

**First Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
**November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**Present:** Joe Clark, Pastor Bob Dahl, Tami Doom, Jean Haug, Jeff Jorgenson, Corlys Knudson, Shelly Maes, Marlene Nordby, Tom Nordby, Lori Obler, Dawn Planting, Pastor Jacquelin Rostad, Pam Russell, Marie Sample, Rebecca Steilen, Tonya Tomasek, Shana Zahrbock.

President Jeff Jorgenson called the council meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. with the reading of First Lutheran Church's mission statement. Pastor Dahl led the council in devotions and prayer.

**Pastors' Report:**

**Pastor Dahl:** Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, the church will be required to pay for the cable TV broadcast of the weekly worship service. The cost for the year will be \$154. Clarence Miller, a level 3 sex offender, is now residing in Marshall. Two congregations have been paying for his stay at a local motel @ \$400 / month. First Lutheran may offer some financial help in the future.

The visit to the Appleton Prison will be on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. 7 will be attending and participating in the prison's worship service. It was suggested that some of the 10% of the 10% benevolence might be used to support the prison ministry.

Nomination Committee: since no one was elected at the 2009 annual meeting, committees have been asked to find replacements for their committee. Pastor Dahl will convene a committee made up of committee members to be responsible for a full slate, including 3 for a nominating committee, for the 2011 election.

**Pastor Rostad:** Pastor Rostad and Pastor Dahl attended the fall Intern Cluster Meeting held at the Shalom Hill Farm. Interns in the area met to discuss their experiences – joys, surprises, and stresses. Supervising pastors also met. Pastor Jackie feels her work is going well and she is happy to be at First Lutheran.

**Secretary's Report:** Lori Obler moved, seconded by Joe Clark, and carried to accept the secretary's report as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** A thank you letter was received from Shetek LM thanking First Lutheran for its support which was over and above what the camp had expected. The checking account decreased around \$6,000 and giving decreased around \$8,000 in October. Giving is down \$71,174 according to the plan. Jean Haug moved, seconded by Lori Obler, and passed to accept the report as given / printed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Intern Committee:** Things are going well with the intern.

**Strategic Planning Committee Update:** The group continues to meet. They are presently working on the procedure for annual staff reviews and goal setting.

**By-Law Changes:** This information is on the website, copies are available in the

narthex, and can be mailed upon request.

**Church Cleaning:** Dawn Planting volunteered to go through the church, identifying areas that need cleaning / fixing / updating / etc. The Property and Management Committee will be responsible for the work involved once the list is made.

**Appleton Prison visit:** The visit to the Appleton Prison will be on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. 7 will be attending and participating in the prison's worship service. Names and DOB of those attending have been sent to the prison.

**Special Congregational Meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>:** The meeting went well, giving people the opportunity to voice opinions and ask questions.

**2010 Budget:** The Stewardship, Property and Management, and Executive Committees have met and are working on the budget. It is hoped the budget will be complete and ready for a vote at the December council meeting.

**Nominating Committee:** Pastor Dahl will convene a group made up of committee members and people from the congregation to be responsible for a full 2010 slate, including 3 for a nominating committee, for the election at the annual meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Ad-Hoc Education Task Force:** A petition with approximately 100 names on it, has been presented to the council requesting education of the members on how the ELCA was formed, the Common Ground, and the statement on human sexuality. A task force will be formed, made up of 3 members from the group presenting the petition and 3 from the congregation at large. Corlys Knudson has graciously agreed to facilitate this group.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Survey:** A survey will be sent to members with the stewardship letter in the next week. This survey will hopefully give direction to the task force, and also be of help in the budget formation.

**Shetek Lutheran Ministries:** Tonya Tomasek, a Shetek LM board member, received a letter from the camp, encouraging future support from First Lutheran. The letter of intent for continued support will be signed and returned to the camp.

**Military Sticks:** A request has been received from "Faith Comes by Hearing" for 12,000 military sticks @ \$25 / stick for troops. The troops can listen to the Bible on this stick, but there is a great need. It was suggested that each congregation provide 100 sticks. A motion was made by Lori Obler, seconded by Tami Doom and carried to give \$1000 out of the 10% of the 10% for the purchase of the sticks. The congregation, youth, WELCA, etc. will be challenged to provide the remaining \$1,500. This project via DVD will be brought to the congregation during a stewardship temple talk.

**Seminary Sunday in January:** Bruce Berg will be preaching and Pastor Jackie will be participating. Mark Lund will also be recognized; he is doing his internship in West Virginia. Bruce Berg will be completing his study and internship next spring. It is

anticipated that he will be ordained next summer after he has received a call.

**In February, the group – “Food for the Poor”** – will send a representative / ELCA pastor to come to First Lutheran to tell about this program and preach the sermon. There will be no costs to the church for this visit. It was suggested that this event might be coordinated with a fundraising concert by the group, “Dakota Road.”

**College Outreach Teams:** First Lutheran has college students at Concordia and at Augustana that are participating in outreach teams. It has not been possible for either group to come to First Lutheran this fall, but it is hoped something can be scheduled for the new year.

Committees were asked if they had any action that needed to be taken by the council. If not, they were asked to get their report to the secretary via e-mail or with a written copy.

The staff members were excused and a short discussion on the 2010 budget was held.

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Nordby,  
Secretary

**UPCOMING DATES:**

**December 8<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 p.m. – Executive Committee Meeting**

**December 8<sup>th</sup> -7:30 p.m. - Council Meeting – ALL council members are asked to attend this meeting.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:**

Sunday, October 25, nine households including twenty-one people were accepted as new members of First Lutheran Church.

The Evangelism Committee completed their Financial Plan for 2010.

Amme Houseman and Corlys Knudson are working on the new brochures and post cards for First Lutheran. These items are part of the "package" from Olin Mills, our church directory publisher.

We identified and called people to become part of the committee for the next three years.

The groups of Table of Eight are meeting and enjoying the fun and fellowship of being together for this year.

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

The Sunday School Christmas Programs, including children from 3yrs - 6th graders will all three be presented on Sunday, December 13. Big Thank You's to the directors and Sunday School teachers for all the extra effort of helping the children sing and tell the "Wonderful Story of JESUS' BIRTH"!!

Christmas gifts will be given to each Sunday School student along with their box of 2010 Offering Envelopes the day of the programs.

In lieu of buying individual Christmas gifts for Sunday School teachers, families have the opportunity to donate money to the church library to honor their teachers.

When they donate, students will receive a "leaf" off the "giving tree" to sign and give to their teacher.(Dec. 6,13,20)

The committee completed their 2010 Financial Plan.

There were three committee positions to fill or replace which are not completed.

### **PROPERTY AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

The committee met and discussed lighting issues, repairing of the fire alarm service (electrical issue), and purchasing a dehumidifier. The committee will be getting someone to prepare quotes for the kitchen countertop. It is hoped these quotes will be ready by the next committee meeting, with work hopefully starting sometime in January or February.

### **SOCIAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE**

We discussed the Alternative and Pastor Jackie took the info and will pursue.

The angel tree will be up and we will be selling angels the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekends of December and maybe the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend also. Cost will remain the same at \$25 per angel.

We did very well at the quilt sale so far.

We will serve again at Esther's Kitchen on December 17<sup>th</sup> and we will pick dates for next year.

The food cart will be for the food shelf in December and it will be GOODIES month.

The Banquet was well attended and we will serve again on 4-26 and 10-26.e

We will decide in December if we will have the garden spot again. The food shelf loved it but it was pretty disappointing as we did not have many volunteers.

We will have an ESSENTIALS tree for gloves, socks, underwear, etc from about Thanksgiving thru Christmas vacation. Items will be given to Parkside and Westside Schools.

### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:**

The Stewardship Committee met on Nov. 10 at 6:30 with Pastor Bob, Jean Haug, Jason Peterson, and Lori Obler present. Final review of a letter was done to inform the congregation of the upcoming stewardship emphasis on Nov 21/22 and Commitment Sunday on Dec 5/6. We also did a final review of the survey to be sent to all households regarding the ELCA vote concerning homosexual pastors in a lifelong, monogamous relationship. These will be together in one mailing to be sent within the week. Our committee will tabulate the results of the survey and make it available to the full council. Lori Obler will do a temple talk on Nov. 21 and Jean Haug will be at both services on Nov 22.

### **WELCA – WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

The first weekend of quilt sales resulted in the sale of 80 quilts / \$859 for the Quilters, and \$495 for the Social Ministry Quilters.

The Thank Offering Tree is up and will remain up through December 6<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Sharing Our Harvest with All God's People," as described in Deuteronomy 16: 9 – 11. This year there will be support / gifts for Heart to Heart, the local food shelf, and the feeding of God's children around the world through donations to "God's Global Barnyard."

The kitchen was cleaned, things labeled and contents sorted. New water pitchers with covers, paid for by the women, have been ordered.

November Shetek Fun Day: On Tuesday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00, the women of the church will spend an afternoon at our camp enjoying fellowship, devotions, a tour, games, coffee and treats. We will be taking the church van; all women are welcome.

Annual Christmas Luncheon will be on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at noon. The theme is "Celebrating God's Greatness Through Music." Lunch will be prepared and served by the SMSU Catering Club. Entertainment will be by the Grace Life Old Time Gospel Band. Cost is \$8 with scholarships available. Participants are asked to bring ½ dozen Christmas treats.

All women are invited to attend the January outing which will be the play at the Plymouth Playhouse – "Away in the Basement" by the Church Basement Ladies on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. A SW Tours coach will be taken; the cost will be \$52.00, which includes a sack supper.

Kitchen / dining room repairs / updates: One of the WELCA's CD's came due resulting in \$4,980.30. This CD had been set aside for the new kitchen, but the women voted to apply it, plus the Bisbee donation of \$879.00, towards kitchen repairs and updates of the present kitchen. Total available: \$5,850.00.

Worship & Music Committee did not meet.

### **YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE:**

October events and weekly program are going well. The youth groups really enjoyed being able to see Pastor Kelly. Monthly events for November are also scheduled.

Thanksgiving Weekend is the post high school recognition worships..... we are in the process of organizing this. If anyone's son or daughter is willing to help out, contact Tonya.

We are trying to wrap up our envelope fundraiser.

Once again, Advent candles and daily family table prayers will be available for the families of First Lutheran to enjoy and focus daily together during Advent until Christmas. They will be available for pick up on Nov. 21 and 22.

Youth and Family ministries will again be helping deliver the food boxes for Heart to Heart on December 11<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in helping out, just give Tonya a call. It's a great project for people of all ages.