

Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) Call Committee Minutes

Thursday, October 21, 2021 from 5:45pm-6:45pm

Call Committee Present: Sharon Ammerman, Chris Dubak, Julie Lange, Martin Morud, Karen Nork, Berit Strom, Sarah Warren, Paul Nasvik (alternate)

Call Committee Absent: Kevin Noeldner

Meeting called to order at 5:50pm by chairs, Martin Morud and Sarah Warren. Quorum established with 7 of 9 present, then Paul joined at 5:56pm for 8 of 9 present. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes with two edits (Berit Storm was not present and to add the Town of Somerset data), motion seconded by Karen. Motion passed.

Began work on the Ministry Site Profile (MSP).

Characteristics –

Source	www.city-data.com (2019)
Population/Growth	2,920 (pop. change since 2000 showed a +87.7%)
Urban/Rural Percentage	94% urban; 6% rural
Males	1,413 (48.4%)
Females	1,507 (51.6%)
Average Household Size	2.6 people
% of Family Households	66.1%
% of Unmarried Partner Households	13.3%
% of LGBTQ Households	0.6%
Marital Status	Never married 40% Now married 43.2% Separated 1.2% Widowed 1.6% Divorced 13.9%
Median Age (resident vs WI)	30.3 years locally and 39.9 across WI
Median Household Income	\$66,800 formerly \$45,194 in 2000
Estimated Home Value	\$190,742 formerly \$105,000 in 2000
Median Gross Rent	\$911
% Living in Poverty	9.2%

Original: 10/21/2021

Revised: N/A

# of People in Emergency & Transitional Shelters due to Homelessness	24
Race/Median Household Income	White 87.3% (2,448) / \$70,995 2+ races 6% (168) / \$63,696 Hispanic 3.6% (100) / \$19,127 Asian 1.2% (35) / unknown Black 0.8% (23) / \$31,820 Other 0.5% (14) / \$63,696 American Indian 0.2% (7) / \$95,125
English as a Second Language (ESL)	8.8% speak non-English in the home
Somerset Elementary (PK-4)	672 students
Somerset Middle	467 students
Somerset High	479 students
St. Anne's Private Elementary & Middle (PK-8)	119 students
Churches	Christ Lutheran Church (CLC), St. Anne's Catholic Church; The Bridge
For those 25 years and older	High school or higher 95.4% BA or higher 23% Graduate or professional degree 5% Unemployed 3.8% Mean commute time to work 28 minutes

Context – highly educated; very affluent; schools along St. Croix River are one of the best schools in WI; referendum passed in 2020 which included remodeling elementary, middle, and high school – all schools are revitalized for our future growth; concerts may be coming back; more diverse; higher house values; higher household income; St. Croix River Crossing (bridge) built and bringing more people with a faster commute time to the Twin Cities; industrial increases; farming; small town feel; new library; updated grocery store; updated laundry mat.

Trends – feels like we are in transition due to pastoral changes, pandemic brought better technology, CLC wants to be settled; want stability; increase in growth with the number of homes; established a virtual platform; more welcoming/approachable; always been a simple worship and down to earth; the dinner church is another simple and down to earth approach to ministry; pastor who is outgoing, friendly, welcoming, more informal than formal, get to know the core of each person, connection before content; note cards (personal touch to encourage involvement); psychological safety (we all make mistakes, but together we will learn and support the pastor); we are bringing in less and less funds; CLC offering should be acknowledged and praise given at the altar and Simply Giving encouraged, but not over encouraged; COVID effects – increased spousal/child abuse; increased mental illness; food shelf needs; introvert/extrovert positives and negatives; family is important.

Programs – survival mode; never enough volunteers; Dinner Church (newer – posters around the village, should add to FB communications).

Current programs: Shoe Away Hunger (last 5 years); food shelf collection; mitten tree; shoebox collection; sense of community; fellowship; connections between generations; Christ's Kids education; confirmation; high school youth group; mission trips; adult/kid choirs; ukulele ministry; during school year – weekly meals; special events (fundraisers, Truck or Treat, Election Night Ham Dinner); holiday services; music classes; bible study; men and women's groups; crafting club; Pea Soup Days parade; drive-in service; weddings; baptisms; funerals; hall rental; church family support (meal trains, Augie's Angels); meeting space for Scouts, AA, etc.; Love Baskets – Christmas partnership with Salvation Army; Scandinavian meal.

Future programming ideas: community preschool or daycare; community homeschool social club; homework helpers (tutoring); Peas Soup Days booth; neighboring community celebrations; backpack program (weekly snacks/school supplies); Somerset Chamber of Commerce member; overnight winter homeless shelter; tween & teen fun activity club; high school volunteer club – painting river supports, helping elderly, etc.; confirmation class reunions; support groups; fall festival/solstice celebrations/music festival; elementary school dance; middle school dance; partnership with Kennedy's Café for Thanksgiving; partnership with Best Christmas Ever.

Goals – enthusiasm; people in seats; internet/tech friendly/sound; building utilization; LADC Discover Center – call committee wants to ensure there are Christian values and religion-based curriculum.

Energy – need a pastor with energy; the congregation's energy is trending up; many congregation members are waiting to see how we respond; energy in our youth; we are here to stay and are revitalizing.

Partnership – interest in partnering with Trinity/Zion; signage to share we are here and open; build a Bridge/St. Anne's/CLC partnership (a few activities were started pre-COVID and we want to revive this) – kids are at school together, so kids can bring their friends for an activity night; energy in youth; Bridging Somerset (school district); partnership with concert grounds (KTIS Joyful Noise, meals, care, etc.).

Ministry Site Characteristics – informal, not spontaneous (3); some defined goals (2); racially becoming more diverse as our community grows (3); we are welcoming and encourage ideas (2); we rely on our leaders for direction (1); avoid conflict – however, conflict is an opportunity to learn (3); facilities are used by community groups (1); currently not training, but have trained people to minister inside our walls (3); we focus on skills and action (4); obviously evangelical Lutheran in identity and practice (1); we have participated in retreats and activities with the synod and ELCA which COVID has limited (2); we focus on Biblical studies and doctrine (1).

Motion to adjourn made by Julie and seconded by Sharon. Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm. Sharon led a closing prayer. Next meeting's agenda, continue working on the MSP. Next meeting on Thursday, November 4 from 5:45pm-6:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Lange