

1906 COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

10 January [pp. 129–131] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which the treasurer presented his quarterly report. The chair declared the business of 1905 completed, and the council elected its officers for 1906. John Jaegeler was elected to the board of trustees and was thanked for his seven years of service as secretary. Anton Schmidt was elected secretary of the council. The council formed a committee for the annual rental of pew seats. Christian F. Gennerich and Fred Hoefner put up the \$2,000 bond for the treasurer. Pr. Koepchen reported on gifts to the Progymnasium at Hawthorne, NY [the precursor of Concordia, Bronxville] to aid students. The council proposed discussing plans for a Sunday School festival at the next congregational meeting. The Repair Committee reported that the gaslight was fixed and that improving the lighting would be extremely expensive. It was also noted that, without the extra collection from the Reformation Festival, the church would have incurred a deficit of \$1,400 for 1905.

15 January [pp. 132–133] - Quarterly CONGREGATIONAL MEETING in which both the chair and the treasurer presented their annual reports and Theodore Young was accepted into membership. Pr. Koepchen then gave his detailed annual report. (see *Altes und Neues* attached to p. 139)

Important statistics from the report:

- Baptized: 123
- Confirmed: 72
- Married: 134 couples
- Buried: 26
- Communed: 1,233

Annual reports of the Sunday School superintendent and the Missions Society followed. The chair encouraged continued giving to the Bethlehem Orphanage in College Point, Queens. The meeting also voted to allow Pr. Schiller to collect funds from the congregation and Sunday School for his new building. They also approved money for the Progymnasium.

8 February [pp. 134–135] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which they decided that the Sunday School festival would be a picnic rather than a boat trip. Pr. Koepchen announced that the recently begun Bible classes on Sunday evening were going well. The council discussed the beginning of the Lenten season and the purchase of 100 new hymnals for the Holy Week services. They scheduled a reunion of recent confirmands for Palm Sunday. They also decided to take a collection for the orphanage at services on February 18 and to send circulars to the congregation announcing this.

7 March 1906 [pp. 135–136] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which they decided to hold the Sunday School festival at the Schutzen Park in NJ. Pr. Koepchen reported that the Ladies Aid Society wanted to hold a picnic rather than have a boat trip. The pastor announced that he would continue to collect funds for the Progymnasium and encouraged members to participate in the school's 25th anniversary. He also suggested that the

thank-offering at the confirmation reunion be considered a special gift to the church. Pr. Koepchen requested permission to attend the synodical convention in Baltimore, MD, on May 9–15. The council postponed this discussion until their next council meeting so that the pastor could learn how other churches would be covering their worship services during the convention. The final tally for the orphanage collection on February 18 was \$548.65, with \$27.50 spent for expenses.

4 April [pp. 137–138] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which the treasurer presented his quarterly report. The Picnic Committee reported that the church picnic would be held at the Schutzen Park in NJ on June 25. According to the bylaws, the next congregational meeting was to have taken place on Easter Monday, but because that date was a holiday, the council moved the meeting to Thursday, April 19. The council authorized reimbursing the pastor for his travel expenses to the synodical conference in Baltimore. Costs for the confirmation reunion would be paid by the special collection taken at the event. Pr. Koepchen stated that he would report on the candidates for the teaching position at the next meeting.

19 April [pp. 138–140] - Quarterly CONGREGATIONAL meeting at which Pr. Koepchen reported that he would return from the synodical convention on May 13 to conduct the worship services; the meeting then decided to cancel the evening service on that day. The pastor also requested permission to travel to Chicago over the summer to participate in the selection of a new professor for the Progymnasium. Reports from the Hospital Committee [plans to have a collection toward building a new hospital] and the orphanage [no details] followed. The council also authorized needed repairs to the tower.

2 May [p. 141] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which the chair reported that the plans for the picnic were progressing. The council allotted \$9 for cups and glasses from the general funds. Pr. Koepchen reported that \$132 had been collected for the Progymnasium and already sent to the school. He also stated that was no decision about hiring a teacher. The orphanage representative announced that its annual festival was scheduled for May 30.

6 June [pp. 142–143] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at the home of John Jaegeler (864 6th Ave.). Pr. Koepchen reminded the council members that the train for the Progymnasium festival on June 24 would leave Grand Central station at 9:33AM. Some of the council members asked to help with the meal service at that event. Prof. Beute from the St. Louis seminary would preach at the festival service and at St. Luke's on July 1. Plans for the Sunday School picnic were completed. The council gave Pr. Koepchen permission to travel to Chicago for the selection of a new professor for the Progymnasium.

2 July [pp. 143–144] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which the chair read his report [no details given]. Pr. Koepchen reported on the finances for the Progymnasium festival [no details given]. The chair suggested that the August council meeting be cancelled because he would be in the country.

[No Church Council meeting in August 1906.]

12 September [pp. 144–146] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which they discussed matters related to the building (e.g., clocks, furnace replacement, weather stripping around the altar). The council decided to postpone work in the Sunday School area until the following summer. The Support Committee announced that the church had paid Frau Neumann's rent for July, August, and September. There had been a potential buyer for the church property, but the offering price was not sufficient. The treasurer reported a profit of \$63 from the Saturday School and an inheritance of \$200 from Judith Hecht. Pr. Koepchen received a letter from the Progymnasium detailing the 25th anniversary festival.

17 September [pp. 147–148] - Quarterly CONGREGATIONAL MEETING at which the chair announced that a new furnace had been purchased and would be installed soon. Plans were also underway to repair the sidewalk in front of the church. John Wittpenn reported that the Lutheran Hospital was owed \$1,500 from congregations who had not yet paid the medical bills for people sent there for treatment. The Sunday School festival had a deficit of \$107. The congregation decided to hold a Missions Festival on the second Sunday in October. Pr. Koepchen announced that the Progymnasium had 31 students and was making progress on its renovations. He also reported on the school's 25th year jubilee festival and a bequest to offset a \$1,000 deficit. An appeal was made to help rebuild Pr. Schiller's church.

30 October [pp. 149–150] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which Pr. Koepchen announced that the Missions Festival would take place on October 14 and have a guest preacher. The chair reported that the new furnace had been installed and that a contract had been signed to repair the sidewalk. The council also discussed changing the locks. To date, the confirmation class had 68 students and more were expected. The Saturday School had 115 students. The Progymnasium now had 85 enrolled.

7 November [pp. 150–151] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which the chair named a nominating committee to seek candidates for upcoming vacancies in church offices. The council decided to send a thank-you letter to Herr Schwartzalder for donating flowers in memory of his father. It was also announced that Professor Schwarz [?] from the Progymnasium would be installed on November 8 and that another professor would be installed four weeks later. The Missions Festival collected \$105; \$14.50 was collected by the Sunday School.

7 December [pp. 151–153] - Meeting of the CHURCH COUNCIL at which they approved a request from the Sunday School superintendent to cancel Sunday School on December 23 to allow time for decorating the Christmas tree. They also decided to send a postcard to members reminding them of the congregational meeting on December 26. Pr. Koepchen noted that the new professor of Greek at the Progymnasium would be installed in January 1907. The council gave permission to hold that event at St. Luke's. The council unanimously approved the request to raise the pastor's salary from \$1,800 to \$2,100 for

1907. They also agreed to pay the janitor \$12 per week. Finally, the slate of candidates for church offices was announced.

26 December [pp. 153–155] - Quarterly CONGREGATIONAL MEETING at which Pr. Koepchen reported that the congregation had collected \$360 to help reduce the Progymnasium's debt—half came from four people (\$100 for a funeral service, one donation of \$50, and two donations of \$25). That school reported having five professors and 85 students. There were also new congregations in Hawthorne and White Plains, both served by Pr. Heck. Pr. Koepchen reminded the meeting that the new professor of Greek would be installed at St. Luke's on January 2, 1907; the Ladies Aid Society would provide refreshments. The Missions Festival collected \$105; another \$14.50 was collected by the Sunday School. It was also reported that the Lutheran Hospital was experiencing financial difficulties, as was Bethlehem Orphanage because of an increase in the number of children there. The election of officers followed.