

Illinois Lutheran Conference, Fall 2020 e-Journal

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News and Notes

Illinois Lutheran Conference

The 2020 ILC delegate convention took place on August 7, 2020, a bit later than initially planned, but necessary business was handled and those who attended enjoyed Christian fellowship with one another.



The 2020 Fall Mission Festival will be held Sunday October 25th at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Morris, IL. The 2021 ILC delegate convention will be held on Friday, June 11th at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Morris, IL. Trinity Lutheran Church will host the convention.

Trinity Lutheran Church of Ballwin, MO

Meeting place and time change: Please phone (314) 640-2477 or (696) 795-9511 for further information as services are now held in member's homes twice a month.

Eternal Savior Ev. Lutheran Church, Arbor Vitae, WI

Meeting place: Worship services are held in the Pastor's home.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Morris, IL

Building improvements are currently underway.

Treasurer's Report

Balance 6-16-2019: \$1286.34

Deposits: \$14350.42

Paid Outs: \$10677.47

Balance 8-7-2020: \$4959.29*

*Bank statement reconciled through July 21, 2020. Some transactions since this date may not be included.

Paid Outs:

President monthly bulletin: \$3000.00

Salaries: \$4000.00

Travel: \$3433.56

Webhost: \$191.86

Corporate registration: \$10.00

Bank (checks): \$42.05

Deposits:

Interest: \$0.42

Private: \$150.00

Trinity: \$11600.00

ESLC: \$100.00

OSLC: \$2500.00

ILC 2020-2021 Budget [as approved at 2020 delegate convention]

Salaries: \$7200.00

Travel: \$4500.00

Website/technology: \$250.00

Corp Reg./tax work: \$50.00

Misc. expenses: \$1000.00

TOTAL: \$13000.00

42nd ANNUAL ILC DELEGATE CONVENTION

Meeting Minutes: AUGUST 7, 2020 – MORRIS, IL

Attendees:

Eternal Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church: Pastor Latsch, Mark Luers, Linda Luers, and Matthew Luers

Our Savior Lutheran Church: Pastor Schilling, Charles Clubb, Kellee Rusniak and Dave Erickson
Trinity Lutheran Church: Tim Popp, Karen Raidy and Nato Popp

A church service was conducted by Pastor Schilling.

Hymns 5, 225, 297, 358, 283

Epistle reading: Isaiah 42: 1-7

Gospel reading: Mark 7: 31-37

Sermon based on Matthew 9: 27-31; "He Has Opened the Eyes of the Blind"

Church service concluded at 10:45am.

ILC Delegate Convention opened at 11:20am with prayer

Conference Reports:

1. President's Report read by Pastor Latsch. [printed in this Journal]
2. Secretary: 2019 meeting minutes read by Nato Popp.
3. Treasurer's Report: Charles Clubb presented 2019/2020 Financial Statement. [printed in this Journal]
4. Missionary: Vacant.
5. Visitor: Vacant.
6. Lutheran Theological Studies Services: None.
7. ILC website: Discussion on continuing to improve the website. Matthew Luers stated he feels the website is functioning fine. Charles Clubb mentioned the Monthly Bulletin is hard to locate. Tim Popp said that he will help with organizing the ILC website. Charles Clubb mentioned that Dave Erickson and he would work on collecting and downloading sermons from Pastor Shekner. Tim Popp stated that the members and he will work on organizing and downloading sermons from Pastor Popp.
8. Mission Reports: Our mission is the website.

Congregation Reports:

Eternal Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church: 4 members, no visitors; no updates.

Our Savior Lutheran Church: Report provided by Pastor Schilling. Attendance is about 10; a few visitors on a couple of occasions; no new members; potential of one new member; Jerry Erickson, Ruth Luers and Helen Shaw went to be with our Lord during the last year. The congregation is looking to purchase a machine to digitize sermon tapes.

Trinity Lutheran Church: Report provided by Tim Popp. Currently worshipping in members' homes. One member chose to leave the church over a disagreement regarding the topic of "justification". Average attendance was six in Bible Class and ten in church, before Covid-19. Four members no longer attending since July 2018. Three members no longer attending since February 2020. Two students (Nathanael Popp and Darin "Scott" Dunn) were recently confirmed by Pastor Schilling. Currently holding service two times per month. The plan is to continue to give freewill offerings to support Pastor visits. Encouraging members to support the ILC.

Discussion on reasons why people no longer attend church, why visitors don't return, and the importance of clinging to true doctrine.

Break for lunch from 12:25pm to 1:25pm. Prayer by Pastor Schilling.

Convention resumed at 1:25 with singing of Hymn 660

Charles Clubb made a motion to accept the reports as read and seconded by Pastor Schilling. All accepted. Motion carried.

Budget: proposed 2020/2021 ILC Budget presented by Charles Clubb (attached). Motion made by Pastor Schilling

and seconded by Dave Erickson. All accepted. Motion carried.

Doctrine: Pastor Schilling suggested he will present a paper next year on “What is a Sin Against the Holy Ghost.” Brief discussion on various scriptures on the topic. Important scripture to remember is Matthew 12: 31-32.

Pastor Schilling mentioned members that have not resigned from churches yet do not attend church. Important scripture to remember is Hebrews 10: 23 and following. Discussion regarding the process of taking communion if communicants have not regularly attended church. Pastor Latsch and Pastor Schilling will write a statement and distribute it to the congregations. Important scriptures to remember are: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29 and 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17.

Education: All in agreement that the Monthly Bulletin should continue.

Mission: All mission work is now done through the website. The Lutheran Reformation Hour does not exist anymore. The Lutheran Reformation Hour does have two websites and one Gmail account. Other mission goals:

We need to save the sermons that are currently posted in the website and may need to be removed in the future and/or look for additional storage.

We need to convert the sermons from Pastor Popp and Pastor Shekner from tapes to digital format. Referenced in the ILC Website Report listed above.

Preserve the Monthly Bulletin.

Mission Festival: Motion made by Charles Clubb to hold the 2020 Mission Festival on Sunday, October 25 (Reformation Sunday) at 10:00 am in Morris, IL (Our Savior Lutheran Church). Seconded by Matthew Luers. All accepted. Motion carried. Matthew Luers will add this information to the website.

Selection of Host for 2021 ILC Delegate Convention: Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Charles, MO. Date: Friday, June 11, 2021

Election of Officers: Charles Clubb made a motion to keep the same officers and add Tim Popp as historian and ILC website supervisor, replacing Jim Henry. Seconded by Matthew Luers. All approved. Motion carried. Officers are:

President: Pastor Mark Latsch

Vice President: Pastor Dale Schilling

Secretary: Nato Popp

Treasurer: Charles Clubb III

Visitor: Vacant

Missionary at Large: Vacant

Historian: Tim Popp

ILC Journal Editors: Pastor Mark Latsch and Pastor Dale Schilling

ILC Website Supervisors: Pastor Dale Schilling, Matthew Luers, and Tim Popp

Papers/Discussion/Casuistry

Doctrinal Discussion: Addressed in earlier discussion

Closing of Convention

Reading of Psalm 121. Singing of Hymn 657.

Meeting minutes read and amended.

Pastor Latsch thanked Our Savior Lutheran Church for hosting the convention.

Charles Clubb made a motion to accept minutes as read; seconded by Tim Popp. All accepted. Motion carried.

Pastor Latsch closed with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

ILC 2020 President's Report

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year is the 42nd annual ILC delegate convention, and by God's grace, mercy, and power we are still clinging to the real Jesus Christ and His true Word— the inerrant Holy Scriptures of the Old Testament Hebrew Masoretic text and the New Testament Greek Textus Receptus, both of which are completely and accurately translated into the English language in the King James Version Holy Bible.

The fruits of the use of false bibles by most churches in our country can be seen in a society that is becoming more and more inundated with false doctrines, sinful practices and lifestyles, unbelief, civil unrest, and massive violence. History is being repeated as what happened in the prophet Isaiah's day is occurring once again, for we read in Isaiah 3:12, "*As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.*"

Even the COVID-19 pandemic has not curbed the rampant ungodliness in society, for the sins of drunkenness, harmful drug use, fornication, and gambling are once again on the rise. Sadly, sincere repentance is not on the rise. Accordingly, it remains vital that we continue to cling to the one true Savior, Jesus Christ, who is true God and true man, for "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

A number of folks in our fellowship departed this vale of tears during the past year, and we take comfort in knowing that their souls now enjoy the glory and happiness of being with the Lord Jesus Christ in heavenly bliss, for He promises: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 5:24; 3:17-18)

The ILC website continues to be our main mission outreach tool. A number of people are making use of the website for audio sermons and written materials, albeit the number of regular users is not very high but has actually dropped somewhat within the past year. Nevertheless, every soul is precious, and if the Lord God uses our humble efforts to convert but one sinner it is heartening, for He promises: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it." (Isaiah 55:11)

Let us continue to thank and praise God for all that He has done and still does for us sinners, because, "*It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.*" (Lamentations 3:22) Our Lord Jesus assures us, "Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Revelation 22:20)

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Mark E. Latsch, ILC president

Reminder: Please note that select sermons can be heard on the ILC website "sermons" web-page. See ILC "Journal" web-page for back issues and Topical Bulletins.