



Family of Christ Lutheran Church Minutes  
May 9, 2017

**Present:** Pastor John, John Marsh, David Wiebe, Peggy Nelson, Jane David, Tami Frye, Lance Knoedler, Connie Fie, Julia Garaffa and Jantha Jamison

**Devotion:** Pastor John gave the devotion from 1 Peter 2 speaking of Christ as the Cornerstone and God’s children as living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple.

**April Minutes:** Motion made (Dave/Jane) to approve minutes with correction to read \$314,410.97 total *checking and savings*. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer’s report:** As of April 30, total checking/savings is \$320,377.55. Total expenses on April 17 show \$11,189.83 with a net income of \$3,615.72. Motion to approve (Tami/David). Approved.

**Ministries Coordinator Report:** Barb reported her work schedule will be Wednesdays and Fridays with Mondays if needed. She expressed thanks to all who brought food and served Jubilee meal as well as lunch on May 13 at Habitat.

**Pastor’s report:** PJ reported the deacon intern candidate declined position due to health issues. Communication is being held with Wartburg seminary, Mosaic and synod reps for deacon intern. The scheduled May 21 congregational meeting to vote on the diaconal position will be scheduled at a later date. Pastor asked council to consider how committees and the council are connected as ideas and strategies are developed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Stewardship:** PJ asked stewardship committee members Bob Grabenstein and Jantha Jamison to talk about the stewardship committee and how council could be connected and of assistance. The goal of the stewardship ministry is to help God’s people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of time, talents and finances God has entrusted to them. The book *Ask, Thank, Tell* by Charles Lane has been discussed in Adult Forum talking about the intimate connection between how a person handles financial matters and that person's relationship with God. There is interest in having a series, perhaps this summer, providing activities and opportunities to grow in discipleship following framework set out in the book. PJ asked that a set meeting time be determined to put together ideas. Dave Wiebe volunteered to be a part of the first meeting at 11:30 on May 17.

**Evangelism:** Julie Garaffa, member of evangelism committee, noted Team B became idea generators to involve the church and the Kearney community. She noted last summer an ice cream social was held at Hammer Park. Church members visited the southeast neighborhood to introduce Family of Christ. She noted the Team then moved from getting the church known to how to connect to the community with some fun activities. Ideas for monthly activities were presented as well as possible future ideas to involve FOC and the community. Tami Frye is the church council partner with the Evangelism team along with Gayle Miller and Cheryl Hedstrom. Julia and Tami will work out a meeting time for the committee.

Pastor John thanked the committees for visiting and helping the council process how to move forward.

President Marsh asked the council to name a congregational meeting date for discussion on the building process as well as the diaconal position. Jane David made the motion to have the meeting on June 25 after the 10:00 a.m. service. Approved.

President Marsh asked for a motion to adjourn. Tami/Jane made the motion. Meeting closed at 8:20 p.m. with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Fie  
Recording Secretary



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR DISCIPLESHIP GROWTH**

(This list is by no means complete ... but maybe you would like to consider trying one of these adventures!)

**BROWN BAG BOOK BUNCH** The Book Bunch meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays over lunch (12-12:45) in the church basement. They our studying *Tattoos on the Heart* by Greg Boyle for the next weeks — you can still get a book if you just contact the church. Come join us! *We will take a summer hiatus for July & August*

**WEDNESDAY WEEDERS** This faithful group meets almost every Wednesday, gathering at 9 a.m., and then breaking at 10:30 for coffee, fellowship and prayers. Yes, they are ‘weeders’ during the appropriate season, but they have so many other ‘hands on’ tasks they enjoy doing around the church – and taking an excursion once in a while. Consider just dropping in to see what they are about!

**WOODWORKING CLUSTER** O.K., we haven’t come up with a snappy name...but we’ve got several people interested in an idea and desire that Gayle Miller has developed. He has (and needs) old lumber that he turns into toys – cute toys to give away. He would love to let this ministry mature – if you may be interested, contact the church office or call Gayle directly! (402)376-5621.

**THURSDAY SANCTUARY BIBLE STUDY resumes in September .**

**SUMMER MIDWEEK WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY! Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m.**

**For 2017: We’ll finish the book of Romans!** Several years ago, we made it through the first seven chapters of the monumental book in the New Testament. Beginning with an overview of Romans 1-7 on June 7, we’ll move into the last half of Romans, where Paul gives us direction on how to LIVE our lives of righteousness and justification in a complicated world. *It’s a marvelous epistle, which we’ll take in bite size portions over the months of June and July. Come when you can ... don’t worry about ‘intruding’. The prayers and the study are intended to give us opportunity for fellowship and growth, and are informal!*

**HOLE IN THE ROOF** Men meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays at the church at 8a.m. with a mission to lend a hand with projects for those in need or things needing repair around church. Sunday Scripture is often discussed. Sometimes we work with Habitat for Humanity.

**COMFORT CARE GROUP** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the month to make handmade blankets for those who are sick or in need of comfort. *We will take a summer hiatus for May through August.*

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. of the month at 7-8 pm at the church. WELCA meets quarterly after a Sunday Service for a luncheon.

Pastor	<u>Family of Christ</u>
<b>Church Council</b>	John Gosswein
<u>President</u>	John Marsh
<u>Vice President</u>	Tami Frye
<u>Secretary</u>	Connie Fie
<u>Treasurer</u>	Peggy Nelson
<u>Financial Secretary</u>	Jane David
<u>Members at Large</u>	Lance Knoedler
	Dr. David Wiebe
	Jane David
<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
Education	Judy Gosswein
Fellowship	Svoboda, Albers, Peterson
Evangelism	Julie Garaffa
New Properties	Brad Anderson
Church Properties	Lynn Tacha
Web Resources	Joni Weed
Youth Group	Deb Middleton
<u>Ministries Coordinator</u>	Barbara Laursen
<u>Publication Secretary</u>	
Stewardship	
Mutual Ministries	Jane David
Worship	Pr Harold Laursen

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS**

**June 18, 2017**



#### June Birthdays

6/1 Shelly Hove  
 6/1 Vickie Schaepler  
 6/1 Stephanie Straatmann  
 6/2 Brad Driml  
 6/2 Jasmin Wagner  
 6/3 Ashlea Denton  
 6/3 Jesse Keel  
 6/3 Katherine Reynolds  
 6/5 Elliana Salinas  
 6/5 Jodi Stenehjelm  
 6/7 Gabriel Salinas  
 6/9 Ed Keel  
 6/9 Amy Wolfe  
 6/10 Brooke Anderson  
 6/13 Richard Fiese  
 6/13 Barbara Sitzman  
 6/13 Randy Straatmann  
 6/14 Abigail Schaden  
 6/15 Dan Kossmann  
 6/16 John Gosswein  
 6/18 Bryan Fahnholz  
 6/20 Janet Boyd  
 6/20 Joni Weed  
 6/21 Willow Frye  
 6/21 Jayden Hove  
 6/27 Nathan Byrne  
 6/30 Stephen Parker  
 6/30 Jeremy Sanchez



#### June Anniversaries

6/7 Brandon & Jennifer Pierce  
 6/8 Paul & Dorann Bartels  
 6/10 Erika & Timothy Krull  
 6/12 Ken & Polly Petersen  
 6/13 Mark & Nona Svoboda  
 6/13 Jesse & Erica Keel  
 6/22 Gary & Stephanie Straatmann  
 6/23 Tom & Janet Boyd  
 6/23 Chris & Jill Peterson

#### Drinking From the Well

... is a new ministry from Seeking the Spirit Within: The Nebraska Synod Institute for Spiritual Direction Formation. It is a unique opportunity to learn from spiritual directors from around the Nebraska Synod ELCA and grow in your experience of the Divine.

Participants will have access to an online instructional webinar each month and will meet one time a month with a small group. If we have individuals from the Kearney area who register for this program, Connie Stover will facilitate the small group meetings at First Lutheran Church. For more information about this new ministry and get the instructions on how to register, go to [seekingthespiritwithin.org](http://seekingthespiritwithin.org) or contact Connie at 308-440-4450 or [conniestover@nebraskasynod.org](mailto:conniestover@nebraskasynod.org). Registration is not limited to members of ELCA congregations, so we encourage you to share this information with any of your friends who might be interested in participating!

#### **OUR NOISY OFFERING**

During these Lent and Easter (8) weeks, our *Noisy Offering* was collected for the ELCA's World Hunger fund. We gathered **\$387.35** which will be sent in response to the ongoing severe drought in East Africa.

Our June *Noisy Offering* will be combined with the Vacation Bible School offerings, **Operation Kid to Kid**. With this year's Peruvian theme, the monies collected will bring water wells to Peruvian villages. "For just \$5 per person, the kids at VBS can help fund a well in a Peruvian village!"

Through a partnership between Group Cares and Living Waters, we can reach thousands of thirsty kids with life-giving water."



#### MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP GROWTH

During this end of the Easter season and entering into Pentecost, our weekend lessons will hear Jesus engaging, inspiring and sending the disciples out into the world. It should become a good theme for us to hear throughout the summer, asking ourselves how we are **growing in our discipleship**. Some years back, Michael Foss (then pastor of a large Minneapolis area congregation) compiled a *checklist* for people to consider expanding their discipleship. It will be possible



**Daily prayer & Daily scripture reading**-- to assist in these first two, devotional books are available in the entry area; we also have several *online* resources available to promote that focus of starting your day with a prayer direction. And you are encouraged to *take the bulletin insert* home to pray for those listed. Consider engaging in ***Drinking from the well***, the spiritual guidance program starting this fall (see the announcement in this newsletter) ***A daily meditation time brings focus to the day: see what Jesus says in Matthew 6:25-34 about that 'first priority'!***

**Weekly worship.** Duh. But for what reason? *Worship time* helps us 're-prioritize' and 'renew'; it's meant to help us recognize what is important and healthy for our lives. The opportunities? Beyond Saturday and Sunday, there are fine gatherings for Wednesday Weeders, Wednesday night Bible Study, Women's study.

**Growth in in giving to the tithe or beyond;** our stewardship team is pulling together a series of commercials for this summer, to help us remember that true *giving in Christ is* regular, generous, first, proportional and cheerful.

**Serving others in Jesus' name** -- while offering a number of individual projects, we are invited to collectively share at Vacation Bible School, Habitat, Jubilee, Mosaic outreach, St. John's home, Noisy offerings, communion visitation, etc. We actually *receive* more than we *give* in this service!

**Sharing the faith story with the unchurched.** Ah, evangelism still raises the scary picture of 'door to door' invasion. Well, we do have some folks working on how we can have some events that invite the larger community. But I'd like to see if there are some folk interested in **going around the neighborhood with me on Wednesday evening (6p.m., before the Bible study)**, and just asking for prayer concerns that we can lift up at the Bible study. (I'll even splurge for a lite supper at 5:30). It will be an extension of our *door to door* event for the last two years. Just talk with PJ, if you are ~~bold~~ encouraged enough.

Let's explore these together this summer; I'm certain there are multiple other ways we'll learn to find joy in our discipleship together!

In that joy... Pr. John

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 11-18**  
**Monday through Thursday, 5:30 p.m. (light supper), 6 – 8:30 p.m.**  
**St. Luke's Episcopal, First Presbyterian and Family of Christ Lutheran**  
**At FIRST PRESBYTERIAN –**



CONDOLENCES

Upon the death of Wayne Gruber, Mitzi Gifford’s father.  
Upon the death of Maury May, our publication secretary. We offer prayers and condolences to Jeanne May and the children.

CONGRATULTIONS

- Again, to our graduates from high school:
- Evy Holmes (Axtell),
  - Jade Plambeck (in December from Kearney),
  - and Nathan Gillen (from his new Colorado home).
- And to our college graduates:
- Madeline Christensen (UNL) and
  - Stephanie Duennermann (UNK)

**PRAYERS:** for our representatives (Lois Adamson, Bob Grabenstein and Pr. John) to the Nebraska Synod assembly on June 1 through June 3 here in Kearney; they participate with our other 240 congregations in the state in the fellowship and business of the church mission.



2017 Vacation Bible School

*Passport to Peru, Discovering God’s Good Gifts*

Sun. – Thurs., June 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, at 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church

We hope families can attend all 5 days! Time to register our kids! The online registration address is: [vbspro.events/p/Peru2017](http://vbspro.events/p/Peru2017). Registration forms will also be available in the church office. Please register as soon as possible. Our materials orders and food prep are based on the number of children registered in May. Thank for including VBS in your summer plans!

Lawn Mowing Time is here!!!! Please call the Church – 236-7704 or the Ministry Coordinator – Barb Laursen 234-4847 to get on the Lawn Mowing Team We have 4-5 already !!

Family of Christ Lutheran Church  
1319 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Kearney, NE 68845

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Permit 118

Returned Service Requested

Worship Workers for June 2017

<u>June 3/4</u> <b>Worship Assist:</b> Sat:6:00 Kelly Hauff Sun10:00 Barbara Sitzman <b>Lector:</b> Sat:6:00 Dan Kossmann Sun:10:00 Connie Fie <b>Greeters:</b> Sat: 6:00 Sun10:00 Peggy Buettner & Lois Adamson <b>Communion Assist:</b> Sat:6:00:Joni Weed Sun10:00 Lois Adamson <b>Communion Prep:</b> Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall Sun:10:00 Lois Adamson <b>Offering Counter:</b> Lois Adamson	<u>June 10/11</u> <b>Worship Assist:</b> Sat:6:00 Kelly Hauff Sun10:00 Harold Laursen <b>Lector:</b> Sat: 6:00 Laura Buehner Sun:10:00 Mitzi Gifford <b>Greeters:</b> Sat:6:00 Sun:10:00 Bob & Cindy Grabenstein <b>Communion Assist:</b> Sat:6:00 Laura Buehner Sun:10:00 Bob Grabenstein <b>Communion Prep:</b> Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall Sun: 10:00 Fougerons Sue Sands Buss <b>Offering Counter:</b>	<u>June 17/18</u> <b>Worship Assist:</b> Sat: 6:00 Kelly Hauff Sun10:00 Jane David <b>Lector:</b> Sat 6:00: Cheryl Hedstrom Sun:10:00 <b>Greeters:</b> Sat:6:00 Hedstroms Sun: 10:00 <b>Communion Assist:</b> Sat:6:00 Ken Petersen Sun: 10:00 <b>Communion Prep:</b> Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall Sun: 10:00 Fougerons & Sue Sands-Buss <b>Offering Counters:</b> Rod & Jane Behrhorst	<u>June 24/25</u> <b>Worship Assist:</b> Sat:6:00 Kelly Hauff Sun 10:00 Lane Knoedler <b>Lector:</b> Sat:6:00 Sun: 10:00 <b>Greeters:</b> Sat:6:00 Sun:10:00 <b>Communion Assist:</b> Sat:6:00 Sun: 10:00 <b>Communion Prep:</b> Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall Sun:10:00 Fougerons & Sue Sands Buss <b>Offering Counters:</b> Layne Knoedler
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<div>  <h1>June 2017</h1>  </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Nebraska Synod Assembly at Younes Center	2 Nebraska Synod Assembly at Younes Center	3 Nebraska Synod Assembly at Younes Center  6:00pm Worship
4 10:00am Worship	5	6	7 9:00am Wed Weeders  7:00 Bible Study	8	9	10 8:00am Hole in Roof 10:30 VBS Prep @ First Presbyterian  6:00pm Worship
11 10:00am Worship  5:30pm VBS Meal 6:00pm-8:30pm Peru VBS	12 7:00pm Women's Bible Study  5:30pm VBS Meal 6:00pm-8:30pm Peru VBS	13 7:00pm Council Meeting  5:30pm VBS Meal 6:00pm-8:30pm Peru VBS	14 9:00am Wed Weeders 12:00pm Book Bunch 7:00 Bible Study  5:30pm VBS Meal 6:00pm-8:30pm Peru VBS	15  5:30pm VBS Meal 6:00pm-8:30pm Peru VBS	16	17 6:00pm Worship
18 10:30am Worship and Pot Luck at Centennial Park with First Presbyter- ian and St. Lukes.	19	20	21 9:00am Wed Weeders  7:00 Bible Study	22	23	24 8:00am Hole in Roof 6:00pm Worship
25 10:00am Worship Congregational Meeting  1:30 Students leave for Confirmation Camp	26 Confirmation Camp	27 Confirmation Camp	28 9:00am Wed Weeders 12:00pm Book Bunch 7:00 Bible Study Confirmation Camp	29 Confirmation Camp	30 7:00 pm Return From Confirmation Camp	

# ALL IN THE FAMILY

## June2017

### Volume 33 Issue 6



**Family of Christ Lutheran Church**  
**1319 5th Ave**  
**Kearney, NE 68845**

**Phone: 308-236-7704**  
**E-mail: [familyofchristkearney@gmail.com](mailto:familyofchristkearney@gmail.com)**  
**Web: [www.familyofchristkearney.org](http://www.familyofchristkearney.org)**  
**Pastor e-mail: [pr.john.foc@gmail.com](mailto:pr.john.foc@gmail.com)**  
**Pastor: John Gosswein**  
**(Office Tu, W, F Afternoons)**  
**Publications Secretary:**  
**Ministries Coordinator: Barbara Laursen**  
**(Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30am-12:30pm)**

#### WORSHIP SERVICES:

**Saturday: 6:00p.m. Evening Worship**  
**(signed for the Hearing Impaired)**

**Sunday: 10:00 am Worship**  
 (We don't have Sunday School, but we'll be having the 'children's church' during the one service)

#### *Don't Forget ...* **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

June 25th, Sunday,  
 following the 10 a.m. worship service  
 The meeting will have a report from the *Building Hope* team on possibilities for Family of Christ building.  
 It will also include information for the possibility of a deacon internship between Family of Christ and Mosaic/Bethphage Village, and approval of a financial plan.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Church Council	4
Pastor's Notes	3
Birthday's and Anniversaries	5
Calendar	7
Worship Workers	8