

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2008**

The Council Meeting was called to order by: Billie Aderman at 7:00 p.m. Members Present: President: Billie Aderman, Vice President: Ray Johnson, Secretary: Craig Hanson, Treasurer: Gerry Winch, Tom Butler, Gary Berghuis, Jan Ogden, Kelly Curtis, Evelyn Schaffer, Dennis Williams, Pastor Arvid Sundet. Absent: Youth Representative: Tony Mikula, Lynn Berghuis. Guest Present: Diane Davenport.

- A motion to adopt the agenda, as amended, by Kelly Curtis, second by Gerry Winch.
- Devotions were led by Pastor Arvid.
- Temple Talk for Sunday the 14th, 8:00 a.m.: Ray Johnson, 10:00 a.m.: Kelly Curtis.
- October prayers will be led by Jan Ogden .
- Vision / Mission / Values

A motion to approve the minutes of the August Council Meeting, as amended to read: PRACTICE OF FAITH

Life & Growth - Gary & Lynn Berghuis: Several people attended last meeting. Amended: Encouraged everyone to say "Thank You" to those who have been serving. Continuing to build a list of areas for improvement. Next meeting: Wednesday September 27th. , was made by Kelly Curtis, second by Jan Ogden.

**PASTOR'S REPORT**

Pastor Arvid reported on his first Confirmation Class and the excellent interaction encountered. Read a letter from Lutheran Social Services listing different Services and things they are in need of. Reported on the offering from the Service in the Park. \$900.00 went for Benches in the park and \$200.00 went to the Food Pantry. Pastor Arvid will be attending a workshop @ Telemark in late September. Knowing our financial situation, Pastor Arvid volunteered to cover his expenses until such time the Church can afford to reimburse him. (Later during the Financial Report, Kelly Curtis reported there is designated funds in the Memorial account that can pay this expense.) Follow-up on his letter sent to the Congregation, it appears to have had some, but little, impact on Sunday attendance/giving. Consensus to review again in October to see if a more direct letter from the Council should be sent. Pastor Arvid posed the question to the Council: Should the Interim Pastor become a Part Time position because of current financial situation? After a short discussion, the consensus of the Council was this would have a negative impact and will remain a Full Time position. Pastor Arvid than posed the question to the Council: Should we revisit the idea of having only one service on Sundays? Discussion: This idea has come up before and the Congregation voted this down and would have to go before the Congregation to change. With a new and larger Church in our future this idea does need to be discussed again.

**PRACTICE OF FAITH**

Life & Growth - Gary & Lynn Berghuis: There are people in need of a ride to Church. Looking to see if the Shuttle service is available again. Discussion of insurance issues, better to have a list of volunteers that be called to pick people up. Working to resurrect the Greeters Program. Looking to do a food fund raiser in conjunction with the Pumpkin Train at the Trego stop. Date: October 11th & 12th.

**Christian Education** - Evelyn Schaffer & Dennis Williams: No meeting. Northern Lights and Confirmation are both up and running now. Wednesday's kick off included the Spaghetti Dinner.

**Property** - Tom Butler: Parsonage Repairs will be starting soon and will be scheduling work dates. Few last details to finish with the front sidewalk before painting, but hope to complete this fall.

**Stewarding** - Gerry Winch & Craig Hanson: Met Tuesday the 9th. Working on the Shepherding Program, developing a list of those attending and dividing into the twelve months. Working on the activities list/pamphlet needed to cover for Sunday Activities. Planning to begin the program in November.

**Music & Worship** - Jan Ogden: Harvest Festival will be October 19th. There will be one service with a potluck to follow. Also working to see if a Hay Ride can be arranged for the same day.

**Finance** - Kelly Curtis: Diane Davenport covered the current situation with current bills along with up coming bills. Reported that Anderson, Hager & Moe have filed our appeal to the IRS. Kelly reported the month of August starting with a negative cash balance of -\$237.38, deposits of \$9,434.97, expenses of \$10,632.37, ending the month with a negative balance of -\$1,434.78. Kelly also reported that if income does not increase soon, we may have to begin borrowing from other accounts to pay bills.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

New web site: [www.shelllakesalemlutheran.org](http://www.shelllakesalemlutheran.org). Beware our old site has been taken away and will redirect you to places you wont want to go! Preschool - Carol and Kathy have said they are willing to work for what ever their tuition brings in, if the Church will cover the rest of expenses. Billie did put out a plea for pledges to keep our preschool alive and was able to raise \$600. Discussion: Carol was able to raise the tuition, but has not told us what that amount will be. Labor law says that if she is an employee of the church, she will have to be paid at least minimum wage. At this point we still can not agree with these terms. Direct Billie to take back to Carol that she needs to operate as an independent, rent space for \$1 and we have \$600 in donations.

### **Continuing Business**

**Transition Team:** The final draft of the Congregational Profile, with the exception of the financial package is ready. The Synod did not accept the package that was included. Kelly and Evelyn reported on a tool that will allow us to plug in the total Pay-Out of the package that will fill in the individual areas to arrive at the total package dollar amount. A motion for Jan Ogden, second by Gerry Winch, to use the Budgeted amount of \$65,000 and not to include a Housing Allowance. Motion passed.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

None

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

Last words / Closing prayers lead by Kelly Curtis.

Next Meeting: October 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Craig Hanson, second by Gerry Winch, to adjourn, meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Craig Hanson, Secretary

### **Salem Lutheran Church**

#### **Stewarding Committee Meeting Minutes:**

**September 9, 2008, 7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Gerry Winch, Craig Hanson, Guests: Tam Smith

Working on the Shepherding Program, developing a list of those attending and dividing into the twelve months. Working on the activities list/pamphlet needed to cover for Sunday Activities. Planning to begin the program in November.

Who does what:

Tam will update list / pamphlet and email out.

Next Meeting: No Date Set.  
Tentative Date: October 14th, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Craig Hanson, Recorder

The property committee is asking for help from the congregation to cleanup-fixup the parsonage in preparation for our new pastor. We will start at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 11. All materials and supplies will be on site. Coffee and rolls will be available. Please consider coming for as long as you can. We will plan to wrap it up by noon. There is work for all types - window washing, general cleaning, outside work, etc.

The Property Committee

**Thank you to:**

Karen Greenly for her help in the office each week.

Janice Nelson for folding the bulletins.

Joan Foley and Amy Monson for putting together the newsletter and into the mailboxes.

Salem Council and Congregation send a prayerful thank you to the Transition Team: Bruce Davenport, Chairman, Rollie Erickson, Craig Hanson, Dolly Holmson, Pat Livingston, and Connie Richter for their ministry in preparing the Salem Profile that will be sent to the Synod Office for the use of preparing for interviews for Calling a new pastor to Salem Church. The Profile will be in the Church Office for all the congregation to read over and to see the work that the Transition Team did in preparing the document. Thank you to Tamara Smith for compiling such a professional booklet.

Quilting Group: Joan Foley, Florence Carlson, Romona Scharhag, Elaine Studt and Sharon Tobias for their help over the years making quilts. Your talents will be missed.

**Remember the Food Pantry:**

The first Sunday of the month is the designated collection day, however, you can bring items any day and place in the basket in the entryway. Thank you to Ray Johnson for delivering to the Food Pantry in Spooner. Suggested items are: cereal, pasta, rice, fruit juice (small cans, not frozen), canned fruit, canned vegetables, soups, tuna, peanut butter, feminine products, paper towels, toilet paper, disposable diapers (all sizes).

**October, 2008 Worship Assistants**

**Altar Committee:** Debby Johnson & Sharon Tobias

**Offering Counter:** Lynn Berghuis

**Communion** 8:00 a.m. Craig Hanson/Gerry Winch

**Assistant:** 10:00 a.m. Jene Morey

**Reader:** 8:00 a.m. Craig Hanson/Gerry Winch

10:00 a.m. Lee Prill

**Ushers:** 8:00 a.m. Dennis & Linda Muska

10:00 a.m. Jan Ogden & Lee Prill

**Acolytes:**

**October 5** 8:00 a.m. Katie Parker

10:00 a.m. Ben Buttenhoff

**October 12** 8:00 a.m. Tanner Williams

10:00 a.m. Trista Omman

**October 19** 9:00 a.m. Taylor Bauch

**October 26** 8:00 a.m. Jill Buttenhoff

10:00 a.m. Adam Hungerbuhler

**Scheduled Meetings** (usual time, unless need for change)

**Council** meets 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

**Finance** meets 2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Chicken Dinner  
is scheduled for  
November 11.  
Sign-up sheets  
will be available soon.

### **Pastor's Corner - October 2008**

Leaves are beginning to change color...nights are getting cooler (read:frost!)...some of us are looking longingly at skis...and some are looking disdainfully at snow shovels.

No matter how you look at the calendar, things are changing...and, as always, everything depends on how you look at change. It is an opportunity for some, a challenge for others, and for a few people it is something to avoid (read: TRY to avoid!)>

That is the way life is, too. In other words, change will happen no matter how we look at it. So the bigger question is, what are we going to do with it? How are we going to plan for it?

Those are the same questions a church has to deal with during an Interim period. Interim is a time to talk and think about the way ministries change in churches...and they do change as surely as leaves in October.

We have people calling and asking for rides to church. Can you help out? We need people to sing in the choir...can you help out? Can you help by signing up for snacks for the Northern Lights program...or even doing some supply teaching? How about reviving the Quilting program? Or getting the WELCA reorganized? Maybe starting with some informal fellowship gatherings? There is always the usual Ushering, Communion Assistance, Altar Guild, Greeting, Acolyte, Council, Committee member, homebound and nursing home Visitation...and every one of them needs YOUR HELP.

The most basic way that everyone can be involved in the ministry of Salem is called: Attendance. That is the first step in taking ownership in the work of the church. And it is wonderful to see the attendance records increasing. That is the best kind of support Salem can give to our Call Committee, to know that everyone (read: YOU) is supporting all of our ministries gives them an extra bounce of enthusiasm when they interview a potential pastor.

See you at worship...and see you at ministry/committee meetings.

Shalom!

Pastor Arvid

### **C O U N C I L**

**CORNER**....Just what do you do when you have invited someone to your house? Just what do you do when you have to answer an unknown knock on the door? Are your hospitality actions different under those two scenarios? How is it at Salem? How do you greet your old-time friends compared to someone that has not been able to worship for some time or perhaps new people in the area visiting for the first time? Do you have a smile and a warm handshake for each one showing the hospitality that Salem is known for? We are all together in this time of Transition and Calling of a new pastor. What is next? I suspect, knowing God, we will know one day at a time. Your Council, committees, and pastor have been meeting often to plan new, innovative, and exciting programs for each member. Pray that each one of you will be able to add your time, talent, and offering to the future of Salem in these programs. Continue to worship regularly and enjoy Salem's hospitality. Billie