



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

Minutes

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

- I. **Opening Devotion and Prayers** – John 14; The passage was read aloud and followed by reflections on what stands out in the passage. “If you love me” emphasizes the need to love him in order to follow his commands. Keeping his commandments is usually interpreted to mean the entire Word and reverencing the Word (both written and living). Jesus makes himself manifest to the believing by making his home in them through the Holy Spirit. The emphasis of the passage is on the work He does and not on what we do. He also promises us His peace which is completely different from the peace available in the world.
- II. **Treasurer’s Report (Don Karger)** – We have had greater incomes than expenses and cash flow is slightly positive. Pastor Bill moved and Sherry seconded the move to accept the treasurer’s report. The vote to accept was unanimous.
- III. **Meeting Minutes from the last meeting**– These were prepared in August and emailed at that time and then posted on the OMR website. Don moved and Jack seconded the move to accept the minutes from the last meeting in August. The vote to accept was unanimous.
- IV. **Thoughts on the 2020 Convocation** – *(Items in Green are decisions from the last meeting)* **The date will remain the first Saturday in May: 5/2/2020.**
 - a. **Theme** – *“Walking with the Holy Spirit”* will be the theme title of the 2020 OMR Convocation.
 - b. **Location** – *Oromo Evangelical Church in Columbus* Pastor Jeff and Pastor Bill verified that it would be workable to use the Oromo Evangelical Church of Columbus as a location for the convocation. This was verified at this meeting. It was also recommended that Pastor Jeff Morlock be the liaison between the council and the Oromo congregation.
 - c. **Scripture** – *Galatians 5:25.*
 - d. **Breakout sessions / leaders**
 - i. *Bishop Dan Selbo will be with us* as confirmed today by Pastor Bill.
 - ii. Workshop Topics (mostly finalized at this meeting):
 1. **Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost:** led by Pastor Michael Koch
 2. **Living the Good Life:** led by Pastor Bill and Jack
 3. **Let’s Go Krogering:** led by Pastor Mark (teaching/building skills for letting the Holy Spirit move us into action)
 4. Pastor Jeff to work with the Oromo congregation on a session about Spiritual Gifts.
 5. **I believe in the Holy Spirit...What does this mean?:** led by Pastor Paul
 - e. **Lunch arrangement:** *Pastor Bill motioned to use LA Catering (which is a non-profit supporting Meals on Wheels) as the provider for Box Lunches. Pastor Paul seconded and the vote was unanimous to accept.*
 - f. **Facilities fees and payments:** The council wants to pay the Oromo Congregation for the use of their facilities. Pastor Jeff is asked to talk to the congregation about this and establish amounts.

- g. **Offering from the service:** *Pastor Paul motioned that we donate the offering as an even split between the Oromo Congregation and NALC Disaster Relief. Ethel seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*
- h. **Convocation Registration Fees:** *Karen moved and Jack seconded the motion to keep the registration fee structure the same as last year. The vote was unanimous in favor.*

V. Old Business –

- a. Just a reminder to send Paula Mission District reports in advance of meetings via email so they can be posted on the web and easily added to the minutes.
- b. Pastor Paul revisited the discussion to bring Greg Finke to do a presentation as a state-wide event. The NCOMD has already nailed down the date and paid \$1,000 to secure the event. The dates secured are March 20-22 with the main day being March 21. The total cost for the “Kick the Tires” weekend is about \$5,000.
 - i. OMR is asked to absorb the cost of the mailings to the congregations and coordinate the registrations.
 - ii. *Jack motioned the “Kicking the Tires” event with Greg Finke be an OMR sponsored function where we would pay the costs of the event minus the registration fees (\$20 per person to include lunch) and down payment of \$1,000 already made by NCOMD. Pastor Bill seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*
 - 1. *The registration fee was amended to be \$20 for early and \$30 for late registrations. Registrations after March 7th would be deemed late.*
 - iii. *Sherry moved and Karen seconded the motion to hold the “Kicking the Tires” event at FELC. The vote was unanimous in favor. Pastor Paul confirmed the willingness to host.*
 - iv. *Pastor Bill moved and Ethel seconded the motion to pay \$150 for the organist \$100 for the custodian for the “Kicking the Tires” event and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

VI. New Business –

- a. Bishop Selbo asked Pastor Mark Daniels to be the convener of the Deans for the NALC. So, after the Convocation in May, Pastor Mark will be stepping down as Dean of the SWOMD and a new dean will be elected.

VII. Mission District Reports –

- a. **SWO-MD:**
 - i. Pastor Brian McGee accepted the call to become associate pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Springfield, Ohio. He will be installed on December 15.
 - ii. The church council of Saint John / Greenville, where Pastor McGee has been serving, is working well on filling Sundays over the next several months for pulpit / worship leadership supply. I’m working with them to secure an interim pastor as they prepare to appoint a call committee.
 - iii. The congregations of the district gathered, interestingly enough, at Saint John / Greenville for An Evening of Worship and Celebration on Sunday, September 8. An offering for the NALC Disaster Response was received. A good representation from most of the congregations of the district enjoyed worship and fellowship.
 - iv. The clergy of the district gather every other month for Bible discussion, prayer, and mutual support. We last met on September 11 and will meet again on November 20.
 - v. The district has a \$7000 match available to congregations wanting to help put roofs over the heads of those impacted by the Memorial Day tornadoes. So far, district congregations have designated \$6000, which will be matched by SOMD.
 - vi. We are in conversations with a group in the Cincinnati area about forming a new house church. About twenty people are involved and they are excited! There’s also interest in forming a new house church in another part of the Cincinnati area later in 2020. During our November 20 clergy meeting, Pastor Brad Hales, domestic missions director for the NALC, will meet with us by telephone to discuss the possibility of establishing a district goal of forming one new congregation within the district every five years.
 - vii. On January 11, we will have a retreat for all of our district’s church councils. In the morning, we will have an interactive presentation from Mr. Wally Martinson, area

director of the Mission Increase Foundation. After lunch, individual councils will hold their first meetings of the new year. At the end of the day, we will gather for worship with Holy Communion.

- viii. Living Water has three small teams working on preparing for final congregational approval for construction of a ministry center with the hope that groundbreaking can happen in the spring.
- b. NCO-MD:** On September 14th, FELC hosted a Stewardship event which was highly attended and very successful. FELC is looking for a parish secretary, and they are expanding to include a person to focus on youth and young adult ministries. Their Early Learning Center is also expanding. The Mission District has been focusing on the “Kicking the Tires” event and getting that rolling.
- c. NWO-MD:**
- i. Since our last meeting a lot has happened in the North West Ohio Mission District.
 - ii. Pastor Karen Tamorria announced her retirement to her 2-point parish, Zion-Chatt and St John’s-Hopewell, Labor Day Weekend, effective October 31, 2019. She and her husband Mike
 - iii. I installed the Pastor’s called to Grace-Jackson Center on September 19th, Bert and Shelly Schultz from Wisconsin.
 - iv. With the opening for the 2-point parish, an opportunity to suggest they look at becoming an Internship site for Seminarian Adam Poe, Youth Director at Zion-St Marys. They have agreed and we are working our way through the process. They are very excited about the possibility.
 - v. Should this happen, Zion-St Marys will revisit how it will serve its youth and my service to Zion will get a little more complicated.
 - vi. St John’s in Montpelier, OH, where Pastor Paul Gruetter serves, has its second intern in three years.
 - vii. Our Mission District Clergy met at First Lutheran in Troy for bi-monthly gathering in September. We will be meeting at Grace-Jackson Center next Tuesday.
 - viii. Pastor Bill’s church sent 70 flood buckets to NALC Disaster Relief.
- d. NEO-MD:**
- i. 44 persons from NEOMD went to NALC Disaster Response warehouse in Caldwell, OH on October 5. Six congregations involved; 200+ flood buckets created; warehouse organized; new friendships were made. A great mission event which we will repeat next year.
 - ii. NEOMD voted to give \$2000 to NALC Disaster Response in view of many natural disasters.
 - iii. NALC Disaster response applied for a \$25,000 grant from Trinity, Ashland, for a new warehouse that they would build on land near Caldwell. Most of the money is raised for the new warehouse, to be constructed in 2020.
 - iv. CREDO - the discipleship initiative of the NALC is going to have a test phase with at least five congregations in NOMD, plus a congregation in Thornville. During 2020 CREDO will be written and tested for the whole church body. More info at the pastor's conference in Feb.
 - v. Stone Lutheran in Ashland is in the interview process for a new pastor.
 - vi. Trinity, Ashland is looking for a full-time youth director. The job is full-time and has full benefits.
- e. SEO-MD:** Pastor Jeff was unavailable today.

- VIII. Next Meeting** – at FELC will be Friday January 17, 2020. Times remain the same. February 1, 2020 will be the backup date in the case of a weather problem.
- IX. Adjournment** –Jack motioned and Pastor Bill seconded our adjournment. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 12:30 pm (followed by lunch).

Action Items (new and ongoing):

1. *Pastor Jeff: Act as the liaison between the council and the Oromo congregation in the preparations for the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
2. *Pastor Jeff: Work with the Oromo congregation to create a workshop about Spiritual Gifts.*
3. *Pastor Jeff: Get a short description of (and title for) the workshop you create (see #2) to Paula as soon as you can for inclusion in this year’s OMR Convocation brochure.*
4. *Pastor Mike: Get a short description of the “Celebration of the Feast of Pentecost” workshop to Paula as soon as you can for inclusion in this year’s OMR Convocation brochure.*
5. *Pastor Bill & Jack: Get a short description of the “Living the Good Life” workshop to Paula as soon as you can for inclusion in this year’s OMR Convocation brochure.*
6. *Pastor Mark: Get a short description of the “Let’s Go Krogering” workshop to Paula as soon as you can for inclusion in this year’s OMR Convocation brochure.*
7. *Pastor Paul: Get a short description of the “I believe in the Holy Spirit...What does this mean?” workshop to Paula as soon as you can for inclusion in this year’s OMR Convocation brochure.*
8. *Pastor Bill: Continue to communicate with Bishop Dan and firm up plans for his keynote as you share our plans with him.*
9. *Pastor Jeff: Note the motion in item e under section IV above and work with the Oromo congregation to make these arrangements for lunch as we get closer to the date of the convocation.*
10. *Pastor Jeff: Talk to the Oromo congregation about payments for facilities and establish amounts to communicate back to the council.*
11. *Paula & Ethel: Start putting together a registration plan and online form for the “Kicking the Tires” weekend event.*
12. *Pastor Paul: Have the NCOMD create a brochure for the “Kicking the Tires” event.*
13. *Pastor Mike: Get the ELCA and Missouri Synod addresses you mentioned during the meeting to Pastor Paul for the mailing of the “Kicking the Tires” event brochures.*
14. *Paula & Ethel: Start putting together a registration plan and online form for the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
15. *Paula: Start creating the 2020 OMR Convocation brochure and backup paper registration form.*
16. *Pastor Paul: Communicate lunch plans for the “Kicking the Tires” event to the council so a vote on cost parameters can be made.*
17. *Council: Vote on a maximum cost per person for lunches for the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
18. *Council: Solicit nominations for Secretary of the OMR Council for the election at the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
19. *All deans: please send Paula Mission District reports in advance of meetings via email so they can be posted on the web and easily added to the minutes.*
20. *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)*
21. *Paula: Post the workshop leader-guides after the 2020 convocation along with pictures. (Still waiting for materials from workshop leaders from 2019)*
22. *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 or pastorkoch@trinityashland.org
- Dean Paul Larson plarson001@neo.rr.com

- Dean Jeff Morlock jmorlock@ualc.org
- Dean Bill Maki wem1@aol.com
- Dean Mark Daniels prmarklwc@gmail.com
- Don Karger kargerdonald@gmail.com
- Paula Caso pcaso64@gmail.com
- Karen Bentley rkbentley79@gmail.com
- Janice Cronebaugh jbcronebaugh65@gmail.com
- Jack Walker jack.walker@syngenta.com
- Sherry Shaffer harleyshaf@gmail.com
- Ethel Briggs ethelbriggs1@gmail.com