

Southeastern Synod Conference 2 – GOOD NEWS

March 10, 2018

St. John Lutheran Church Griffin, GA

President Carla Stickles opened the meeting by recognizing the people attending for the first time. She encouraged the group to work towards better attendance for our meeting to be held on March 28, 2019.

Debbie Lundell, NovusWay Ministries

- She brought us up to date on the happenings of the various Luther sites.
- She gave us several brochures and encouraged us to build attendance for Lutheranch summer camp.

Deborah Coleman Wilson, Treasurer, Southeastern Synod WELCA Board

- Gave us a report on the Women of the ELCA, with emphasis on Mission & Purpose.
- She gave us a list of important dates and encouraged the women to attend the upcoming conference to be held September 14-16th at Lakepoint State Park – Eufaula, Alabama

We moved to the church for the opening devotion led by Molly Wright a member of St. Matthew, Columbus, GA. The theme of her devotion was My Shepherd You Supply My Need.

Mary Brunso, Southeastern Synod Disaster Ministry Committee

- She explained what the program is and what a disaster leader is responsible for.
- More information is found on the Synod website and Facebook page.
- There is a need for coordinators and she encouraged us to consider this opportunity. There is training provided by the Synod.

Hilton Austin, Director of the Southeastern Synod Advocacy Council

- He addressed the interrelated social issues that are the root causes of hunger and poverty.
- We received a list of the current bills for the state of GA which he encouraged us to support by contacting our representatives.

The Rev. Dr. Everett Flanigan, Administrative Dean of Lutheran Theological Center in Atlanta

- Spoke on the TEEM Program.
- The core to this program is to bring highly trained pastors together with students to prepare them to work within their community.

The Rev. Stephen Friedrich, pastor from Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Marietta, GA and representative from the Guatemala Team

- An update on the happenings in Guatemala was given.
- Pastor Karen, President of the Lutheran Church in Guatemala will be speaking at the 2018 Southeastern Synod Assembly in Chattanooga, TN. On September 8th she will be in Atlanta at the Hilton. The event is the MILARGO Women's Center Gala and all are invited to attend.
- We were given a brochure with information on the MILARGO Women's Center and a complete list of upcoming opportunities to learn more.

Deacon Michelle Angalet, Assistant to the Bishop, ELCA Southeastern Synod

- Bishop Gordy sent greetings and thanks for the Mission Support the members have provided.
 - Deacon Angalet had attended the ground breaking for the new Synod Offices at St. John's, Atlanta, GA earlier in the day.
 - She gave us the information on the upcoming Synod Assembly in June, mentioning early registration by the end of the month. The elections at this meeting will be for Vice President and Churchwide Assembly voting members. Nominations are due by April 8th.
 - We were asked to share the Synod News if we receive this publication.
 - A new website is being developed and the synod staff look forward to receiving inspirational stories that we may have to share.

Gary Pederson, member of ELCA Church Council ~~representing the Southeastern Synod~~

- ELCA Church Council meets 4 times a year.
- Any questions on Constitutional Regulatory Affairs can be addressed by Gary.
- A new lay person from the Southeastern Synod to be elected next year.

Carla led the group in prayer before lunch which was served by the members of St. John, Griffin, GA. A free will offering was taken to offset the food expenses for the lunch.

Business meeting right after lunch was held.

- Previous meetings minutes were accepted as printed
- The chair asked for the minutes for this meeting be ready before the Assembly and available to be sent to Synod office.
- St. Luke's Oglethorpe, GA celebrated their 180 Anniversary on October 21st.

The Rev. Dr. Gary Christiansen, Redevelopment Ministry and pastor of Resurrection, Newman, GA

- As the world changes God's mission remains the same.
- God's mission is bigger than our congregations
- We are invited to be part of His mission
- Spoke about United Transformation 2.0, a process that the Southeastern Synod Mission, Outreach and Renewal Committee is engaged in with participating congregations

Joyce Moore, Church Administration and Council President of St. Matthews, Columbus, GA

Presented the Idea of Behavioral Covenants.

- Studied the covenant as prepared by St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council
- Introduced the book Behavioral Covenants in Congregations by Gil Rendle

Carla closed the day by leading us in prayer.

Respectively Submitted

Barbara M Huggins, Conference 2 recording secretary/treasurer