First Lutheran Church Council  
Tuesday, November 20, 2018  
James Bjorge Adult Education Room  
MINUTES

**Attendees:** Gary Inman, Sindy Keller, John Bennett, Dave Rogness, Loren Stahl, Kathy Helming, Tracy Farmer, Jane Nelson, Chris Kraemer, Daniel Damico, Pastor Corey Bjertness, Pastor Dave Adams, Pastor Bill Ahlfieldt, Terry Yoney, Pastor Laurie Neill, Rollie Johnson, and Missy Froeber.

Building task force groups were invited to attend to see and hear a presentation by Mike Wild on possible designs for the new worship center. Attending were: Alex Rydell, Shelly Krosbakken, Shirley Tietz, Al & Bev Nielson, Jeff Sprecher, Beverly Bjertness

**Gary Inman opened the meeting. Mission and Vision statements were read.**

**Building Update** — Terry Yoney updated the Council on the building progress so far. We are putting in the last bearing wall. The steel is in and the metal flooring is almost complete for level 2. Once it is completed, the bottom half will be heated and the floor poured on level 1. We are hoping to be fully enclosed by January or early February. The gym has a few tweaks left on the HVAC system but is in use by staff. The nursery lights for the back half and the water damage will be repaired next week and door changes for child safety are being worked on. We have approved 7 change orders, but none of them are very large.

**Consent Agenda**
Kathy Helming motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, Chris Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion approved.

**Financials**
Daniel Damico reported on the financials. Our giving is up from last year, but slightly under our expectations for this time of year. However, we sold some stock which will be reflected to some extent in the general fund and Columbarium sales are reflected in the general fund. All in all, a very positive financial report. Sindy Keller motioned to accept the financials. Jane Nelson seconded. Motion approved.

**Pastor’s Report**
Pastor Corey went over the slides and numbers from various activities in the church for October. It was a busy month! He mentioned that weddings are down considerably and for the first time we are seeing fewer baptisms. Is there a correlation? New wedding venues have cropped up that could be part of the issue. Staff is aware and discussing ideas and solutions.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**
**Master Ministry Plan** – We are behind in our planning cycle due to Pastor Laurie’s medical leave 😊 However, staff is working on goals and expectations.

**Mission Trip Approvals** – The mission trip to Ecuador planned for late summer is no longer happening. Instead, Erik Carlson will take a group of students to Seattle to do mission work there. An in country trip
does not need approval from the council. A mission trip to Ethiopia is planned for late May/early June. Katie Johnson and Annika Kjar will be leading the trip through Ordinary Hero and Pastor Laurie will go along as staff. Global Missions has approved this trip. Dave Rogness motioned for Council approval of the mission trip to Ethiopia. Loren Stahl seconded. Motion approved.

Approval of Housing Allowances – Pastor Corey proposed that Housing Allowances for pastoral staff remain as is. There have been no changes. Chris Kramer motioned to approve. Kathy Helming seconded. Motion approved.

Grant Award – Pastor Corey announced that Pastor Laurie has applied for and received a grant in the amount of $10,000 for our First Lutheran youth internship program!

December Meeting – December 16th is the evening of the First Lutheran staff Christmas party to be held at Porter Creek. All council members and their spouses are invited. A formal invite will be sent after Thanksgiving. Pastor Corey proposed that this gathering count as the Council December meeting. Council agreed!

Next Council Meeting will be held Sunday, December 16th at 6:00 pm at Porter Creek.

Rollie Johnson closed with a prayer.
Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Froeber
Executive Assistant

There was an Executive session.