

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Crown of Life Lutheran Church

January 18, 2011

President Daryl Irmer called the monthly Council meeting to order. Pastor Phill opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer. The devotion was about the eighth commandment – Exodus 20:16 (NIV) “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor”. Luther’s Small Catechism asks “what does this mean?” It then goes on to say “We should fear and love God that we may not deceitfully belie, betray, slander, nor defame our neighbor, but defend him, speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything.” The scriptures amplify the eighth commandment beyond what is actually stated in the eighth commandment. Examples of this are found in Proverbs 12:17-19, Proverbs 19:5, Proverbs 11:13 and Proverbs 31:8. There are other examples given in Luther’s Small Catechism. Those present at this meeting were Pastor Phill, Vicar Gary, Daryl Irmer, Bill Stark, Dan Mehner, Lowell Koelling, Ron Pearson, Bob Gehrke, Jerry McCall, Bob Mansfield and Howard Ludden. Rev. Jerry Scansen was absent.

Guests: None

Before the December meeting minutes were approved the statement about carry-overs was revisited. The previous information about carry-overs in a sense was not accurate. What really happens is that we wait for the bills for 2010 to come in within a reasonable period of time (cut-off date this year will be tomorrow, Jan. 19) and then pay those bills. After which the year is closed out. So, there is no actual carry-over, as those remaining 2010 bills are paid off in January.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2010 Council meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: (Dan Mehner reported)

- There is no Treasurer’s report, because we are still waiting to close out the year 2010. Budgeted income for 2010 was \$700,000.00 and we took in \$777,830.06 total income. Once we get all the expenses for December identified and paid, then we will take the difference between the \$777,830.06 and the expenses and what is remaining we will divide as the congregation gave us 60% for reserve for replacement, 20% for new mission development, 10% for the Endowment Fund and 10% for video enhancement.

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- There was a question last month when the mortgage would be up; we got a little more than two years left on the mortgage.
 - The Endowment Fund was kind of discussed last time, too, about when that five year note comes up. Right now it matures in August of 2014 and that is because one of the previous chairmen of the committee that runs this elected not to change it when it last matured. So it matured and another five years was added. We have a onetime withdrawal without penalty. Right now we have setup a separate account dedicated fund for any money coming in for the Endowment Fund, because we cannot put it into that note. The interest on that dedicated fund is currently a floating rate. A short discussion with regard of what to do about the funds in the future, but no decision was made on this.
 - Dan then presented a resolution, copy attached, about Pastor Phill’s housing allowance.
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49 **Dan made a motion and it was seconded to accept the Housing Allowance Resolution as**
50 **read. Motion carried.**

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- A short discussion on the mortgage note ensued. A question was asked approximately how much is left to pay off the note. The answer was there is approximately \$174,000.00 left or about \$7,000.00 a month.
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57 **FINANCIAL SECRETARY’S REPORT:** (Lowell Koelling reported)

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- Lowell stated that the annual individual contribution statements will be ready to be picked up this weekend. They will again be putting them out on a table in the Narthex. This is being done to eliminate some of the first class postage expense. Last year’s history showed that approximately 75% or 450 of them do get picked up; however, about one hundred fifty will not be picked up.
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66 **BOARD OF ELDERS:** (Ron Pearson)

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- Elders are currently delivering the remaining pictorial directories that have not been picked up. This gives the Elder a chance to meet some of their people.
 - They have setup a new hospital schedule for the Elders. This has never been used in the past. This will be used when the ministry staff does not have the time or is unable to go. They have a schedule whereby a person on the Board will go to the hospital to visit, if needed. There is a designated lead person and a backup. There is some flexibility to the schedule to allow for an individual Elder, who has some knowledge of the individual
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75 hospitalized or in that Elder's district. Currently all Board members are willingly to do
76 this. However, if sometime in the future, someone wants to opt out, they will not be
77 assigned.

- 78 • Another thing the Board decided in the arena of music is that during the first communion
79 Sunday services in February mediation music will be played rather than hymn singing.
80 Ron asked for feedback from the Council at our next meeting.

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

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

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- 87 • Bob stated that the two events that were scheduled by Bill Vomocil and Judy McCall are
88 now firmly on the calendar. The one that will be presented by Dr. Paul Maier is this
89 coming weekend, January 21 thru the 22, establishing the fact that Jesus is our Lord and
90 not a legend. He will be preaching at the services on Saturday and Sunday. Then on
91 Wednesday, February 23rd and Thursday, February 24th about 4:00 PM Joel Lampe,
92 director of the bible museum located in Goodyear will be here with bibles and other
93 materials for people to look at and handle and he will also give a short talk. He has asked
94 that this be done twice, so if some people cannot make it the first night. The same
95 presentation will be done on both nights, because it so highly interactive that some people
96 will not be able to look at everything they want. So, having it two nights will allow the
97 people to do this.
- 98 • He made a comment about the videos that during the readings that the underlined portion
99 that the congregation reads the video recording goes dead. It was his suggestion that the
100 readers read those words, also, so that they get into the video sound track. This situation
101 will be reviewed and procedures put in place to correct this.

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

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- 106 • Jerry reported that the Board of Missions discussed the unallocated portion of the budget
107 for this coming year and any possible carry-over from last year. He asked if any of the
108 Council members had any ideas, please let him know.
- 109 • During the Board of Missions meeting they found out that they are blessed with people
110 who have a strong mission background and they were able to give some background
111 information on some of the entities to whom we give money. One of the members
112 worked for the Lutheran Bible Translators in Africa for ten or fifteen years.

113 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** (Bob Mansfield)

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115 • The old shrubbery has been removed from the rear of the Church and will be replaced
116 with desert landscaping. This will save us money in water use and trimming cost from
117 here on out. The new landscaping will be installed sometime in March after the last
118 freeze.

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120 • A paint selection committee comprised of Sue Stuempfig, Gracie Dill, Gloria Mansfield
121 and Diane Mertins, provided the Chairman of the Board with a plan for repainting the
122 Church exterior and interior. Several questions were raised and it was sent back to
123 committee for another look. Once it is received and approved by Council as to the
124 amount to be spent, not necessarily the colors, it will probably have to go before the
125 Voters at the next meeting in April.

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127 • A discussion ensued regarding the sanctuary lighting. There are a number of problems
128 with it. It is unsightly, overly bright, and expensive to maintain. We cannot dim it. We
129 do not have the equipment to reach the bulbs to replace them and if we did we do not
130 have anyone who wants to climb that high to replace bulbs. The present bulbs while
131 economical are ruining the fixtures because of their excessive weight. Another problem
132 with them is that they contain mercury and if broken require expensive measures to clean
133 up the mercury contamination. We are looking into replacing them with smaller lamps
134 that are dimmable and also into a company that will replace them at a reasonable cost.

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136 • Many of the older Columbarium plaques are tarnished. We have talked with the person
137 who makes them and he has given us a satisfactory method of cleaning them. This will
138 be done in the near future.

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140 • The cracks which have appeared in several beams in the Sanctuary are being investigated.

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142 • The problem of pigeons around d the church may be alleviated through enclosing the
143 tower with screens to eliminate the shady roosting area and some means of keeping them
144 off of the cross.

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

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148 • Howard Johnson has accepted the appointment to be the Assistant Treasurer, which
149 position was vacant due to the death of Larry Kuppler.

150 • The 25th anniversary committee is active and will meet again this Thursday. There will
151 be a congregational dinner to celebrate the 25th anniversary to be held on April 3rd in the
152 R. H. Johnson Social Hall. There will be more details available as we near that date.
153 Pastor Steve Kappler will preach the sermon on that date.

154 • He has talked to Pastor Phill about the fact that the officers have not been installed this
155 year. There was a short discussion about when to do this. Installation will be at 10:30

156 A.M., Sunday January 30, 2011. All elected members will be down front in the 10:30
157 A.M. service. Those serving on the boards, but not elected, will be recognized in the
158 other two services and the 10:30 A.M. service by standing.

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161 **VICAR GARY'S REPORT:** (Vicar Gary reported)

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

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166 **PASTOR'S REPORT:** (Pastor Phill reported)

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- 168 • Pastor Phill stated that another funeral will be held sometime this week.

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171 **OLD BUSINESS:** None

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174 **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

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177 **NEW BUSINESS:** Bob Gehrke

- 178 • Bob presented a "Statement to the Church Council – January 18, 2011 – By the
179 Constitution and Bylaws Committee". The thrust of the statement is since we are making
180 changes to our ByLaws with regard to the redefinition of the Board for Community
181 Outreach and the Assimilation Committee that we consider broader changes that will
182 allow more flexibility in the operation of our congregation. This will affect our two
183 governing documents (Constitution and ByLaws) and the development of a new
184 document, a Policy Manual. These three new documents will initially be taken entirely
185 from our current Constitution, ByLaws, and Organization Manual, and from the Synod's
186 Guidelines . Using the Synod guidance for brevity of the Constitution and ByLaws, the
187 Policy Manual will be used for details on the organization and operations within the
188 congregation, e.g., detailed duties of officers and boards and be omitted from our
189 Constitution and ByLaws. This will give the congregation more flexibility in making
190 organizational changes. However, COL will still need Synod approval for any changes in

191 our Constitution and ByLaws. The suggested goal is to have all this done and Council's
192 approval before the Spring Voters Meeting, which will be April 10, 2011 at 2:00 P.M. It
193 was suggested that the Constitution and ByLaws be attached to the Policy Manual. The
194 changes to the Constitution will need to be presented twice and then voted upon. The
195 ByLaws only need to be presented once before being voted upon. After congregational
196 approval, they will need to be approved by Synod before they actually take effect. It is
197 estimated that will probably occur within a year to a year and half from the beginning of
198 the process.

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200 The next Council meeting will be held February 15, 2011 at 9:00 A.M.

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202 The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer led by Vicar Gary.

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204 Howard R. Ludden

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207 Recording Secretary