

**First Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**Present:** Denise Brewers, John Campion, Kristin Campion, Kim Christianson, Pastor Bob Dahl, Bev Frye, Jean Haug, Jeff Jorgenson, Betty Kauffman, Corlys Knudson, Linda Konn, Pam Larsen, Shelly Maes, Mark Mather, Heather Miller, Marlene Nordby, Tom Nordby, Jason Peterson, Donna Reaves, Pastor Jacquelin Rostad, Pam Russell, Marie Sample, Rebecca Steilen, Pam Sukalski, Tonya Tomasek, Shana Zahrbock.

President Jeff Jorgenson called the council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the reading of the First Lutheran Church's mission statement.

Pastor Jacquelin Rostad led the council in devotions and prayer.

Pastor Dahl was presented with a gift, and coffee and cake (made by Bev Frye) were enjoyed by all as a thank you and appreciation for all of the work that Pastor Dahl and the staff have done in Pastor Wasberg's absence.

**PASTORS' REPORTS:**

**Pastor Dahl** clarified the schedule of church activities during a snowstorm. If there are no school activities, there will be no activities at the church. On a Sunday morning, there will be at least 1 worship service so the weekly worship service can be broadcast on the radio and the TV.

The Christmas schedule will be similar to last year. Christmas Eve, worship services will be at 2:30, 4:30, and 10:00 p.m. There will be a 9:30 a.m. worship service on Christmas Day; no Saturday worship service on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

\$300 have been donated to add to the \$1000 given from the 10% of the 10% Benevolent Fund for the "Bible sticks" being given to troop members by Faith Comes by Hearing.

Volunteers who serve on a regular basis (Monday morning money counters, etc.) will be given gift cards to Perkins as in the past. This will amount to about \$400.

**Pastor Rostad:** Her 3-month review and reports are completed. In February she will begin her required internship project. This will be a 10-session group meeting of people of various ages discussing how telling your own faith story helps you better tell God's story.

**Secretary's Report:**

Note: The church will not be charged by the cable company to broadcast the weekly worship service on TV.

Note: The Appleton Prison is scheduled to close in February. Prisoners of Hope Ministry will hopefully be used in another location.

A motion was made by Pam Larsen, seconded by Betty Kauffman and carried to accept the minutes as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The giving in November was down \$3,000 from October and the checkbook balance on December 1<sup>st</sup>, after adding in the Simply Giving, was around \$3,800. The 10% of the 10% Benevolence Fund balance currently is \$1417.10. Question: Should that money be given away by the end of the year? Tom Nordby moved, Jason Peterson seconded, carried to accept the treasurer's report as given and printed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**By Law Changes:** A change / clarification will be made as to how many committee members should attend council meetings to read: "Each committee shall be encouraged to have at least 2 members present at council meetings." (ALL council members are welcome and encouraged to attend all council meetings.)

**Regarding the date for annual meetings:**

Annual Meeting: The bylaws will read that the annual meeting "shall take place on or around the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in January."

**Regarding the 2010 Annual Meeting:**

A motion was made by Pam Larsen, seconded by Denise Brewers and carried to hold the 2010 annual meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> between worship services. The business of the church - bylaw changes, the ballot, 2010 Financial Plan, etc. will be the items on the agenda, followed by the foundation's annual meeting. A report from the Education Task Force will be the last item on the agenda with the possibility that the reporting / meeting may have to be continued by January 24<sup>th</sup> to allow time for questions.

**Nominating Committee:** The committees were thanked for submitting names for the ballot. With their help and the committee working with Pastor Dahl, the ballot is almost filled. 3 people are needed for the Nominating Committee which will prepare the 2011 ballot.

**Ad-hoc Education Task Force:** 5 people have agreed to serve on this task force, so far. Jeff will convene the first meeting, setting ground rules, etc. and then the group will work on its own.

**First Lutheran Survey Results:** 597 surveys were sent out; 164 responses were received. The responses were spread throughout the statements on the survey.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Benevolence Distribution:** Tom Nordby moved, seconded by Pam Larsen to give \$700 to the Food Shelf and \$700 to the Ministerial Human Compassion Fund which will be used for the support of Clarence Miller. The motion failed.

Pam Russell moved, seconded by Shelly Maes to give \$500 to the Food Shelf, \$500 to Heart to Heart, and \$400 to the Ministerial Human Compassion Fund, not to be used for the support of Clarence Miller. The motion carried.

**Locking of the church doors:** Sarah Banks is now locking the doors 5 nights a week. A motion was made by Mark Mather, seconded by Tom Nordby to authorize the treasurer to pay Sarah for doing this job. The motion carried.

**Servers needed for the remainder of December:** Shana Zahrbock passed around a sheet on which council members were encouraged to volunteer to serve in various capacities during the remaining days of December.

**Committees were asked to submit their reports to the secretary via e-mail or a hard copy.**

The staff was excused for a discussion of the 2010 Financial Plan. As much discussion, Jean Haug moved, seconded by Tom Nordby to approve the plan with 2% pay increases. The motion carried. The proposed plan will be presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting for the approval of the congregation. It will be reviewed after the first quarter, and if needed, a congregational meeting will be called to make any necessary changes.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Nordby,  
Secretary

**UPCOMING DATES:**

**Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> - 2010 Annual Meeting @ (approx.) 9:45 a.m.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

For the Dec. Council Meeting:

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

1. The Sunday School Christmas programs will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. "Jesus: Light of the World" is the Pre-School – 1<sup>st</sup> graders during the worship Services and the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders "Christmas In Reverse" will be at 3:00 p.m. A Big Thank You to the leadership for the effort and expertise of preparing the children to present their programs...great job!!
2. In lieu of buying individual Christmas Gifts for Sunday School Teachers, families have the opportunity to donate money to the Church Library in honor of their teachers. Students will pick a leaf off the "giving tree" to give to their teacher.

As of Dec. 13, \$230.00 has been donated in honor of the Sunday School teachers.

3. Sunday School students will be given Christmas Gifts ( stars, pens and bible cross markers) along with their 2010 Offering Envelops from the church
4. Upcoming events are: First communion for 5<sup>th</sup> graders on March 24<sup>th</sup> during Holy Week, Confirmation for 8<sup>th</sup> graders on May 2, Appreciation Brunch for teachers on May 16 and VBS: June 7 -11.
5. New members to the Education Committee next year are Christine Versaevel and Alison Winkelman

#### **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:**

1. Ordering new picture brochure, post card and note cards as a result of the completion of our new picture directory by Olin Mills this year.
2. First Lutheran will advertise in the 2010 Guide to Marshall coming out soon.
3. The Tables of Eight continue to meet through the coming year.
4. New members on the Evangelism Committee are Tracy Peterson and Heather Rokeh.

#### **SOCIAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE**

We served the evening meal at Esther's Kitchen in November. Our next meal served will be Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. We have signed up to serve Esther's Kitchen every third Thursday next year so that we have a set schedule. We have a schedule for our committee members to receive angel tree donations (\$25) during the first three weekends in December. The angel tree supports our missionaries in Tibet. Donna will write the committee's annual report. The area food shelf theme for January will be "Canuary" Food Shelf items, (Thank you for the idea, Pastor Jackie). We are emphasizing canned food donations. The "Essentials" tree is up in the narthex. The items donated will be given to the area elementary children in response to some of the teachers who have told us that some of their students are without gloves, socks, and other cold-weather clothes. The sewing group has donated several holiday layettes and blankets to LLMC. Our recent endeavors include quilts which are being made for a young girl who has faced cancer this past year and an adult who was in a car accident. If any of our church members knows of someone who would like/need a sewn item, let one of our committee members know.

#### **YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY COMMITTEE**

December Report

Tonya finished up the second sessions of Sunday morning forums for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders. There was great attendance.

Little League had their annual bowling party in November.

Genesis led the Praise Services in November and did an excellent job.

We went to the Disciple Concert at the Marshall High School sponsored by Life Light.

62 6-8 graders attended the Jr. High Synod Youth Gathering in Willmar. It was awesome!

The Good News Bearers group made cards for "Operation Write Home" that will be sent overseas for the soldiers to use to write home to their families.

The Senior High youth are doing the Bible Stick project with the congregation as their Christmas offering project.

Distribution of the Family Advent candles and devotions went really well. All were taken.

The three College Student Worship Services went well on Thanksgiving weekend.

All of the weekly programming is going strong.

Youth Encounter Concert is at Shetek in December for grades 7-12.

Junior and Senior High youth will be delivering food boxes for Heart to Heart Friday December 11<sup>th</sup>. Anyone can help out.

G3 liturgical dance will dance for the first time this year on Sunday Dec 13 at both services.