

**First Lutheran Church  
Church Council Meeting  
September 14, 2011  
DRAFT**

*Those present:* Doug Mattson, Loraine Haugen, Barb Solberg, Pastors Mike and Kari Pancoast, Pam Schmidt, Liz Slotsve. *Absent:* Pastor Ken Nelson, Brandyn Hendrickson, Wendy Keller, Michelle Larson, and Mark Westereng.

Pastor Mike led devotions using Genesis 18 and the concept of waiting. Abraham and Sarah were visited by angels who foretold of their son. Waiting in many forms was the focus for Abraham and Sarah and for all of us during our lives.

A discussion of the buildings, damage reports, restoration work, and future needed work was held. The September 18<sup>th</sup> issue of the Campaign Messenger gave the clearest and most recent information on these topics. President Mattson informed the council of the financial issues relating to the restoration. An initial credit line at First Western Bank was used; a \$250,000 credit line from Bremer Bank was employed to alleviate some of the loan and interest in the FWB credit line as well as to pay other expenses; a low-interest 30 years SPA loan has been approved. Pam moved and Liz seconded the motion to move forward with the SPA loan. Deb Hoffarth's work on the SBA loan process was recognized and appreciated. Council resolution:

We authorize our church council president, (currently Douglas Mattson) and church council treasurer (currently Mark Westereng) to request disbursement of funds from the Small Business Administration (SBA) of up to \$400,000 pursuant to the loan procedures and agreement with SBA, and further authorize future council president and treasurer act on First Lutheran Church's behalf with regard to our loan.

We further authorize that the First Lutheran Church Parish Center building, 120 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Minot, ND, to be used as collateral against this loan.

President Mattson reported that although FLC had fewer members in attendance at church this summer of 2011 (held at Zion Lutheran Church), we did have greater offerings than during the summer of 2010.

Barb requested the Finance Committee or Jennifer provide a spreadsheet noting the expenditures for the church restoration project. Included in the spreadsheet should be the company providing the service, the nature of the work, the cost, and the fund from which the payment was made. This information will help the council and parishioners have a better understanding of the work as well as the monies secured to pay for the work. Doug requested this information be provided to the Creating Connections cabinet with the purpose of securing some of the campaign funds for work that would normally have been part of the upcoming building project.

The Creating Connections Campaign update was given by Barb. September 18 will have the first Campaign Messenger available since last May. The content is basically an update on the status of our

buildings and the initiative to move forward with the campaign. More visible presence of this project will probably occur in October after Rally Sunday.

Property Committee reported that Jerry's and Sharon's last day would be September 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications for the custodial position are being taken; one interview has occurred. The parsonage upgrades continue with the flooring completed and the replacement of the windows in the early part of the selection process. The phone system should be in place by late September but work on the elevator is pending.

Congregational Life reported that the church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 18 at the Polaris Park in north Minot.

Worship Committee has implemented a change in the Sunday church schedule to ensure more time between services. Sunday services are now at 8:30 and 11:00.

The Education Committee has postponed the beginning of SS/WS until October 2 and 5. Work on the painting and carpeting of the classroom area in the Parish Center needs to be completed first. The Committee initiated a discussion of the Kildahl Room use for youth. They propose 2/3 of it for youth; the other 1/3 would be for the church women. Both groups would be able to use the kitchen. The council requested a more formal request with a diagram of the space and details of the goals/needs be presented at the October council meeting.

Other church groups are having issues with space for their work, namely the nursery and the quilters. Pastor Mike isolated 3 considerations:

1. What do we do for space for these groups in the immediate interim (3-9 months)?
2. What do we do once we know the flood mitigation resolution (a semi-permanent solution)?
3. The need to keep our eye on the building plans funded by the Creating Connections capital campaign.

It was decided that the coat room between the sanctuary and the chapel be used temporarily for nursery needs. A small group of quilters, nursery users, and youth staff should gather to present suggestions for their needs to the council.

Kari reported a funeral this week in the church. This is a non-member. A brief discussion regarding fees for non-members followed. Nothing was decided.

The 515 AA Club has requested the use of a FLC room for their Wednesday night 8:00 pm meetings. Their house was destroyed in the flood and space is needed for meeting. Pam moved and Liz seconded the motion to allow the 515 Club to meet in FLC. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Submitted by

Barb Solberg