

## Ohio Mission Region NALC – Executive Council meeting August 16, 2019



| Present:  | Unable to Attend:   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dean Michael Koch</li><li>• Dean Paul Larson</li><li>• Dean Jeff Morlock</li><li>• Dean Bill Maki</li><li>• Dean Mark Daniels</li><li>• Don Karger</li><li>• Paula Caso</li><li>• Karen Bentley</li><li>• Jack Walker</li><li>• Sherry Shaffer</li><li>• Ethel Briggs</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Janice Cronebaugh</li></ul> |

### Minutes

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

- I. **Opening Devotion and Prayers** – Luke 24: 1-12; The account of the visit to the tomb to find it empty. Those who went had forgotten the message before that told them what would happen. They were surprised and had a hard time believing. It so easy to forget when we are not in the Word. It is also easy to be distracted from the source of our trust and faith.
- II. **Welcome to Our New Members** – Pastor Michael Koch is the new Dean of the Northeastern Ohio Mission District and all others are returning. Everyone introduced themselves and which congregations they call home.
- III. **Election of Convener** (*This was discussed among the deans, but should be subject to a formal vote by the council.*) – This was a simple discussion as Pastor Bill explained how Pastor Mark Daniels was chosen as convener by the other Deans. Pastor Mike agreed and the decision was final.
- IV. **Treasurer’s Report (Don Karger)** – We have had greater incomes than expenses primarily from the Convocation registrations which exceeded the expenses. A very detailed report of the income and expenses on the 2019 Convocation followed. Jack moved and Jeff seconded the move to accept the treasurer’s report and the report on the 2019 Convocation. The vote to accept both was unanimous.
- V. **Meeting Minutes from the Convocation** – These were prepared in May and emailed at that time and then posted on the OMR website. Pastor Paul moved and Pastor Bill seconded the move to accept the previous minutes from the 2019 Convocation. The vote to accept was unanimous.
- VI. **Review of the 2019 Convocation** –
  - a. **The NALC Convocation:** Those that attended were grateful for the Biblical focus of our denomination. They saw the Spirit move in the process of the election of Bishop and the hand of God was evident. The lack of politicking was a relief and the final decisions were well received. Jack asked Pastor Koch to pass along our appreciation to Pastor Riesen.
  - b. **The OMR Convocation:** Pastor Bill expressed his appreciation for the understanding and assistance he received when his bus broke down on the way to the convocation. Pastor Paul asked Pastor Jeff to express our appreciation and gratefulness for the accommodations and assistance of his congregation at UALC. The day was uplifting and renewing and unlike previous experiences that many have encountered at synod gatherings. The focus is always Christ, Spiritual growth, mutual support, and fellowship. Those from small congregations getting to experience worship with a large group is encouraging. Appreciation for the displays was also expressed as many touched hearts and were enlightening.
- VII. **Thoughts on the 2020 Convocation – The date will remain the first Saturday in May: 5/2/2020.**
  - a. **Theme** – Suggestions:
    - i. Learning how to let the Holy Spirit guide us. A Mighty Fortress talks about spiritual warfare. The Holy Spirit is usually identified with a laundry list of works rather than as a

person. Jack mentioned how relying on the Holy Spirit takes all the pressure off you. It's freeing... something he read in *Joining Jesus on His Mission*.

- ii. Possible titles discussed were: "*Led by the Spirit*", "*Called by the Spirit*", "*Surrendering and Walking with the Spirit*", and more.
- iii. **Pastor Bill moved and Pastor Paul seconded "*Walking with the Holy Spirit*" be the theme title of the 2020 OMR Convocation. The vote was unanimous to accept the theme title.**

- b. **Location** – Sherry said the Columbus area makes it much easier for people coming from around the state. Pastor Jeff suggested we look into the Oromo Evangelical Church of Columbus as a location for the convocation. It was also suggested to ask St. John-Grove City as a back-up. **Pastor Paul moved and Pastor Bill seconded the decision to ask Oromo Evangelical Church in Columbus to be our primary choice of location with a back-up of St. John's in Grove City. The vote was unanimous to accept.**

c. **Breakout sessions / leaders**

- i. Pastor Bill texted Bishop Dan Selbo to join us and he expressed his willingness to be with us pending confirmation that he is not otherwise already booked for that day.
- ii. Ask Greg Finke (author of *Joining Jesus on His Mission*) is also a possibility. This idea was later tabled in favor of asking Greg Finke to do a one day event sponsored by the OMR sometime in 2020.
- iii. Workshop Topics:
  - 1. Sensitivity to the Spirit... How do we learn to stop and listen to what the Spirit is saying to us.
  - 2. Listening to the Spirit in the midst of chaos to hear what he wants us to do.
  - 3. "Let's go Krogering" and teaching skills (skill building) for letting the Holy Spirit move us to action.
  - 4. The Holy Spirit is a person. He is not an "it".
  - 5. Building a relationship with the Holy Spirit.
  - 6. The person of the Holy Spirit. (possibly tied with #7)
  - 7. The work of the Holy Spirit.
  - 8. Yielding control to the Holy Spirit is scary.
  - 9. How to have a quiet time.

- d. **Scripture** – Pastor Bill proposed Galatians 5: 25. "If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit." After a short discussion, **Pastor Paul moved and Ethel seconded the choice of the Theme Scripture be Galatians 5:25. The choice was accepted unanimously.**

VIII. **Old Business** – Just a reminder to send Paula Mission District reports digitally so they can be posted on the web and easily added to the minutes.

IX. **New Business** –

- a. **Resolution: It is the desire of the OMR to join with Pastor Paul and the North Central Ohio Mission District to bring Greg Finke in for an event on "*Joining Jesus on His Mission*".**
- b. Note: Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School @ 3425 Crescent Ave. in Fort Wayne, IN 46805 is hosting a "Kick the Tires" Mission Weekend from 9:00 Sat – noon Sunday November 9-10, 2019. It is a free event.

X. **Mission District Reports** – **(PENDING DIGITAL COPIES BEING SENT TO PAULA)**

- a. **SWO-MD:** Pastor Tom Brodbeck was installed as Pastor at Grace Lutheran in Springfield. They are looking for an associate pastor @ Grace, Springfield. Pastor Bruce Kramer is still serving as interim at ??? Leadership and Visioning ... **They are hip-deep in disaster response from the tornadoes that have hit in their district. They are in the third phase where Case managers are linked with Spiritual managers to move people forward in the recovery process.**
- b. **NCO-MD:** A *Stewards of Influence* event is planned at FELC on Saturday 9/14/2019. Pastor Paul provided flyers for the event. Pastor Andy Jones has accepted a new call in IL. Word of Life in Mount Gilead has disbanded. Good Shepherd in Vickery is in the call process.

- c. **NWO-MD:** Sheila W. was voted to the board of the WNALC. Bert & Shelly are accepting a call to ????. St. John's in Montpelier has another intern this year who they are supporting. Pastor Bill's church, Zion, had another water walk and raised \$\$\$ for a mission in Mexico. Pastor Fred M. retired from his call in Fort Wayne and is more available for Mission District Work.
- d. **NEO-MD:** The district is doing a work day at the NALC Disaster Response Center in Caldwell, OH on October 5, 2019. There is a LCMS congregation looking into the NALC and inquiring. Another pastor has applied to join the NALC. Yet another pastor is moving into the district and is willing to do interim work. Pastor Peterson and her husband are moving to Ashland. Pastor Chuck Beckett is fitting nicely into the two parishes he is serving.
- e. **SEO-MD:** Have been working on gathering the *Family and Youth* leadership with success, but the attempt to gather the Women's Groups has not been as successful. There have been some changes in pastoral calls within the district. The Oromo church is now able to pay their pastors half-time salaries.

XI. **Next Meeting** – at FELC will be Saturday November 2, 2019. Times remain the same.

XII. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 1:26 pm.

### **Action Items (new and ongoing):**

1. *All 5 deans: Email mission district reports to Paula for inclusion in the minutes if not already done.*
2. *Pastor Mike: Pass along our appreciation to Pastor Riessen.*
3. *Pastor Jeff: Express our appreciation and gratefulness for the accommodations and assistance of your congregation at the 2019 OMR Convocation.*
4. *Pastor Jeff: Ask The Oromo Evangelical Church of Columbus to host our 2020 OMR Convocation on 5/2/2020 and communicate their answer back to us. Contact St. John's-Grove City if the Oromo Church is unable to host.*
5. *Pastor Bill: Continue to communicate with Bishop Dan and firm up plans for him to be with us as well as share our plans with him.*
6. *Pastor Paul: Proceed with plans to have a one-day event with Greg Finke and keep us apprised. Let us know what is needed from the OMR.*
7. *All council: Continue to think about workshop topics and possible workshop leaders.*
8. *Paula: Post a slide show of the pictures from the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Celebration on the website. (Yep,... this is an old item)*
9. *Paula: Post the workshop leader-guides after the 2019 convocation along with pictures. (Still waiting for materials from workshop leaders)*
10. *Paula: add "Lay Ministry Training" to be discussed as new business at a later time. (Will be added to the next agenda)*

**Current OMR Council Contacts:** Please review and send corrections to Paula

- Dean Michael Koch [mekoch46@gmail.com](mailto:mekoch46@gmail.com) or [pastorkoch@trinityashland.org](mailto:pastorkoch@trinityashland.org)
- Dean Paul Larson [plarson001@neo.rr.com](mailto:plarson001@neo.rr.com)
- Dean Jeff Morlock [jmorlock@ualc.org](mailto:jmorlock@ualc.org)
- Dean Bill Maki [wem1@aol.com](mailto:wem1@aol.com)
- Dean Mark Daniels [prmarklwlc@gmail.com](mailto:prmarklwlc@gmail.com)
- Don Karger [kargerdonald@gmail.com](mailto:kargerdonald@gmail.com)
- Paula Caso [pcaso64@gmail.com](mailto:pcaso64@gmail.com)
- Karen Bentley [rkbentley79@gmail.com](mailto:rkbentley79@gmail.com)

- Janice Cronebaugh [jbcronebaugh65@gmail.com](mailto:jbcronebaugh65@gmail.com)
- Jack Walker [jack.walker@syngenta.com](mailto:jack.walker@syngenta.com)
- Sherry Shaffer [harleyshaf@gmail.com](mailto:harleyshaf@gmail.com)
- Ethel Briggs [ethelbriggs1@gmail.com](mailto:ethelbriggs1@gmail.com)