



Christ Lutheran Church



January 2015

Susan Trinklein, Associate Pastor
Rich Marotzke, Youth Ministry
Linda Lubaczewski, Office Manager

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Annual

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 18th

9:00—10:15 a.m.

If you would like an item

added to the agenda,

contact council president

Rick Zimmer at 868.4915.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

The Church Council has put in countless hours this year and I am extremely thankful for their accomplishments.

First, the bylaws and constitution have been historically recreated. By that I mean that we had to revert back to the 2010 constitution and bylaws to reconstruct the series of events that evolved until the end of 2013.

The original issue was lost information, when the church computer crashed and some of the bylaws were not retrievable. It was further complicated by reverting back to the prior format for the election of officers of the council. I am happy to say the constitution and bylaws match and flow very fluently.

Copies will be available on the counter of the church office the first of the year. This will be on the agenda for a final vote at the annual meeting.

The Trust document drafted decades ago was reviewed by Council and deemed legal as an Implied Contract By Consent. However, two other documents that have been drafted in recent years contradict the original trust.

The first was the Christ Lutheran Endowment Fund Committee and Duties. Adopted by the Council March 15, 2005 and revised on March 2, 2011 then again October 14, 2012.

The second document was the Christ Lutheran Church Investment Policy Statement written in July of 2010. Both documents are very well written and met the needs of our congregation. The Trust was written to give unlimited power to the trustees. The other two documents were written with more specific guidelines.

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Advent is the time of preparation for the coming of our Savior. Christmas is the time of celebration of the birth of the Son of God. Now, we look forward to the New Year. This will be a year of promise and possibilities. We have many wonderful things to anticipate in our congregation in the next year. This will be a year of change and growth, which can be uncomfortable or scary, but, as Christians, we know that in everything that happens, God is in control and is working toward our best interests. We can be positive that no matter what happens, no matter how different, confusing or strange, God is there with us and is in control of the situation. We need to remain open to God's possibilities and plans and to continue to seek His Will in everything that happens. Let us begin this New Year by putting God first in all things and by embracing the coming changes with love, openness and courage. We have already seen some wonderful changes by the working of the Holy Spirit, and the possibilities for the future are exciting. Let's go forward in joy and in anticipation of the next set of blessings from our Loving God.

Joy!



CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jessica Brink	Al Squanda
Dale Bremer	Rich Sylvester
Devin Elbers	Julie Torrez
Pat Kuck	Maria Wagner
Diane Osantowski	Kelly Walz

Reese Fire Rescue's
 18th Annual - All You Can Eat
 Pancake & Sausage Supper
 January 14th - 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
 Adult \$6.00
 Youth (6 to 12 yrs) \$5.00
 Children 5 and Under Eat Free
 Reese Fire Hall
 1955 Gugino M.D., Reese
 Proceeds to help purchase new
 emergency and rescue equipment.

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The Council has to rephrase one section of the Trust. Each fund then has to attach it's document to the back of the trust. In the Trust, it states under Section VII. AMENDMENT.

Section A. "This agreement may be amended or modified from time to time by two-thirds vote of the combined number of the Congregation, Council and the Trustees."

We have had the books audited by non-council members. Questions have been raised about the labeling of funds. At this point in time I believe all funds have been correctly labeled and accounted for.

It will be the responsibility of the Trustees to manage all monies in all the accounts in the Trust. Currently only the Education Scholarship Fund and Endowment Fund are in the Trust.

The General Fund is the only fund that is restricted from being in the Trust.

The Call Committee has been meeting up to twice a week for the last several weeks. Currently they have interviewed five prospective pastors face to face using computer technology. They have at least four more interviews before a second interview will be given to selected applicants.

The LCMC allows us to interview who we choose. We may also interview on our own schedule. This process has enabled the Call Committee (because of their hard work) to be several months ahead of schedule. They have been very helpful in many ways, from providing Call packets with detailed material to unlimited telephone conversations with our committee.

Please take every opportunity you can to talk with any member of the Call Committee. Thank them and pray for them. You will find they are a dedicated, motivated and spiritually inspired group.

Like the Council, I feel so fortunate to be part of this committee that cares so much about the future of our congregation. continued on page 3

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The Worship and Music Committee has been very busy also this year. The new projector and sound system came with many bugs. The "One Service" (our Sunday night modern service) fell victim to most of the issues. The issues were unforeseen and only surfaced with extensive use. Now we are seeing the fruits of their labor at our Sunday morning services with most of the songs and liturgy on the screen.

The Worship and Music Committee has proposed to the Council to hire Amanda Beson as Worship Coordinator. Amanda has been responsible for all music and worship activities since June. She has been funded by individuals from the church and no money from the general fund or any other funds have paid for her services. Amanda has been paid \$600.00 per month.

A preliminary budget has been proposed to Council and will be reviewed again prior to the annual meeting. Unfortunately, based upon current projections we may have to cut some staff hours or salaries. At this time I have no idea what December's giving will be.

It is the Council's intent to maintain the current budgeted line items for the pastors salary and benefits to draw a quality pastor.

The budget will be based on 2014's actual giving. The fact that the estate of Harry Bader left the church \$50,000 in 2014 should not be considered as annual giving's projected forward. However it does show as a journal entry to the general fund as 2014 income.

Each month that we are not paying a fulltime pastor's salary and benefits saves over \$3,000.00 per month. At this point, I do not foresee calling a fulltime pastor until at least April at best. Therefore it's possible that between nine and twelve thousand of the budgeted dollars may not be used this year for a pastor salary and benefits.

The proposed budget is just that, proposed. The council will work as any prudent person would as the situation changes throughout the year. A

copy of the proposed budget should be available in the office the first week in January.

I would like to thank Pastor Sue for her time and dedication to the congregation. Christmas is such a wonderful time to enjoy the activities of the church. I believe Pastor Sue did eighteen church services plus funerals and baptisms in December.

As we close out the calendar year I would thank all the members that take the time to do what needs to be done for the glory of God. The true definition of integrity is to do something good when no one is looking. There are many things done at Christ Lutheran when no one is looking.

God's Peace



Christ Lutheran Church Council Minutes November 18, 2014

Present: Dennis Babechenko, Pastor Sue, Rick Zimmer, Harold Avery, Darla Kolomak, Tom Janson, Dale Bremer, Jennifer Shores, Maria Wagner
Excused: Rich Marotzke, Katie Bauer, Kevin White, Jan Histed, Robbie Oldenburg

Rick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Tom opened with devotions.

Monthly Reports:

Secretary's report: Motion to accept the June meeting notes by Dale, 2nd by Darla, approved.

Current Expense Fund/Check Register Approval #27650-27679: Motion made to accept Check Register by Harold, 2nd by Jen. Motion to accept Current Expense Fund by Harold, 2nd by Dale, approved.

Building/Memorial/Special funds report: Motion to accept October Building/Memorial/Special funds report by Harold, 2nd by Dale, approved.

Ministry Reports:

Finance: No new business.

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Memorials

For Sunday School in memory of PHYLLIS THUMM by Ron and Mary Schury.

For Outreach Emergency fund in memory of JEANETTE JANSON by Peter & Marie Haake.

For Sunday School in memory of JEANETTE JANSON by David & Kay Manderfeld, Nancy & Reed Swanton, Deva Weber, Dale & Joyce Dirker.

For Memorial Fund in memory of JEANETTE JANSON by Rick & Nancy Sylvester, Bill & Janet Janson, Dick & Dorothy Watkins, Scott & Rosien Watkins, Sue & Mark Watkins, Tim Watkins, Buchinger Roofing Inc., Bob & Doris Buchinger, Mike & Deb Gruber, Jeff & Dana Reif, Drew Zehnder, Mary Bierlein, Howard & Tammy Schultz, Joe & Jan Hamo, Weiss Farms, Bernie & Debbie Bittner, Mary Ann Elbers, Bob & Edwina Hicks, Phil & Betty Grzemkowski, Tom & Deanne Daenzer, Jim Staley, Jeff & Loraine Harrington, Tom & Jean Beyer, Mike & Joanne Connelly, Howard & Florence Bierlein, Gene & Mary Ann Buchinger, Lorraine Burrell family, Pat & Shirley Grabowski, Jean Heins, Tom & Jill Lynch, Mike & Marcia Ruhanen, Neil & Diane Osantowski, Dale Bremer, Donna Twietmeyer, Pat Kuck, Al & Bernie Mielens, Molly Massoll, Kate Radina, Bill Radka, Carol Bruneel, Jim & Donna Prueter, Dave & Debbie Sigelko, Robert Janson.

In memory of MEL BENDER from Vicki and family.

For Memorial fund in memory of RUTH BADER by Don Hausbeck.

For Sunday School in memory of DORIS SYLVESTER from Rich & Nancy Sylvester.

Funeral

Richard G. Watkins, age 83, passed away December 20, 2014 at McLaren Bay Region in Bay City. His funeral was held December 23 with burial in the Denmark Township Cemetery. Pastor Sue Trinklein officiating.

Thank You's

Greetings from the United Theological College of the West Indies. We recently received from the Rev. Dr. David Kuck, former Secretary of the UTCWI Foundation who is now retired and has returned to the USA, \$406.66 which was sent in support of our work. We are very grateful for this contribution from you. May the Lord continue to bless the work of the Christ Lutheran Church in Reese, Michigan.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Dr. Marjorie Lewis, Director

I'd like to thank the choir for the gift card. It was very thoughtful and really appreciated. Without all of you there would be no need for me, so thanks for making my directing a very rewarding experience.

Darlene

A heartfelt thank you to the congregation for the Christmas gift. It is a blessing to serve our Lord in ministry.

Diane Osantowski

Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles that we forget to count our blessings.

I will remember the works of the Lord: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all they work, and talk of thy doings. Psalm 77: 11, 12

Attendance	Worship	S.S.
December 3 (Wed)	15	
December 7 (Sun)	126	19
December 10 (Wed)	17	
December 14 (Sun)	133	11
December 17 (Wed)	21	
December 21 (Sun)	119	22
December 24 (Wed)	257	
December 25 (Christmas)	17	
December 28 (Sun)	79	XX

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Property: Rick will contact Timber Oakes for snow removal until we receive the estimates. Old refrigerator is in the shed, Kevin will list on Craig's List to sell. Kevin will repair mailbox. Snowblower needs to be started up and ran to ensure it works. Travis Cragg sprayed the lawn.

Worship: No new business.

Social Ministry & Outreach: No new business.

Congregational Life: No new business

Education: No new business.

Communications: Darla reported not enough people interested in making online contributions to the church.

Youth & Family: Trunk and Treat was successful. Senior High had scavenger hunt and had a blast.

Reports:

Pastor's Report:

Report was provided

Ministry Emphasis

3 Baptisms, 1 Funeral

Office Report:

Request to transfer out: Jeremy & Lisa Taylor and family. Motion to accept the transfer by Tom, 2nd by Darla, approved. Council wishes each of them well.

Youth Report:

Scavenger hunt was a success.

Unfinished Business:

Trust Update (Successor): Tom provided a report.

Trust committee: VP Tom Janson, Special Funds Treasurer Maria Wagner, Ralph Bublitz.

Constitution & By-laws: These will be ratified at the annual meeting.

New Business:

Call Committee: Starting Pastor Interviews on December 1st.

Advent Offering: Christmas Tree will be put up and have items listed that families in need can use. Tom made motion to split advent offering between families in need and the Tuscola County Child Advocacy, 2nd by Dale.

Nominating Committee: Will consist of: Vice President Tom Janson, Council member Darla Kolomak, and two congregational members. Council will have 2 year terms.

Parsonage: Heat is turned down. Pastor Tom paid

custodian Mark to clean the parsonage. Walls need new paint and upstairs bedroom needs dry-wall repaired. Will ask a couple of congregational women members to assist in paint colors.

Baptism Font Repair: Rick drained it, it does have cracks and chips in it and also leaks. Rick talked to Joel Stoik, he will provide materials, Max Palmreuter will repair and paint.

Sanctuary: Congregational members that take care of banners in sanctuary would like a pulley installed by behind truss to assist in hanging banners.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Wagner for Katie Bauer

Christ Lutheran Church Council Minutes
December 16, 2014

Present: Dennis Babechenko, Pastor Sue, Rick Zimmer, Harold Avery, Darla Kolomak, Tom Janson, Jennifer Shores, Maria Wagner

Excused: Katie Bauer, Dale Bremer

Rick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Lords Prayer said by entire council. Maria will do devotions.

Monthly Reports:

Secretary's report: Report Adapted to show Advent offering to Adopt a Family and Tuscola County Child Advocacy. Motion to accept the November meeting notes by Harold, 2nd by Jenn.

Current Expense Fund/Check Register Approval #27822-27853: Motion made to accept Check Register by Tom, 2nd by Jenn. Motion to accept Current Expense Fund by Jenn, 2nd by Tom, approved.

Building/Memorial/Special funds report: Motion to accept November Building/Memorial/Special funds report by Harold, 2nd by Dennis, approved.

Ministry Reports:

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Finance: State payroll tax will now be online just like Federal.

Property: Boiler needs two parts replaced. Pressure reducer: \$325.76 Backflow test: \$262.75 Motion made to approve funds by Tom, 2nd by Jenn. This will be taken out of the Building Fund. Kevin will keep an eye on the parsonage, make sure heat is turned down.

Worship: Meeting Nov. 20th & Dec. 9th. Kid's Christmas program going great. All three pianos still available for free if anyone wants them. New pulley system will be put to the North side of the altar on the brick wall. They need someone to move the wooden pillars and eternal candle. Motion made by Tom, 2nd by Jenn to accept recommendation from Worship and Music for placement of banners and eternal candle.

Social Ministry & Outreach: No new business.

Congregational Life: No new business

Education: No new business.

Communications: No new business.

Youth & Family: Christmas program.

Reports:

Pastor's Report:

Report was provided

Ministry Emphasis

1 Baptism, 1 Session of Marriage Council with Rich.

Office Report:

All year end reports (Finance and Ministries) needed by Monday, January 12th for Annual Meeting. Christmas gift for shut-ins and members over age 80 (Fruit Baskets).

Youth Report:

Report was provided. Youth meeting scheduled for January. Rich delivering Toys for Tots.

Unfinished Business:

Budget: Preliminary budget was discussed.

Trust Update (Successor): Tom provided a report.

Trust committee: VP Tom Janson, Special Funds Treasurer Maria Wagner, Ralph Bublitz.

Constitution & By-laws: These will be ratified at the annual meeting.

Snow Removal: Motion by Darla, 2nd by Jenn to accept Paul Dost Snow removal \$90 Lot \$25 Salt

with one pass through

Christmas Bonus & Annual meeting with Employees: Executive board will meet with all employees. Christmas Bonus:

Nominating Committee: Need three more people for General council.

New Business:

Annual Meeting: January 18, 2015 - Maria requested that the annual meeting be moved to the Fellowship Hall. Tom made motion to move annual meeting into fellowship hall, 2nd by Jenn.

Designate benevolence ministries for 2015: Dennis made motion to replace Gideon's International with the Operation Underground Railroad, 2nd by Darla.

Next Council meeting: Tuesday, January 13th, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Wagner for Katie Bauer



CURRENT EXPENSE FUND — NOV. 2014

CHECKING ACCT. Bal. 11/30 \$ 8,652.81

REGULAR SAVINGS Bal. 11/30 \$ 12.39

DONATION SAVINGS Bal. 11/30 \$ 50,002.80

THRIVENT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION: 11/30/14

Savings \$ 425.49

Checking Acct. \$ 251.23

GENERAL FUND BUDGET THRU NOVEMBER:

Revenue - Year to Date \$ 177,945.18

Revenue - Budget to Date \$ 155,826.92

Expenses - Year to Date \$ 153,685.77

Expenses - Budget to Date \$ 155,826.92

January Birthday's

Best wishes for a Happy Birthday! We are recognizing those persons who have reached the milestone of 80 years old and above. May God bless you.

1	Mary Ann Elbers Charles Keyes	16	Erik Haske
2	Zachery Spiekerman Randy Heinzman Bradley Ruhanen	18	Roberta Oldenburg
3	Richard Bartolowits	19	Dennis Babechenko Margaret Williamson – over 80
4	Erin Andrus	20	Kayla Kozak Gracie Lefler Dana Schember
5	Tim Elbers	21	Jessica Brink
6	Ashley Mielens Angela Mielens	22	Michelle Bryce Diane Zissler Norine McNiven
7	Jordan Deisig Justin Kuehnemund Penny Tack Blake Johnson Joselyn Henry	23	Bob Allen Lyndsay Cole
9	Susan Keyes	25	Kimberly Smith Paul Dirker Dave Navarro
10	Bob DeLong Alvin Mielens – over 80 Sheri Kern Aaron Abraham	26	Marcy Bublitz – over 80 Diane Osantowski
11	Larry Wascher Nancy Hawkins Sarah Lynch Austin Kuehnemund MiKayla Schultz	27	Michael Moench
12	Ted Lubaczewski Rose Stedry	28	Justin Campbell
15	Allison Hawken Mark Tack	29	Nathaniel Stuart
		31	Linda Lubaczewski Dana Schultz



January Anniversaries

2	Dan & Tina Cole	1993	21	Paul & Beverly Prell	1956
4	Jeff & Nancy Barrett	2001		Pastor Tom & Ann Senge	1978
10	Curt & Ann Bublitz	1987	23	Tim & Colleen LaBeau	1993
16	Rich & Janet Sahr	1970	24	James and Tabitha Garcia	2009
			26	Chris & Kathy Bublitz	1980

Worship Assistants for January 2015

Date	Time	Greeters	Assistant Cantor	Lectors	Communion Set-up	Communion Assistant	Acolytes	Usher Teams	Money Counters
1/4/15	8:00	XXX	XXX	Carole Avery	XXX	XXX	Blake Johnson	Teams 1 Teams 3	Team 3
1/4/15	10:30	Dean & Dorothy Heartwell	Darlene Mallory	Dorothy Arit	Matt & Marla Lefler	Deva Weber	Austin Kuehnemund & Zach Marotzke	Teams 1 Teams 3	Team 3
1/11/15	8:00	Lucy Markhart	Todd Felske	Kelly Walz	Darla Kolomak	Denise Felske	Faith Thomas & Sydney Histed	Teams 2 Teams 4	Team 4
1/11/15	10:30	Scott & Sheri Kern Family	XXX	Renee Zimmer	XXX	XXX	Madison Gwizdala & Lacy Torrez	Teams 2 Teams 4	Team 4
1/18/15	8:00	Peter & Marie Haake	XXX	Kelly Walz	XXX	XXX	Breanna Rocha & Isabella Thomas	Teams 2 Teams 4	Team 4
1/18/15	10:30	Shirley Grabowski	Carole Avery	Jennifer Shores	Rich & Joann Marotzke	Wendy Oczepek	Wyatt Schember & Libby Redwanz	Teams 3 Teams 1	Team 1
1/25/15	8:00	Jeff & Klista Felske	Diane Osantowski	Dave Edwards	Katie Bauer	Jim Jasman	Grace & Luke Connelly	Team 1 Team 2	Team 2
1/25/15	10:30	Tom & Ann Janson	XXX	John Trinklein	XXX	XXX	Faith Marotzke & Emily Rupprecht	Team 1 Team 2	Team 2

Christ Lutheran Church
1946 S. Reese Road
Reese, MI 48757-9718



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2014 Church Staff and Church Council

STAFF			CHURCH COUNCIL		
		HOME PHONE#			HOME PHONE#
Associate Pastor:	Susan Trinklein	928.6845	President:	Rick Zimmer	868.4915
Youth Ministry:	Rich Marotzke	233.3308	V. President:	Tom Janson	868.9754
Worship Coordinator	Amanda Beson	615.6839	Secretary:	Katie Bauer	213.3625
Office Manager:	Linda Lubaczewski	823.2495	Gen. Treasurer:	Jan Histed	659.2833
Office Asst:	Diane Osantowski	868.4057	Spec. Funds Treas:	Maria Wagner	868.4672
Custodian:	Mark Hebert	684.5247	Congregational Life:	Dennis Babechenko	754.3615
			Worship & Music:	Robbie Oldenburg	928.9838
			Youth & Family:	Jennifer Shores	225.3999
			Property:	Kevin White	252.5036
			Communication:	Darla Kolomak	868.4311
			Social Min./Outreach:	Harold Avery	673.3129
			Education:	Dale Bremer	659.2497

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent: James Houghtaling 863.0798
Treasurer: Ann Bublitz 693.6418

In an effort to conserve on the use of paper and postage, we are offering to send the newsletter out via e-mail. Please e-mail the office with your current email information. If you no longer desire to receive this newsletter please email or call the church office. Thank you.

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