

CHURCH COUNCIL

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. *We will begin again in September.*

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!!

Family of Christ

Pastor John Gosswein

Church Council

President John Marsh

Vice President Tami Frye

Secretary Connie Fie

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 Barbara Laursen

Publication Secretary

Mutual Ministries Jane David

Worship Pr. Harold Laursen

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**DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!**

September 20, 2017



September Birthdays

9/01 Erika Krull
 9/01 Alison Nelson
 9/02 Nathan Juel
 9/04 Deanna Steier
 9/05 Connie Fie
 9/05 Briar Straatmann
 9/07 Barb Laursen
 9/12 Lorna Lane
 9/14 Dennis DeJonge
 9/14 Neal Parker
 9/17 Jade Plambeck
 9/17 Colt Tveit
 9/18 Kellen Kelch
 9/19 Zachery Wulf
 9/22 Joel Fie
 9/22 John Zulkoski
 9/23 Samantha Duennerman
 9/23 Jack Fahnholz
 9/28 Avery Collison
 9/30 Ron Carey



September Anniversaries

9/01 Melissa & Richard Fiese
 9/05 Ken & Patty Reifenrath
 9/09 Nicole & Ron Carey
 9/18 Mark & Coleen Brill
 9/20 Dale & Amy Fahnholz
 9/28 Molly & Chris Schnacker

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.

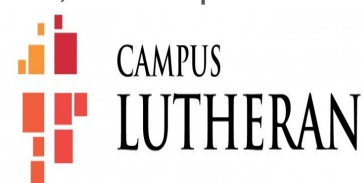
For more information, contact:

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, cookies/bars.

Maybe a little yard work.

Mostly fun fellowship with our college students.



HOT DOG!!

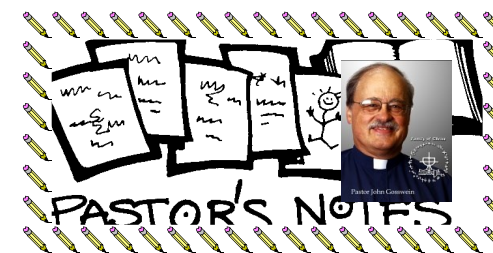
CONFIRMATION GET TOGETHER

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 respond, "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.

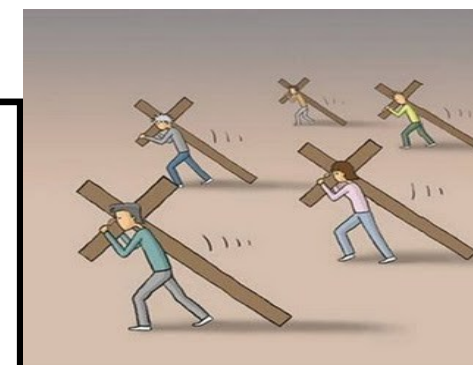
Rejoicing at being your fellow disciple!

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.

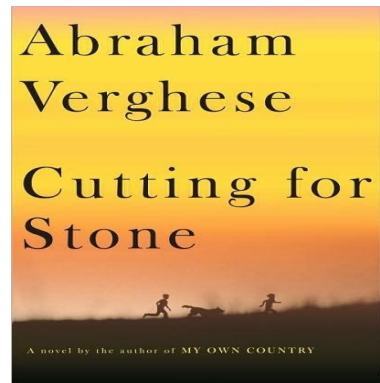


CROSSWAYS STARTS UP AGAIN ...

...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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Permit 118

Returned Service Requested

Worship Workers for September 2017

September 9/10	September 16/17	September 23 /24	September 30/Oct.1
Worship Assist: Sat:6:00 Sun:8:30 Sun11:00 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

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Family of Christ Lutheran Church
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Web: www.familyofchristkearney.org

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

Pastor: John Gosswein

(Office Tue ,Wed, Fri. Afternoons)

Publications Secretary:

Ministries Coordinator: Barbara Laursen

(Tues, Wed, Fri 9:30am-12:30pm)

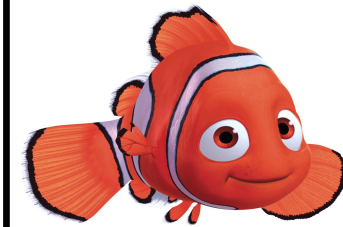
WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

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BACK TO FALL SCHEDULE
THEN... we're back to the REGULAR
SCHEDULE on *September 10th*
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES at
8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School,
Confirmation, Youth and Adult forums at
9:45 a.m. Saturday worship remains at
6 p.m. (and is interpreted)

All Are Invited!!!



We will be holding an *out-*
door movie night on
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9th in the yard

adjacent to the church. There will be popcorn and
contests, fun and a great movie! ***FINDING NEMO!***
All are welcome to join and did we mention it's free?

Time: **after the 6:00 p.m. service -- 7:30 p.m.**

For ***FAMILY OF CHRIST FOLK*** – we have a number of
tasks that will make for gracious hospitality and a fun event.
You are invited to sign up at church if you would like to help

- Serve popcorn or lemonade
- Help with graphic design (*already done!*)
- Develop some game ideas for the evening ('talk like whale' contest? Best sea gull imitation?)
- Assist in sharing lawn signs and door hangers (we have some available to pass out this week!)
- *And others as they come about... We have our wonderful sign-up sheet in the entry area!*

REMEMBER – we have one more 10 a.m. service on Labor Day weekend, September 3rd!

