

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Crown of Life Lutheran Church

December 21, 2010

Vice President Don Nicolay called the monthly Council meeting to order. Pastor Phill opened the meeting with a prayer and read 1Kings 3:7:15. Solomon asks for a wise and discerning heart. Pastor then asked the members of the Council to think upon the following: “the wages of the righteous brings them life and the income of the wicked brings them punishment”. What does this mean? There was a short discussion about this phrase. Those present Pastor Phill, Vicar Gary, Daryl Irmer, Don Nicolay, Dan Mehner, Lowell Koelling, Bob Gehrke, Jerry McCall, Rollie Mann and Howard Ludden. Ron Pearson, Rev. Jerry Scansen, Bill Vomocil, and Bob Mansfield were absent.

Guests: None

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 9, 2010 Council meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: (Dan Mehner reported)

• Y.T.D. <u>Budgeted Receipts:</u>	\$628,600.00
• Y.T.D. <u>Actual Receipts:</u>	\$694,636.00
• Y.T.D. <u>Budgeted Expenses:</u>	\$641,667.00
• Y.T.D. <u>Actual Expenses:</u>	\$598,672.00
• Total Assets:	\$2,325,431.00
• Long Term Debt	\$182,768.00

- Copy of the financial report is attached.
- Dan stated that the Legacy (Endowment) Fund is a five-year note. If we touch it, the interest rate will be changed. At the point that this becomes mature, the two will be combined (the Fund and the accrued interest). A question was asked what is in the dedicated funds. Dan stated that information is on the break-out sheet, which is the last page showing the General Fund.
- A question was asked about the division of monies left over, which is approximately \$96,000 as of November 30, 2010. Dan stated that division of monies between actual receipts and actual expenses will be divided as voted on at the Voters Meeting and will be

38 based upon the figures as of December 31, 2010, minus any carry-over of budgeted
39 expenses into next year.

- 40 • A question was asked, “What date the mortgage on the church will be paid”. It was
41 estimated to be in three years. The actual date will need to be researched.
- 42 • Dan stated that Vicar Gary’s tuition of \$1,805.00 for the winter quarter became due and
43 was paid. He asked that a motion be made to approve the expenditure.

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45 **A motion was made and seconded to approve the expenditure for Vicar Gary’s tuition.**
46 **Motion carried.**

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48 A short discussion about how much is in that fund and how much can Vicar Gary use
49 until he is obligated to pay taxes. The current amount in the Education Assistant
50 Program Fund is \$11,461.00. Any amount above \$5,250.00 in a calendar year he will be
51 subject to paying income taxes on it.

- 52 • Dan stated he signed a check for \$200.00 for the rental of the recreation center hall for
53 the upcoming 25th anniversary celebration. This was not budgeted for in 2010. There
54 was a line item set up for those expenditures, but it shows a zero balance. Therefore, the
55 line item will show a negative \$200.00 balance at the end of this year. It was suggested
56 that the Council take money out of the memorials, which has a balance of \$5,562.54.
57 Depending on how much you think it is we are going to spend, that could be transferred
58 from there to the 25th Anniversary Fund. The cost of the 25th anniversary celebration is
59 estimated to be about \$5,000.00. That is COL’s cost only.

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61 **A motion was made and seconded to take \$5,000.00 out of the undirected Memorial Funds**
62 **and place it into the 25th Anniversary line item. Motion carried.**

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65 **FINANCIAL SECRETARY’S REPORT:** (Lowell Koelling reported)

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- 67 • Lowell stated that he has nothing new to report at this time.

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70 **BOARD OF ELDERS:** (Ron Pearson absent)

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73 **BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP:** (Rev. Jerry Scansen absent)

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75 **BOARD FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ASSIMILATION:** (Bob Gehrke)

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- 78 • Bob stated that Bill Vomocil wanted to insure that two programs that are planned for next
79 year are continued. One is presented by Dr. Paul Maier the weekend of January 23 thru
80 the 25, establishing the fact that Jesus is our Lord and not a legend. He will be going
81 back through history, archaeology and all sorts of other proofs that he will bring to us.
82 He will be preaching at the services on Saturday and Sunday. Then in February Joel
83 Lampe from the bible museum located in Goodyear will be coming here on two
84 consecutive nights Wednesday, February 23rd and Thursday, February 24th. He will be
85 bring displays; bibles, parchments, etc. People will be able to handle them, read them
86 and will be able to benefit from that. This will be interactive and not a lecture. Schedule
87 start time is 4:00 PM and will end at 6:00 PM. There will be information available on
88 both of these presentations. There will need to be some publicity on these and Pastor
89 Phill stated that they will be getting back to Council about the plan for the publicity and
90 costs. Bob stated that getting the information out to the other churches is straightforward,
91 but getting the information out to the community, especially the un-churched, is a little
92 more difficult.

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93 **BOARD OF MISSIONS:** (Jerry McCall)

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- 95 • The October Fest monies were to go to the Navajo mission. It was reported as of right
96 now the money has not gone. The party that headed up that mission, Steve Watkins,
97 died. Dick Anderson followed up with Watkins associate by e-mail. He is still awaiting
98 response from him. Dick did tell the gentleman, who is a pastor, that those dollars are
99 available if there is a continuing use for them.
- 100 • The Mission Board has additional discretionary funds. They have received a request
101 from the LCMS Hispanic Ministry in a letter from Pastor Artigas in regard to Adopt a
102 Family for assistance for four families. The Board of Missions voted to contribute
103 \$600.00 and Pastor Phill will arrange for delivery. Pastor Phill will meet with Pastor
104 Artigas and will deliver gift certificates for these families.

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107 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** (Rollie Mann reported in Bob Mansfield's absence)

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- 109 • They will be putting out luminaries this year again.
- 110 • They will be taking down the church's Christmas decorations January 15th at 9:00 AM.
- 111 • Bob has a committee of four women to come up with a color scheme for inside and
112 outside painting. Sometime in the coming year he hopes to have the church painted a
113 different color scheme. They had come with one, but it was not suitable. Before the

114 project begins it will need to come through Church Council. The estimated cost as of
115 now is about \$23,000.00. That amount will need to be approved by the Voters.

- 116 • Starting this year and early part of next year they will be removing all of the former
117 plantings in front of the office, around the back and all the way to the end of the social
118 hall and replace them with desert landscaping. This will help trimming time and
119 watering bills. Bob has an estimate of \$1,100.00 to take them out, repairing damaged
120 water lines and remove the debris.
- 121 • Someone mentioned that the sidewalk at the east end of the Narthex doors does not have
122 a handicap approach. This may be something we may want to look into and Bob brought
123 this up at the Trustees' meeting. The Trustees voted at this time not interested in doing
124 this. Bob wanted to get the feel of the Church Council. It is estimated it will take
125 \$2,100.00 to do this. This is due to do having to tear the concrete out, make a wide area,
126 and a smooth approach. A discussion ensued about the liability and necessity of doing
127 this. The result of the conversations was that the church's insurance company be
128 contacted to get their professional opinion about this situation.
- 129 • Rollie reported that it has noticed that there are cracks in the big support beams in the
130 church. The Trustees asked that the Church Council appoint a committee to look into the
131 overhead beams, as the Trustees are not experienced enough to lead this situation. The
132 last time this occurred, Don Doerr, a member of the congregation, headed up this project.
133 But, he is not in good health. It will take someone with structural engineering
134 experience. The Council members talked about this and came to the conclusion that a
135 structural engineer be contacted and have them make a recommendation on what to do.
136 Then also ask the structural engineer if they know of a contractor that does this type of
137 work. After gathering the information the Trustees will come back to the Council with
138 the information received and the estimated cost to repair.

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140 **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** (Daryl Irmer reported)

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142 • Daryl stated he had a couple of items for the Council's information. He has appointed
143 John Sauter as Chairman of the 25th anniversary celebration committee. At this time
144 Pastor and Daryl have been selected as advisory people, and Judy McCall of the Outreach
145 Committee and Don Poppen, an Elder, have been appointed to this committee. John
146 Sauter has reserved the R. H. Johnson Social Hall for Sunday, April 3, 2011 for a 25th
147 anniversary celebration and meal at noon. The committee has agreed to ask Pastor Steve
148 to come and be the preacher on that day for that occasion. The intent that this will not be
149 a one day celebration, but one that lasts throughout the year with some special service or
150 pastor on a different Sunday for the months January through April and then again
151 September thru November, if possible.
- 152 • Daryl said that the other item is that Larry Kuppler was just elected to serve as Assistant
153 Treasure and we now need someone to fill that position. If any of the Council members
154 have any ideas or know someone who would fill that position. He will talk to those
155 members, whose names come forward.

- 156 • As a post script item Daryl reported that the “cups” will be given out at the 25th
157 anniversary celebration.

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160 **VICAR GARY’S REPORT:** (Vicar Gary reported)

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- 162 • He has nothing to report at this time.

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165 **PASTOR’S REPORT:** (Pastor Phill reported)

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- 167 • A Lenten bible study series is in the works. This more an Elder comment than a Church
168 Council comment.
- 169 • A new website is in the works we have engaged a contractor to create it and hopefully it
170 will be rolled out by the end of January, 2011. A decision as yet to be made where COL
171 will host it. The invest will be about \$2,000.00 to generate the website and it will
172 modernized. It will be a little easier to use and be much more attractive to the point as to
173 make people want to come inside rather than just to the front page. Colors and graphics
174 will be changed as needed in the future.
- 175 • A non-member asked for a dedicated account into which donations might be made for the
176 benefit of members who run into health issues and need dollars. The Elders wrestled
177 with that a little and determined for a number of reasons not to do that, but asked that the
178 Church Council be informed of that conversation for your opinion. The challenge is that
179 there so many members in this congregation that have health issues. There is no
180 precedent for it in this congregation. But, that doesn’t mean we couldn’t. There was
181 further discussion and comments made on this matter. No actual plan or decision came
182 out of this conversation.
- 183 • Parochial report says that Crown of Life is down a net twenty. We have 816 baptized and
184 confirmed members. We have a transfer of some members back to the Baptist church
185 from which they came two years ago. We also have had a decrease caused by deaths of
186 some of the members.
- 187 • Pastor Phill then brought up that were about seventeen or eighteen people at a
188 Celebration of Life service yesterday. He mentioned that COL has a perfectly good
189 “chapel area” in this church that we could use for small gatherings, and that is the library.
190 We would have to move the library shelves and books into a new area, such as the parish
191 hall. Then we would need to put up some decorations and take tables out and that sort of
192 thing. We would have to have portable Crosses, a small table, paraments, etc. That is a
193 pretty good place because of the windows and the proximity, etc for that type of use.
194 Pastor will bring a proposal to Council for the use of that space. Obviously the family

195 will have to a choice to either being in there or there. There is likely to be many more of
196 this type of small scale services in the future.

- 197 • Lowell passed on some comments he heard at Larry Kuppler's service. As he was
198 standing line there quite a few visitors outside our congregation. And while there a
199 person picks up comments on how they felt about the service, etc. Lowell heard two
200 compliments that were directed specifically at Pastor Phill that he did an excellent job
201 and they were very impressed with Pastor. No matter what the service is COL's image is
202 always out there. Pastor thanked Lowell for passing along that information. During a
203 normal service he does not get "butterflies", but a memorial service in his heart it is
204 important that he is able to take the family someplace and give God's assurance.

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207 **OLD BUSINESS:** None

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209 **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

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211 **NEW BUSINESS:** None

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213 The next Council meeting will be held January 18, 2011 at 9:00 A.M.

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215 The meeting was closed with a prayer by Vicar Gary.

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217 Howard R. Ludden

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220 Recording Secretary