30 – 11:30 Workshop: Session 1 11:30 – 12:15 Lunch 12:15 – 12:55 OMR Meeting (and election of treasurer) – (in the lunch room) 1:00 – 1:40 District Meetings (with elections) 1:45 – 2:45 Workshop: Session 2 2:45 – 3:00 Break 3:00 – 4:00 Bishop Talk: Lutheran – What Does This Mean Today? (with Q/A afterwards) 4:00 – 4:15 Installations and closing Prayer</p>
<p>ii. Suggestion: Shorten the worship service or make it a devotional. The idea of having a more organic/biblical form of worship was raised.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings 2. Worship 3. Workshops 4. 2 keynotes (open with one and close with one before worship/prayer)
<p>iii. Proposed Schedule: 7:30 – 8:00 Vendor Display setup 8:15 – 9:00 Registration and Display Visits 9:00 – 10:15 Greeting, Opening and Keynote 1 (Pastor Jeff and Gemechis to arrange) 10:30 – 11:15 Workshop: Session 1 11:20 – 12:00 District Meetings (with elections) 12:00 – 1:00 Lunch and Display Visits 1:00 – 1:45 OMR Meeting (and election of secretary) – (in the lunch room) 2:00 – 2:45 Workshop: Session 2 3:00 – 4:15 Keynote 2, installations and Closing</p>
<p>iv. Ask Gary Pecuch to do a 2 session workshop like he did last year? Perhaps we wouldn’t have enough interest given what we heard on council about our own congregations.</p>

v. What about having the 2-session workshop focus on tying youth to older generations (Faithwebbing)?

- VII. Old Business – None discussed
- VIII. New Business – Pastor Dan motioned that ***we ask Bishop John Bradosky be present at the 2019 OMR Convocation*** and Pastor Bob seconded. All voted in favor and Pastor Dan will proceed in making the request.
- IX. Mission District News – Sherry Schaffer will be rejoining us as a NWOMD Lay representative in January. Pastor Dan suggested that the district reports be forwarded out electronically in the future to expedite sharing of this news.
- X. Next meeting – January 27th 10:00-1:30 working through lunch with a boxed lunch. Tentatively in Westerville and FELC as a backup.
- XI. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastors Bob and Dan at 1:31.

Action Items:

1. *Paula will post the Bishop's PowerPoint from the 2017 Convocation online.*
2. *Paula will post a slide show of the pictures from the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Celebration on the website.*
3. *Paula will send a reminder to the deans in January to update the addresses, Pastors and Council Presidents for the congregations in their districts (including new congregations or those who have left/closed) so she can update the website prior to the OMR Convocation. (Information preferred to be sent in January or February to allow time to do the updates)*
4. *Paula will update the OMR map of districts and all the congregational information on the website once she has the necessary information from the deans.*
5. *Paula will redesign the website to make it responsive (so it appears in a better format on cell phones) as time allows. This requires a complete overhaul to the coding, so it will take time to do.*
6. *Pastor Jeff will check with Pastor Will Hartfelder about hosting us for our next OMR meeting in January.*