

Ohio Mission Region NALC – Executive Council meeting February 29, 2020



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

Minutes

Meeting @First English Lutheran Church – Mansfield, OH: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

- I. **Opening devotions and prayer** – Romans 5: 12-19. Sin entered the world and affected all through the actions of one man (Adam) and Salvation came into the world through one man (Jesus). There is a beautiful symmetry to this. Those who do not know God do not recognize their sin until it impacts someone else and it is brought to their attention. Evolution says death is necessary for “survival of the fittest” and death and sin go hand in hand. That is what is mainly taught to our children in schools, so another way is not easily discovered by them. We know the laws of our broken universe... all things tend toward entropy is a physical law. That the creator of the universe works in a different way is unfathomable to people. His grace requires nothing from us. Salvation is a free gift and works are not a factor at all. On the flip side, some people think works are useless and people think what they do is immaterial. However, it’s all about a relationship and not a transaction. Ended with a sonnet from Malcom Guite.
- II. **Treasurer’s Report (Don Karger)** – Don reported a few expenses since the last meeting. Nothing was out of the ordinary and the cash balance is in good shape.
- III. **Secretary’s Minutes** – These were prepared in early February and emailed at that time and then posted on the OMR website. No changes or additions were needed.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - a. **Finalization of details of Ohio Mission Region Convocation** (*Items in Green are decisions from previous meetings*)
 - i. **The date will remain the first Saturday in May: 5/2/2020.**
 - ii. **Theme – “Walking with the Holy Spirit”** will be the theme title of the 2020 OMR Convocation.
 - iii. **Location – Oromo Evangelical Church in Columbus** with Pastor Jeff Morlock being the liaison between the council and the Oromo congregation.
 - iv. **Scripture – Galatians 5:25.**
 - v. **Breakout sessions / leaders**
 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
 - vi. Bishop Dan Selbo will be with us.
 - vii. **Lunch arrangement: LA Catering as the provider for Box Lunches. Provide a gluten free lunch if possible. (Add a line on the registration for special dietary needs.)**
 1. Karen finalized the menu to Turkey, Ham, and Vegetarian options.

- viii. **Facilities fees and payments:** The council wants to pay the Oromo Congregation for the use of their facilities. It was decided to give a check for \$300 to the Oromo church to be distributed to those assisting with the convocation as an organist and custodian arrangement is not appropriate.
- ix. **Offering from the service:** an even split between the Oromo Congregation and NALC Disaster Relief.
- x. **Convocation Registration Fees:** keep the registration fee structure the same as last year.
- xi. **Installation service:** Pastor Bill will put together the installation part of the service and we'll let the Oromo pastors handle the communion distribution however they wish. If English words can be projected it would be helpful, but not required.
 - 1. The position of secretary of the OMR is up for election and needs to be part of the OMR business meeting.
- xii. **Vendors:** We know Sola and a couple others are coming. Ethel will coordinate arrangements for tables with Pastor Jeff.
- xiii. **Folders:** Get documents electronically to Ethel before April 27th
 - 1. Treasurer's report
 - 2. Proposed budget
 - 3. Bio and/or handouts from Bishop Selbo
 - 4. Welcome and report on the region
 - 5. Schedule of the day and breakout session descriptions
 - 6. Map of the facility
 - 7. Description of the office of OMR secretary
 - 8. Agenda for the OMR meeting and previous year's minutes

b. Other items?

- i. None were presented.

V. Treasurer's Budget Proposal to be presented at the Convocation – Don went through the current year's expenses and each item was discussed and clarified.

- a. Pastor Paul moved and Sherry seconded the move to accept the proposed budget for presentation to the OMR Convocation in May. The vote to accept was unanimous in favor.

VI. New Business

a. Other items?

- i. Let's have further conversation about planting churches in Ohio. Perhaps a lunch-hour discussion on this can be done next meeting.
 - 1. Question: Should we have an OMR Mission team? Tabled for another meeting.
- ii. Lay Ministry Training? Tabled for another meeting.
- iii. Adding disaster response to the OMR budget? This was decided against as it seemed to be limiting God when the need really arises. People are more likely to respond when there is a material need. "There's no story" in a budget.

VII. Mission District Reports –

- a. **SWO-MD:** Nothing new since the last meeting.
- b. **NCO-MD:** Nothing new since the last meeting.
- c. **NEO-MD:**
 - i. Two congregations are in the call process:
 - 1. Stone, Ashland has interviewed four pastoral candidates, but no decision has been made.
 - 2. Trinity, Ashland will have the congregational workshop on calling a pastor on 3/21.
 - ii. Rev. Miguel Acosta of Lorain has completed the process of becoming an NALC pastor.
 - iii. Rev. Tim Loehrke has completed an interim pastorate at Grace, Westerville.
- d. **NWO-MD:** NEO-MD: Here's some items of interest in the North West Ohio Mission District.
 - i. Both Internships in the Mission District going well.

- ii. Zion – St Marys held a Fish Fry last night (February 28) to raise money for their Seminarian and raised \$4,562.00.
- iii. St John’s – Montpelier currently has 10 youth at a Quake event in Chicago.
- iv. First Lutheran – Troy has received 10 new members since the beginning of January 2020. All former ELCA members.
- v. St John’s – Hopewell/Zion – Chatt are having midweek Lenten worship for the first time in 10 years.

e. SEO-MD:

- i. Recently, the Southeast Ohio Mission District Council adopted the following mission and vision for our mission district.

Mission: To Be and to Make Disciples of Jesus

Vision: Advancing God’s Kingdom Together...

Objective #1: by developing a process (early in 2020) for prayerfully discerning where, when, and how to plant new congregations and/or house churches.

Objective #2: by supporting collaborative ministries within the mission district (youth and family, men, women, disaster relief, etc.).

Objective #3: by supporting pastors and congregations with need-based scholarships for NALC seminary tuition, Life-To-Life Discipleship Coaching fees, Annual Pastors’ Conference and NALC Convocation registration.

Objective #4: by identifying in 2020 one or two potential internship sites in Southeast Ohio, so that we will be ready to receive and train future pastors for the mission of the church.

- ii. Five Southeast Ohio pastors recently completed Discipleship Coaching and will be certified as coaches after attending coach camp this Summer – Orrey McFarland, Scott Smith, Joe Valentino, Patti Morlock, and Jeff Morlock. Getting the pastor(s) certified to coach is the first step toward engaging an entire congregation in the Life-To-Life Discipleship process.
- iii. Pastor Karen Jersild, wife of Pastor Seth Jersild is seeking certification as NALC Clergy. She is a chaplain in the Mt. Carmel Health System. I will be doing her certification interview this Monday, 3/2.
- iv. Our MD offered Disaster Preparedness Training at St. Matthew, Logan on February 8-9. The training, which includes Active Shooter Preparedness, will be offered again on March 13-14 Grace Lutheran Church in Westerville.
- v. A joint 5-6th Grade gathering entitled, “CHOSEN” was hosted by Gary and Laurie Pecuch at St. John’s, Grove City on Saturday, February 22.
- vi. Our pastors continue to gather on a regular basis (about every 6 weeks for fellowship, time in the Word, and prayer. A pastors and spouses event is planned for June 12 in Grove City.

VIII. Next meeting? The OMR Convocation on 5/2/20 @ Oromo Evangelical in Columbus

IX. Adjournment / Closing prayer by Karen followed by the Lord’s Prayer at 12:04 PM.

Action Items (new and ongoing):

1. *Don: Get the treasurer’s report and proposed budget to Ethel for inclusion in the folders by April 20th.*
2. *Pastor Jeff: Get a map of the facility (if possible) to Ethel for inclusion in the folders by April 20th.*
3. *Pastor Bill: Get the Bio and/or handouts from Bishop Selbo to Ethel for inclusion in the folders by April 20th.*

4. *Pastor Mark: Get a "Welcome and report on the region" and an Agenda for the OMR meeting to Ethel for inclusion in the folders by April 20th.*
5. *Paula: Get last year's Convocation OMR Meeting minutes, Description of the office of OMR secretary, and B/W print of the Day's Schedule and Breakout Descriptions to Ethel for inclusion in the folders by April 20th.*
6. *Pastor Jeff: Continue to act as the liaison between the council and the Oromo congregation in the preparations for the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
7. *Pastor Bill: Continue to communicate with Bishop Dan and firm up plans for his keynote as you share our plans with him.*
8. *Pastor Paul: Communicate lunch plans for the "Kicking the Tires" event to the council so a vote on cost parameters can be made. \$10 per person was the decision.*
9. *Council: Vote on a maximum cost per person for lunches for the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
10. *Council: Solicit nominations for Secretary of the OMR Council for the election at the 2020 OMR Convocation.*
11. *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.*
12. *Paula: Post the workshop leader-guides after the 2020 convocation along with pictures. (Still waiting for materials from workshop leaders from 2019)*

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

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