



Family of Christ Lutheran Church Minutes
August 8, 2017

Present: Pastor John, John Marsh, Tami Frye; Peggy Nelson; David Wiebe; Jane David; Lance Knoedler; Connie Fie

Pastor John read from Romans 12 where Paul says Christians are not to think too highly of themselves. They should not conform to the world but be transformed into new people in relationship with God. Individual gifts are possessed and collectively all play an important role in the mission of the Church.

July 11 minutes. John M asked for a motion to approve. (Peggy/Tami) approved.

Treasurer’s report. There was again discussion on the high City of Kearney bill with suggestion for further investigation into a malfunction of the automatic sprinklers. Peggy noted net ordinary income as of July 17 was down \$1,122.11 with expenses totaling \$12,235.80 and total income of \$11,113.69. Motion was made to approve the treasurer’s report. (Jane/David). Motion carried.

Ministries Coordinator Report. Barb noted FOC will be serving Habitat lunch on Aug 19. Her monthly activities include scheduling worship workers, keeping ICON program up-to-date, newsletter and weekly bulletin and insert.

Pastor John’s report: Pastor John noted he will be taking vacation time August 26-31. Evy Holmes is the FOC graduating high school scholarship recipient and will be recognized Sunday August 13. Pastor Rachael at Campus Lutheran has resigned. It was noted there may be more regional clergy involvement at Campus Lutheran. The First Lutheran husband-wife pastors are scheduled to arrive in Kearney this week. Pastor noted he would like to have a scheduled prayer time open to members of the congregation, focusing on where the church is going with building and ministry issues of FOC. The time is yet to be scheduled. The print secretary position will be open until mid-August when interviews will be held.

Evangelism Committee Report: Tami reported on the meeting with the Evangelism committee. September 9, following Saturday evening service, a big screen projection showing the movie Finding Nemo will be shown on the south church lawn. Connections to religious themes will be given. Popcorn, contests and boat boxes are planned. The Committee is planning on some lawn and radio/TV advertising along with social media. Pastor John asked if the Council would approve \$500 towards expenditures for the event. Tami/David made the motion to cover \$500 for the September 9 evangelism event. Approved.

Old Business: Church sign: Mike DeBoer was contacted regarding helping with a new FOC sign. He has asked for a picture to help with the design. David noted blue prints for the new church building should be available by end of summer. There was discussion on the Simply Giving form which needs to be revised. David noted there are 60 pews in storage that are being put up for sale.

Motion was made to adjourn (Jane/Lance)
Meeting closed 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 2nd and 4th Wednesdays over lunch (12-12:45) in the church basement. They are studying *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese for the next weeks — you can still get a book if you just contact the church. Come join us!

WEDNESDAY WEEDERS This faithful group meets almost every Wednesday, gathering at 9 :00 a.m., and then breaking at 10:30 for coffee, fellowship and prayers. Yes, they are ‘weeder’s’ 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 .

HOLE IN THE ROOF GANG -The guys continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8:00 am. If you know of anyone (single mom, widow, handicapped, senior) who could use some assistance with a project around the house—give a call to the church: 236-7704.

COMFORT CARE GROUP meets on the 2nd Sat. of the month to make handmade blankets for those who are sick or in need of comfort.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00-8:00 pm at the church. WELCA meets quarterly after a Sunday Service for a luncheon. All women are welcome!

BIBLE STUDY MOVES ...!
THURSDAY evenings
Church Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

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!

During the summer, we met on Wednesday evenings, but we’re moving it back to our Thursday time. We are completing the Gospel of Mark – easy for you to catch up!!

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Vice President	Tami Frye	Calendar	7
Secretary	Connie Fie	Worship Workers	8
Treasurer	Peggy Nelson		
Financial Secretary	Jane David		
Members at Large	Lance Knoedler		
	Dr. David Wiebe		
	Jane David		
Committee Chairs			
Education	Judy Gosswein		
Fellowship	Nona Svoboda, Joyce Albers, Cindy Grabenstein, Barb Laursen		
Evangelism	Julie Garaffa		
New Properties	Brad Anderson		
Church Properties	Lynn Tacha		
Web Resources	Joni Weed		
Youth Group	Deb Middleton		
Stewardship			
Ministries Coordinator	Aimee Knoedler		
Publication Secretary	Sue Samds-Buss		
Mutual Ministries	Jane David		
Worship	Pr. Harold Laursen		

October 24, 2017



October Birthdays

10/01 Brezlin Beeler
10/02 Dominique White
10/02 Miles McCoy
10/03 Jeremy Brill
10/04 Joel Tveit
10/08 Randy Buss
10/10 Shawna Plambeck
10/13 Michael Cernik
10/13 Judy Tschirren
10/14 Trenton Flies
10/14 Charles Wolfe
10/15 Anna Nelson
10/16 Jennifer Kotschwar
10/19 Jan Bystrom
10/20 Olyvia Sayre
10/21 Pat Journey
10/21 Jeanne May
10/22 Donna Voyek
10/23 Chad Byrne
10/23 Bernice Yates
10/29 Sandy Tacha
10/31 Emily Wagner



October Anniversaries

10/13 Elizabeth & Jon Laursen
Roesler
10/21 Jerry & Jill Milligan
10/31 Randy & Sue Sands-Buss

Just a Closer Walk?

Are you yearning for a deeper experience of God?

Would you like to be part of a small group
of people with whom you can share questions of faith?

Come walk with

COMPANIONS *in Christ*

A journey in prayer, scripture, sharing, spiritual
friendship, and meditation.

A spiritual-formation group designed to deepen
your spiritual growth.

An invitation from God to come close.

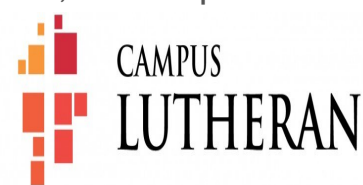
For more information, contact:

Stephanie Straatmann: 308-440-4011

straat02@yahoo.com

Starting September 7

Once again the Scholarship Committee with
FOC is hosting a **welcome to campus day** at
UNK, at Campus Lutheran. Please mark your



calendars for **Sept
15, 11a.m.-1p.m..**

We will have a
taco lunch, cook-
ies/bars.

Maybe a little yard work.

Mostly fun fellowship with our college
students.



HOT DOG!!

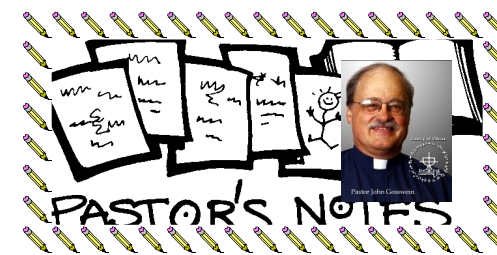
CONFIRMATION GET TOGETHER

7th-8th Grade, and 6th Grade

We're planning a get-together on
Wednesday evening, September 6th,
5:30-6:30 p.m.



— it's meant as an 'all family' potluck (the
church will provide the hot dogs – you
get to bring a salad or dessert). We will
discuss the plans for the class (6th, 7th and 8th grade)
as they begin in the fall, along with the details and
arrangements for the sessions.



Deny, Take up, Follow

And Jesus said, "deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me"

There are all kinds of logos on products that seek to promote them towards our interest as 'refreshing',
'promising', 'exciting'. Companies spend millions to develop the right logo and capture our attention.

But Jesus appeals to us (several times, the Gospels record) with a different style invitation. (It is rather
striking and strange that he would use an instrument of humiliation and torture as his 'logo' – a cross!)

Jesus asks his disciples to do three things.

1. Deny self -- *recognition*

This isn't about rejecting that craved piece of chocolate. Nor is it 'putting yourself down'.

We've frequently heard others (or ourselves!) say, "but what **I want** is THIS", and then heard them voice
their gut reactions or desires. They may not comprehend how their 'want' or impulse or lust or revenge could
lead them to a death of relationship, or even self. One aspect of 'deny ourselves' is to realize that *our path is
hurtful*, that we have a propensity for sinful, selfish and self-deceiving behaviors. To 'deny ourselves' is to open
our ears to Jesus.

2. Take up cross -- *action*

Notice that Jesus doesn't *thrust* crosses on people. Haven't you heard people say "It's my lot in life; it's
my cross to bear," as though God *put* crosses on us through illness, problems, suffering or loss. Again, Jesus
doesn't thrust crosses on us. Instead Jesus *invites* us to 'take up' the cross – could that be *our area of humility,
suffering, hurt?* — and embrace it. I believe I have best witnessed this in persons who have moved out of denial
about their problems and ceased covering them up. They engaged their struggles with *honesty*, and have come to
recognize this experience has allowed a bridge of redemption for themselves and others.

3. Follow him -- *adventure*.

I have watched a youth group have a guide say, "O.k. Here's what's ahead – a long trek up mountains,
living in tents, no outside contact, helping people in need. Who's with me?" The youth enthusiastically re-
spond, "Will we get to see the wild? Share life with people who've had rugged experiences?" **They want the
adventure.**

Jesus never invited his disciples to a life of ease. He did open their eyes to God's activity in redeeming
the hurts and wounds of the world, and the path towards *resurrection*. We may not understand it (or even fully
believe it) ourselves, but we *follow* the one who knows how to carry the cross, and how to conquer death. (By
the way – this is why we have Bible studies, Sunday School, small group gatherings and worship: to learn better
that path, and the living joy present in the adventure.

It's also why we make the sign of that cross upon ourselves, as we learn to follow Jesus.

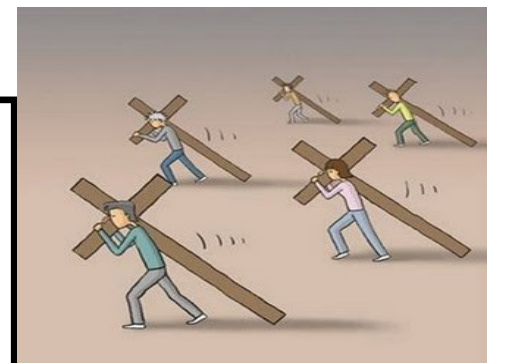
Rejoicing at being your fellow disciple!

Pastor John

THANKYOU'S FROM:

—Campus Lutheran for ...the gift of \$525.00 and to The Hole in
The Roof Guys for taking off the many branches of their diseased
tree.

—**The Gideons** for the offering of \$349.00 given
August 20th. This amount will purchase 250 New
Testaments that will be given to UNK students in Sept.





RECONCILATION AND RE-FORMATION TIME

We are coming close to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation ... when Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenburg church. One aspect of the Reformers theology not usually highlighted is how they encouraged *households* to learn and practice the faith together, rather than presuming faith only happened *in church*. This fall, the weekend lessons share a suggested theme leading to Reformation Sunday; they surround Jesus’ teachings on how to forgive and reconcile with our neighbor. **One of the resources encouraged is a family/personal**

devotional structure that we will explain during the September/October weeks. Here’s a first look at the structure (in case you would like to try it in your home!)

FAITH FIVE

- 1. SHARE the highs and lows of the day
- 2. READ and highlight a verse of Scripture in your Bible
- 3. TALK about how the verse relates to your highs and lows
- 4. PRAY for your highs and lows, for your family, for the world
- 5. BLESS one another.

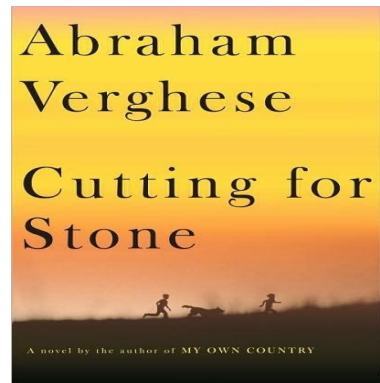


CROSSWAYS STARTS UP AGAIN ...

...For all those engaged in this current two year cycle of the *Crossways* program: we are back in action on Thursday evenings (September 14th being the first), again at 7 p.m. We begin with Unit 18, but our first two sessions will have quite a bit of ‘review’. Remember that your summer homework was to prepare by reading the Prophets in the

Old Testament – I highly recommend reading them in a version like *The Message* to get an overall feel for their preaching.

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BROWN BAG BOOK BUNCH

You’re always invited to share in the *(2nd and 4th)* Wednesday noontime discussion group studying some book of religious import. The book bunch meets during the lunch hour (12-12:45), some bringing their lunch, some just drinking the coffee available. We’re starting Abraham Verghese’s story, *Cutting for Stone*. Amazon describes it thusly: *Moving from Addis Ababa to New York City and back again, Cutting for Stone is an unforgettable story of love and betrayal, medicine*

and ordinary miracles--and two brothers whose fates are forever intertwined
We have ordered some books in preparation for our September 13th meeting, and they will be available at the church for a slight charge (\$8?). If you want more information, contact Kelly Hauff (293-1756) or Pr. John (293-5201).

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

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Grand Island, Ne
Permit 118

Returned Service Requested

Worship Workers for September 2017

October	September 16/17	September 23 /24	September 30/Oct.1
Worship Assist: Sat:6:00 Sun:8:30 Sun:11:00 Barbara Sitzman Lector: Sat: 6:00 Sun: 8:30 Marshall Nelson Sun:11:00 Nancy DeBoer Greeters: Sat:6:00 Sun: 8:30 Sun:11:00 Mike DeBoer Communion Assist: Sat:6:00 Ken Petersen Sun: 8:30 Peggy Nelson Sun:11:00 Nancy DeBoer Communion Prep: Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall Sun: 8:30 Barbara Bowers Sun: 11:00 Fougerons & Sue Offering Counter: Peggy Nelson	Worship Assist: Sat: 6:00 Sun: 8:30 Sun:11:00 Barbara Sitzman Lector: Sat 6:00: Laura Buehner Sun: 8:30 Sun:11:00 Ken Reifenrath Greeters: Sat:6:00 Sun: 8:30 Sun:11:00 Tom & Janet Boyd Communion Assist: Sat:6:00 Laura Buehner Sun: 8:30 Sun:11:00 Patty Reifenrath Communion Prep: Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall Sun: 8:30 Fougerons Sun: 11:00 Sue Sands Buss Offering Counters: Rod & Jane Behrhorst	Worship Assist: Sat: 6:00 Sun: 8:30 Sun 11:00 Layne Knoedler Lector: Sat: 6:00 Dan Kossmann Sun: 8:30 Linda Peterson Sun: 11:00 Mitzi Gifford Greeters: Sat: 6:00 Sun: 8:30 Sun:11:00 David Wiebe Communion Assist: Sat: 6:00 Joni Weed Sun: 8:30 Linda Peterson Sun: 11:00 Deb Middleton Communion Prep: Sat: 6:00 Bryan Sall Sun: 8:30 Fougerons Sun: 11:00 Sue Sands Buss Offering Counters: Layne Knoedler	Worship Assist: Sat: 6.00 Sun. 8:30 Jane David Sun: 11:00 Barb Laursen Lector Sat: 6:00 Sun: 8:30 Jane David Sun: 11:00 Tami Frye Greeters: Lois & Peggy B. Communion Assist: Sat: 6:00 Sun: 8:30 Jane David Sun: 11:00 Bob Grabenstein Communion Prep: Sat: 6:00 Brian Sall Sun:8:30 Fougerons Sun: 11:00 Lois Adamson Offering Counter Lois Adamson

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Worship 6:00 pm
3 Worship 10:00am	4 Labor Day	5	6 9:00 am Wednesday Weeders 5:30 –6:30 Confirmation Family get together 6:30 Youth 7:30 Choir	7 Prayer 7:30 am Bible Study 7:00 pm	8	9 Hole in the Roof 8:00 am Comfort Care 9:00 am Worship 6:00pm Finding Nemo Party 7:30 pm
10 Worship 8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45 am Worship 11:00am	11 Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Serve Jubilee @ Kearney Manor	12 7:00 pm Church Council	13 9:00 am Wednesday Weeders 12:00 Book Bunch 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Youth 7:30 pm Choir	14 Prayer 7:30 am Crossways (resumes) 7:00 pm Bible Study (Sanctuary) 7:00 pm	15 Campus Lutheran Meal 11:00 a.m.— 1:00 p.m.	16 Worship 6:00 pm
17 Worship 8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45 am Worship 11:00am	18	19	20 9:00 am Wednesday Weeders 12:00 Confirmation 6:30 pm Youth 7:30 pm Choir	21 Prayer 7:30am Crossways 7:00pm Bible Study (Sanctuary) 7:00 pm	22	23 Hole in the Roof 8:00am Worship 6:00 pm
24 Worship 8:00 am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45 am Worship 11:00am	25	26	27 9:00 am Wednesday Weeders 12:00 Book Bunch 5:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth 7:30pmChoir	28 Prayer 7:30am Crossways 7:00 pm Bible Study (Sanctuary) 7:00 pm	29	30 Worship 6:00 pm

ALL IN THE FAMILY

October 2017
Volume 33
Issue 10



Family of Christ Lutheran Church

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E-mail: familyofchristkearney@gmail.com

Web: www.familyofchristkearney.org

Pastor e-mail: pr.john.foc@gmail.com

Pastor: John Gosswein

(Office Tue ,Wed, Fri. Afternoons)

Print Secretary: Sue Sands-Buss (Office

Tue., Wed., Fri .9:30 - 12:00

Ministries Coordinator: Aimee Knodler

(Tues, Wed, Fri., 12:30pm– 2:30)

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Sunday: 8:30 am Worship

11:00 am Worship