

Messiah Lutheran Church, Camrose
Witnessing Committee

Minutes of meeting of 3 January, 2018, 5:00 p.m., as held in Fellowship Centre.

Present: Cece Watts, Chair, Pastor Calvin Skriver, Shirley Loewen, Erhard Pinno,
Carolyn Andersen, Mary Ellen and Vincent Eriksson.

Devotions: Erhard played music, through his portable phone, for a hymn, and then read a devotion for New Year's Day, followed by a poem on approaching a new year from a 1973 selection which had been found by his late wife, Lorene. [Later in the evening, Erhard sent us copies, by e-mail, of the poem.]

Review of December 10 events.

Cece had included, with the Agenda, a description of attendance, with comments, which is reproduced here: "Friendship club coffee after pageant - one large Nanaimo bars and 3 boxes of oranges. For next year we will get only one box of oranges, One large Nanaimo bars was sufficient. -- Potluck after worship service (same day as pageant) - close to 150 attended. We used paper plates. Men's Bible study group were in charge of set up and clean up. Great work. We almost ran out of hot dishes but had lots of salad and dessert."

Lunchfest on January 14.

There was lengthy discussion. Shirley had investigated costs of hamburgers, wieners and buns. Initially preparation of such was discussed. However, this plan was dropped, replaced by preparation of chili with buns, chili to be prepared at home and brought in hotpots Sunday morning. Shirley will order buns, carrot sticks, celery, and cream. Coffee will be prepared Sunday morning. For serving, paper plates, two tables, so four lines.

Because of some birthday preparations (for Saturday afternoon and for Sunday), desserts will be provided by others.

Refugee update. Erhard mentioned that he and Yvonne are slated to present to the adult forum on January 14th. There is no recent information about the long-expected family. Yvonne has been in contact with the Vancouver family where Jemila was to spend Christmas. Erhard reminded us that he is no longer chair of the Messiah refugee committee.

Directory update. Cece has talked with Doreen, but she is not clear about other possible workers.

Doreen has been assembling pictures of Messiah activities. Apparently there is a name given by the photo company for contact to Doreen, but it is not clear when this would take place.

Other items. Mention was made of the world mission events during January.

Pastor Cal was asked whether there possibly were to be new members in the near future. He said that there had been several enquiries. Carolyn mentioned that at some time in the past there had been the practice of some families being mentors to new families.

Pastor Cal commented on the Constitution of the congregation in relation to membership.

Erhard pointed out that "friends" would be a more welcoming description than "adherents", and it was agreed that this description should be used where possible in the new Directory.

Next meeting -- to be February 7, 5 p.m., with Shirley leading devotions.

Closing prayer -- by Pastor Calvin. Adjournment was 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Vincent E. Eriksson

