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JUNE NEWSLETTER

June is the month when new council members come on board replacing those who have served for 3 years or more. Chuck Taylor has been our Council President for the past year, has overseen many improvements during this time and deserves our thanks for his service. Others going off of council are Jodi Hitz and John Schlaht who also deserves our thanks. New members installed in June will be Chris Lane, Mike Richardson and Todd Stofferahn. These in addition to Chuck Eilers, Flossie Roberts, Lou Ann Snodgrass, Warren Woods, Rayma Frank, Bert Henry, Gary Kessler and Sherri Nissen will make up our church council. New officers will be elected at our June meeting also, with Dennis Nardy our current Vice-President and Sherri Nissen our current Secretary. Mike Linch is Salem's treasurer.

Judy and I were Salem's delegates to the Western Iowa Synod assembly, May 1st-3rd in Sioux City. I'm pleased to report that this was a very lively group, much like our own group here at Salem Lutheran. We had lively discussions and split votes on just about every resolution that came before the Assembly. Most of the resolutions were concerned with rejecting *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* which will be considered at the 2009 ELCA Church wide Assembly. This 34 page document addresses the question: how do we understand human sexuality within the context of Jesus' invitation to love God and love our neighbor? (Romans 13:9-10; Galatians 5:14.) None of the resolutions that rejected memorializing of this document passed the required supermajority. This document is available on the ELCA website <http://www.elca.org>. The full report of the assembly is available on the Western Iowa Synod website at <http://www.wisynod.org/>. The highlight of the weekend for Judy and I was the Assembly Worship held Friday night at First Lutheran Church in Sioux City. Billy McLaughlin, an amazing contemporary musician, led the gathering and praise music and was also involved with some great music at the convention. There was other music as well with a very powerful organ and a brass quartet. In addition, just listening to 400 or so Lutherans raise their voices in Praise to God was a spine shivering event. Knowing that we ELCA Lutherans can engage in lively debate, but yet come together as one in Praise of the Almighty, is a very comforting feeling. If you have any questions about any aspect of the Assembly, please ask Judy or myself.

Romans 8:38, 39: *"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"*

Warren Woods
Council representative

Salem Lutheran Church Council Minutes
May 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Chuck Taylor with John Schlaht, Gary Kessler, LouAnn Snodgrass, Warren Woods, Chuck Eilers, Flossie Roberts, Dennis Nardy, Bert Henry and Jodi Hitz in attendance. Mike Linch, Pastor Darge and Margaret Kneedler were also present.

Devotions were led by Flossie Roberts.

M/S/C by Flossie Roberts and John Schlaht to approve the April minutes with the following corrections: Treasurer's report, item a, there is a remaining balance of \$ 12,000 on the roof loan; item b, \$200 was raised from Easter breakfast for camp scholarships. New business, item m, motion by Bert Henry and Janna Steed may serve one or two Sundays this summer.

Treasurer's Report was given by Mike Linch.

We received a \$5,785 rebate check from Alliant Energy for the roof. \$ 200.00 went to roof repair, \$ 5,549 was paid on the roof loan. This leaves \$ 6,597 remaining on the roof loan. M/S/C by Warren Woods and Gary Kessler to approve the treasurer's report.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Darge discussed issues in the worship service that several members of the congregation brought to his attention. Eight members of the congregation entered the meeting at this time to discuss their concerns with the blended services. These included not all elements of a worship service always present and too much contemporary music at times. They felt the service was moving too far from a Lutheran service. They were also upset that their concerns hadn't been addressed before although they had been brought up to several people. Having two traditional services and two contemporary services a month was brought up as a possible compromise. Several people also mentioned that they didn't understand why we were having several pastors during the interim period instead of the same one.

New business:

- a) Call committee update: The surveys and paperwork are turned into the Synod. Pastor Johns is meeting with the call committee on May 20th. She will also be back the 3rd Sunday in August to do the sermon.
- b) Convention report: Warren Woods will write his report from the Western Iowa Synod Convention for the June newsletter.
- c) Mike Linch will check into ordering 12 new chairs to replace the old cushioned chairs in the Fellowship Hall.
- d) There are four potential new members. They will meet with Pastor Darge on Sunday.
- e) Chuck Taylor read a letter from Steve Jungst.
- f) David Eilers will do a presentation the first Sunday in August about his mission to Tanzania.
- g) Bert Henry reported that the families of Chuck Foster and Dorothy Henry approved using their memorials to make foldable stands for the altar.

Committee Reports:

- a) **Christian Education;** Three youths will be attending summer camp in Riverside. This week is the last Kid Squad and Sunday School. VBS will be July 12-17 at the Presbyterian Church. Early sign-up of students is encouraged.
- b) **Church Property;** The stumps from the trees cut down were ground out, dirt filled in and seeded. They discussed painting the roof overhang and replacing the west and south doors with self-locking doors. Galen Zumbach is working on plans for landscaping.
- c) **Social Ministry;** Will be serving the Open Table on July 28th.
- d) **Worship & Music;** Will meet on May 20th.
- e) **Finance;** no report

M/S/C by Warren Woods and Chuck Eilers to adjourn the meeting.

The next council meeting will be June 10th at 6:30 pm. Opening devotions will be led by Chuck Taylor. The meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Hitz

Quilters,

There are no words to say Thank You for the quilt. Whenever I look at it, it will remind me of the church windows. So no matter where I go, I will always have my church family. I hope some of you were able to stop by my graduation party, I had it proudly displayed. Thank you for the quilt once again.

Zach Henry

Call Committee Update

We are in the waiting process right now. We submitted our congregational profile and Danette Johns from the Western Iowa Synod came down to meet with us. Her goal was to review our profile to make sure she had a very clear picture of what we were looking for in a new pastor. Our committee will make some small adjustments to our profile then send it back to her. Even as we do this, she will still be looking for us. We just have to be patient. There are plenty of other churches in our synod that are also looking for pastors. The call committee's next step will be to prepare for the interview process. If you have any questions about the call process contact Call Committee chairperson Raquel Linch at 782-5482.



Breta Kinkade, Ray Courtney, Ray Lundquist, Ella Groff, Marge Hansen, Janice Peterson and Willard Peterson. We ask God to send his Holy Spirit to comfort and strengthen these individuals.



Pfc Emily Cruise, Pfc. Matthew Cruse, Major David Cruse, Sgt. Aaron Cunningham, Chief Msgt. David Groff, MGY Sgt. Mark Kinkade, Str. Airman Travis Mathis, SN Tony McNaught, SWCN Beth McNaught, SRA Zacary Sedlmayr, Col. Vic Wager III, Joseph Woodcock—We ask God to lead our young men and women who are protecting our country and serving in the Middle East. Please keep our servicepersons and the families of our military in your prayers.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/02 Dave Buck
06/04 Cliff Olsen
06/06 Colby Burg
John Rose
06/07 Carol Ott
Julie Shaffer

06/10 Tony Cass
06/12 Floyd Nesbit
06/14 Ella Groff
Breta Kinkade
06/22 Dick Engleson
06/24 Judy Woods

06/24 Codie Cook
06/25 Judy Woods
06/27 Sherri Nissen
06/30 Brian Toycen

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

06/04 Vic & Betty Wager
06/21 Don & Bev Butler
06/21 John & Lynne Schlaht
06/23 LaVerne & Joyce Anderson
06/24 Chuck & Jan Eilers
06/27 Lanny & Donna Herzberg
06/30 Dave & Barb Riley

SPECIAL ROOF PROJECT

As of 5-17-09

Bills

\$ 54,950.00	Original Bid
4,800.00	Insulation supplement
675.00	Architect/Blue Print (Paid)
<u>172.50</u>	Move Vent (Paid)
\$ 60,597.50	Total bills for roof project

Funds on hands

\$ 27,475.00	Endowment
7,445.11	Insurance
1,500.00	Thrivent
<u>8,330.00</u>	Salem Members
\$ 44,750.11	Total funds before paid bills

Calculations of loan

\$ 59,750.00	Bills not paid
<u>43,902.61</u>	Funds less paid bills

\$ 15,847.39 Loan needed to pay bills

Loan at ISSB

\$ 15,847.39	Beginning Balance
-200.00	Salem Members as of 1-11-09
-2,977.53	Insurance Check
-745.00	Salem Members as of 5-17-09
-5,740.00	Alliant Rebate Check
200.00	Roof Repair
242.33	Interest paid as of 5-17-09

\$ 6,627.19 Funds needed for payback

CROCODILE DOCK VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Salem Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church are planning an exciting adventure that will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for kids age four through 5th grade. Each day kids will sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, nibble tasty treats, experience Bible adventures and create fun Bible crafts.

Crocodile Dock is July 12-17. Kids will meet at First Presbyterian Church each day from 6:00 pm until 8:30 pm. On the final night we invite everyone to an ice cream social while the kids show off what they have learned and created throughout the week.

To help us plan accurately for supplies we would ask you to preregister your child. There are forms in the back of the church to fill out. Put the completed form for each child in the VBS Director, Raquel Linch, church mail box.

We will soon have slips at the back of the church on the VBS bulletin board requesting supplies. We ask that you bring it to the church before July 1st for nonperishable supplies. And if you have any swamp type decorations (nets, lanterns, crocodiles, etc) that we could borrow we would really appreciate it.

We could also use some more helpers for VBS. We will have a nursery available for helpers with children under four years old. We will be having a short meeting for all leaders and helpers sometime in the next month at the Presbyterian church to go over everyone's role and start planning our decorations. Contact Raquel Linch with any questions or to volunteer. Thanks!!

Women of the ELCA
June Newsletter

Summer has arrived so there will be no circle meetings during June, July and August. The 21st WISWO convention will be June 27th in Milford, Iowa. Joyce Anderson and Carolyn Biere will attend from Creston. A big thank you to all who helped with our Annual Spring Sale, we made over \$ 1,000.00. Also thank you to everybody who helped with the Spring Cluster meeting.

If anyone has news or concerns for the women during the summer months please contact me, Bev Butler, at 782-4050.

Have a great summer and we will resume in the fall.

Bev Butler