



# First Lutheran Church

*We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.*

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**FLC Council Minutes**  
**Annual Church Council Retreat**  
**March 15, 2022 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Chuck Muller, Deb Mitlyng, Erin Moline, Tim Moline, Ryne Myhrberg, Bill Weber, Becky Weber, Tonya Tomasek, Dealyn Rose, Ellen Pagel, Kitsi Marks, Pastor Scott Fuller, Pastor Mike Mannisto, Denise Schneekloth, Ron Halgerson, Lee Raske, Brian Kruse, Rosie Sorum, Corlys Knudson, Pam Russell, Karla Luther, Eric Luther, Shannon Pederson, Paul Freeburg, Melanie Pedersen, Rolly Muller, via Zoom: Twila Henning, Amy Larson, Dennis Jensen

**1) Call to order & Reading of FLC Mission Statement:** Melanie called the meeting to order with the reading of the Mission Statement.

**2) Opening prayer:** Melanie opened the meeting with a prayer.

**3) Spiritual Development and Dinner:** We broke into our committees and completed the Church Council Congregational Survey. Pastor Scott asked that each group complete it once to reflect how their committee feels we are doing, and a second time to reflect how they feel the overall congregation would answer the survey. As we ate, each statement was discussed and ranked by the committees. After dinner, each committee shared their thoughts. Overall it was felt that we do well in many areas, but there is always room for improvements. Forms were turned in and they will be compiled for the annual report.

**4) Secretary's Report:**

There were no corrections or additions to the February 2022 Council minutes. Deb Mitlyng/Denise Schneekloth moved/seconded to approve the minutes; motion carried

**5) Treasurer's Report:**

- Checking account balance for February was \$149,156.35, giving was \$36,060.33 and expenditures were \$56,939.21. Last year's figures were \$186,778 checking, \$48,224 giving and \$50,143 expenses; and the 2020 figures were \$90,048 checking, \$49,101 giving and \$58,622 expenses. Year-to-date giving is at \$82,144.43 while expenses are at \$108,702.90. Last year's giving was \$91,327 and expenses were \$94,176.
- Items to note: Giving was down in February, the painting of the basement was covered by kitchen funds, insurance premium was due and had gone up, and utilities had increased.
- Denise S./Pastor Scott moved/seconded to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried

**6) FLC Staff Reports:**

- Kitsi shared that things are going well. It is busy with Lent, getting towards the end of TLC, and planning VBS. Vacation Bible School will be held June 6-9 in the morning, and students or volunteers can sign up to participate on the website.
- Tonya said that she is busy with the Lenten Suppers, and it takes a lot of energy but is fun. The numbers are down a little. Costs are \$8 for 12 and older, \$6 for 5-11, and 4 or under are free. There is a family cap of \$30.
- Becky said it's always busy but things are going well.
- Pastor Mike says things are going well. He met with the confirmation classes and senior hi alive, and they could ask him any question. He will be doing Bible and Brew and Esther's Kitchen. He is enjoying the Lenten services and said that the Ash Wednesday service was one of the largest he has ever done. He has been on zoom meetings with other new pastors, and he noted that the other pastors have indicated that COVID has really affected them, so he feels we are doing much better than others are. The Bishop was here for his installation and she was surprised at the life that she saw here and was surprised that we had a Wednesday service.
- Pastor Scott shared that he feels the people who stay away do not do so because they want to. We may need to do some home ministries to keep people connected. Livestreaming the services has been very helpful.





## 7) Business:

### Agenda Item: Ukraine

- People want to help. Lutheran Disaster Response is the best way to get them money. People are encouraged to give checks and note "Ukraine" in the memo, and/or donate through a website. Pastor Mike will get Becky the website information so she can share it with the congregation.

### Agenda Item: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of First Lutheran will be in 2025. We would like to make this a big event and get everyone involved. Pastor Scott shared a handout "Planning and Celebrating Your Church Anniversaries". He asked that we look through this and prepare ideas for the celebration. He would like to establish a steering committee to help plan the events. Corlys and Rosie volunteered to be on the committee, as well as Dawn Planting. Perry and Marquita Banks can do a history of the church if we can come up with questions to ask them and have someone video it. Perry was in the very first confirmation class of FLC. We will put out a call to see if we can get others to volunteer.

### Agenda Item: SWOT Exercises

- Melanie handed out a paper with questions regarding the church's **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats. She asked that we think about the different areas on our own. We then broke into groups and discussed our thoughts in each of the areas, as well as how we can get more people involved and volunteering for the different areas of the church. After the group discussion, we shared our ideas to the full group. Melanie collected the sheets and compiled the feedback for our information.

### Agenda Item: Other

## 8) Committee Reports (Short Updates)

### Education:

- Kitsi reported that they are wrapping up TLC. They will be doing teacher meetings for feedback. They are planning for VBS.

### Outreach:

- Dealyn reported that the Sunday FunDay will end in April as they follow the same schedule as the youth activities. This month they will be making lefse. They are also looking at doing things on other days of the week through social media: i.e. Meditation Monday.

### Property & Management:

- Chuck said they would be getting bids/quotes for the priority projects.

### Social Ministry:

- Twila reported they are doing Esther's Kitchen on March 24, Pack the Pews through March, and Palm Sunday on April 11.

### Stewardship: No Report

### Worship & Music:

- Brian reported that Denise is filling the service schedule for March and April, Tim Tomasek will be doing May and June, and Brian will be doing July and August. Denise said they do need help for Easter services if anyone is willing to volunteer.

### Youth & Family:

- Tonya reported they are doing the Lenten suppers; they will be doing the silent auction and bidding will all be online; Little League did care packages for the college students; Souper Bowl raised \$700 and Pizza Ranch night was a success.

### FLC Women:

- Coryls said they will be hosting the Prairie Women's Conference on April 23.

## 12) Adjournment and Lord's Prayer: Meeting was adjourned, followed by the Lord's Prayer.





*Respectfully Submitted,*

**Rolly Muller**  
FLC Secretary

**Submitted Committee Reports**  
**Education – No Report Submitted**

**Outreach– No Report Submitted**

**Property & Management – No Report Submitted**

**Social Ministries**

- **Opening Devotions:** Twila – due to it being Ash Wednesday we dispensed with the devotions. Twila sent the devotion to the committee. Servant of the Lord, Isaiah 53:2-3a, 4, 6. God gave to Isaiah a vision of what Jesus would be like-of how He would save God's people from the power of Evil. When Jesus came, they did not recognize him. If we had lived at that time, would we have recognized him?

**Old Business:**

- **Angel Tree ornaments** – New Angel Tree ornaments have been received; they were placed with the rest of the Angel Tree items. Cost \$59.05. Everyone thought the Angel Tree project went well as we conducted it this year we will plan the same for next year.
- **TLC meal** – TLC meal served January 19, 2022. Approximately 110 meals served.
  - For future reference, the following was the amount of food used for the meal.
  - 20# of meat. Purchased from Performance Food
  - 1 - 64oz jar of Salsa
  - 7 cans of ripe olive
  - 46 oz of Sour Cream
  - 2-5# bags of Cheddar Cheese
  - 1-5# bags of lettuce purchased from Performance Foods
  - 110 bags of Doritos, they were left over from previous meals.
  - 2-gallons of milk
  - 2 pounds Roma tomatoes?
  - 12 dozen bars, had leftovers
- **Gods Work our Hands Pictures** – Displayed on Social Ministries Bulletin Board
- **Meals on Wheels** - A total of 19 people, over the 2 weeks, served approximately 60 meals each day, that is over 600 meals in the two weeks. Lisa from the Meal Site said "*I wish we had more churches like yours, it would help us so much.*"

**New Business:**

- **Election of Chairperson & Secretary for the Committee** - Twila will continue as chairperson and secretary.
- **Budget for year** - \$600.00. Spent \$59.05 on Angel Tree Ornaments, Balance \$540.95  
Discussion: Use some of the money for Gods Work our Hands projects for this year.
- **Pack the Pews/Food Shelf** – Announcement in bulletin, on screen, and in newsletter. First bags will be placed in pews on February 23, 26, 27. Posters on doors and bulletin board.
- **40 days of Faith** – Reviewed information from Steve. **Discussion:** Since we are already into Lent, it was decided we would table this until next year. Some suggestions were to do a daily post with suggestion of the day for an activity. We will need to check with Becky on feasibility of this. Could do a daily Facebook post.





- **Esther's Kitchen** – Thursday February 24 & March 24. Since they continue to do pickup meals, time changed from 3 to 3:30 and have everyone coming when they can. Most of the work is food prep for future meals. Hopefully this will encourage more people to help. **Discussion:** Some members wondered exactly what happens during the time of volunteering. Dennis shared his experiences. Twila indicated that it was not necessary to stay the whole time Christy is grateful for any help she receives.
  - Becky has had people ask for a summary of what volunteering for Esther's Kitchen entails. She asked if we could put together a short summary. Twila will work with Christy to put something together.
- **Summary of Meals on Wheels** – A total of 19 people, over the 2 weeks, served approximately 60 meals each day, that is over 600 meals in the two weeks. Lisa from the Meal Site said: *"I wish we had more churches like yours, it would help us so much."*
  - Becky has had requests from members asking what Meals on Wheels entails. She asked if the Social Ministries Committee would put something together. Twila will work with Elena to put something together.
- **Annual Church Council Retreat** – Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 6 PM. Plan on 2 hours. A meal will be served. At that meeting, we will work on our projects list for the year.

#### Ongoing/ additional projects:

- **Additional Agenda Items:** Projects for 2022. We will discuss what we would like to do at the Annual retreat.
  - Some suggested projects include having people knit or crochet blankets that could be used for community projects.
  - Next year do a live Gods Work our hands
  - Help with food shelf
  - Put together personal care bags for the Food Shelf, Hope Harbor, and any other place homeless might be.
  - Give some of the green First Lutheran Bags to Food Shelf for food distribution.
  - Help Nancy with Maggie Jean fundraiser
- **Monthly projects:**

○ January-Esther's Kitchen, TLC Meal	○ August-Esther's Kitchen
○ February-Esther's Kitchen, Meals on Wheels	○ September-Esther's Kitchen
○ March-Esther's Kitchen, MN Food Share/The Kitchen Table Food Shelf	○ October-Esther's Kitchen, God's Work, Our Hands
○ April-Esther's Kitchen	○ November-Esther's Kitchen, Angel Tree
○ May-Esther's Kitchen	○ December-Esther's Kitchen, Angel Tree
○ June/July-Esther's Kitchen, Stuff the bus	
- **Food Shelf Responsibility / Attending First Lutheran Council Meetings**

It was decided we would go back to having an individual assigned to taking the food to the Food Shelf and attending the Council Meeting. Below are the assignments.

1. January-	7. July-Twila (no council meeting)
2. February-	8. August-Nancy
3. March-	9. September-Twila
4. April-Chris	10. October-Connie
5. May-Dennis	11. November-Dennis
6. June-Connie	12. December-Chris

**Next Meeting:** April 6, 2022, at 5:30 pm, big room under the Narthex. Twila will have devotions.





## Stewardship – No Report Submitted

## Worship & Music

- Members Present: Brian Kruse, Rosie Sorum, Denise Schneekloth
- Rosie Sorum led the meeting with devotions from, “To Live Is Christ”, by John Kostler. Readings were from, Philippians 4: 10-13. Proverbs 27:20.....We always want more! (Verse 11). Also, Hebrews 13: 6, the art of contentment means self-sufficient. Depend on God. The Lord has promised to be our helper!
- **Service Group** – Denise Schneekloth is working with the months of March & April. **Upcoming Service Group Months** – May/June (Tim Tomasek), July/August (Brian Kruse), September/October (Denise Schneekloth), November/December (Rosie Sorum).
- Our next meeting will be held Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. (before Full Council at 6:00 p.m.) Rosie Sorum will have devotions. Full Council will be planned for Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

## Youth & Family

- The Lenten suppers really become a focus for us during this time. All of the confirmation teams work at the suppers and the parents are great at helping also. The Youth Committee members are, as always, amazing during this time of year. And our numbers we are serving have been good for “post covid”. Thank you.
- The Senior High High Adventures Summer Trip will be doing the Annual SILENT AUCTION ON-LINE AND Palm Sunday BRUNCH Fundraiser. It starts March 27 and is ending April 10. Anyone is welcome to put something on the auction to help out the youth. Many people did last year and it was a huge help. Just contact Tonya 532-2429, 530-1697, or [ttomasek@iw.net](mailto:ttomasek@iw.net) to notify her of your contribution. Thanks for supporting the youth!!
- Summer Trip Youth had a Pizza Ranch fundraiser on Monday Feb 21, from 5-8pm. It was so great to be back in fellowship. Our congregation loves this so much! Thanks to all who came out! (It was blustery!)
- The High Adventures Youth AND the Klein Ranch Youth will be selling Puffins march 16-March 30. Contact Tonya if you want to order and you don't know a youth who's going.
- TLC, Game Changers, Faith Chats, Senior High Alive, and Grub Club ministries all continue weekly during the Lenten Season. Little League take a break during Lent. They will be starting up again after Easter.
- Grades 3-6 had their Mini Lock-In this past Friday, March 11. It was a lot of fun. They made care packages for the college seniors to let them know First Lutheran continues to be there for them.
- There will be a special Junior High Alive Game Time after worship on Wednesday, March 23 until 8pm.
- The senior high Souper Bowl of Caring/ Noisy Offering brought in \$700. All money collected will stay locally this year.
- Senior High Alive will be helping pack the snacks for Marshall Food 4 Kidz on Wednesday March 30.

## FLC Women – No Report Submitted

