

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Thursday, Jan. 10, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Rhonda was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Aimee was read and approved.

REPORTS

- Chairman: None.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: None.
- Worship & Fellowship: Comfort Crosses are being donated to Vilmar in memory of Jill Gillespie.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: None.
- Parish Ed.: The Sunday School kids will play the bells on Sunday, Jan. 13.
- Pastor Martin: Completed five homes visits; five services plus the Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning services; did a service at both the Allison and Valley View Care Centers; did four video devotions on Facebook Live; did one marriage ceremony; working with one couple preparing for a marriage in the spring; going to start an evening Bible Study in February; worked with the Iowa Mission District Executive Council to help fund and place an NALC intern in our district; had a meeting with the NALC Mission Office Congregational Renewal Team; will be attending the NALC Pastor's Conference from Feb. 19-21 in Orlando, Fla.; and gave information about nominations for a new bishop, as the NALC will be voting for a new one at the 2019 Annual Convocation.

OLD BUSINESS

- Still looking into the microphone syncing issues.
- Trustees' are looking into getting the door fixed on the safe in Pastor Martin's office.
- Harlan is looking into pest control services for Vilmar.
- Aimee moved and Doug seconded to accept the ballot for the 2019 Annual Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Rhonda moved and Pastor Martin seconded to accept the agenda as amended for the 2019 Annual Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 14, 2019, at 7 p.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
P Rhonda Edeker (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

A Dale Janssen
P Jane Thompson
P Kyle Roose
P Jordan Eberline

A Wayne Dralle
P Doug Schueler
P Monica Edeker
A Josh Johnson

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019

SUMMARY

A short council meeting was held after church on Sunday, Jan. 13. Jane moved, Rhonda seconded it to give the organist a \$5 per service raise for 2019. Motion carried unanimously. Doug moved, Kyle seconded it to give Pastor Martin a 2 percent raise for 2019. Motion carried unanimously. Wayne moved, Aimee seconded it to approved the budget as amended for the 2019 Annual Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
P Rhonda Edeker (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

A Dale Janssen
P Jane Thompson
P Kyle Roose
A Jordan Eberline

P Wayne Dralle
P Doug Schueler
P Monica Edeker
P Josh Johnson

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Jan. 20, 2019

SUMMARY

A short council meeting was held after church on Sunday, Jan. 20. Dale moved, Kyle seconded to accept the resignation of Johs Johnson as deacon. Motion carried unanimously. Doug moved, Rhonda seconded to appoint Jeff Seehusen to finish out the term of one year as deacon. Motion carried unanimously.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
P Rhonda Edeker (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Dale Janssen
P Jane Thompson
P Kyle Roose
A Jordan Eberline

A Wayne Dralle
P Doug Schueler
P Monica Edeker
A Josh Johnson

Respectively Submitted,
Rhonda Edeker

ANNUAL MEETING

January 27, 2019

SUMMARY

The annual congregational meeting of the St. John's Lutheran Church of Vilmar was held on Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019, with 41 people in attendance. Pastor Martin led the group in song, devotion, and prayer. Kurt Roose, Chairman, called the meeting to order at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Tammy Fleshner moved and Kyle Roose seconded it to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved. Chairman Kurt Roose presented the 2019 ballot. Jim Wubbena moved and Betty Debner seconded it to cease nominations. Brenda Boden moved and Diane Salge seconded it for a unanimous ballot. Motion carried unanimously.

The newly elected members are:

- **Deacons:** Ron Salge and Isabella Seehusen
- **Trustee:** Evan Steere
- **Secretary:** Barb Wagner
- **Parish Ed.:** Monica Edeker
- **Mission & Outreach:** Rhonda Edeker
- **Worship and Fellowship:** Diane Hummel
- **Cemetery:** Kevin Edeker
- **Bartels Home Delegate:** Betty Debner
- **Iowa Mission District NALC Conference:**
Bob & Karen Janssen
- **NALC Convocation Delegate:**
Margaret DeBower

REPORTS

Reports from various organizations were reviewed. Kenny Debner reported the date for Brotherhood Pancake Supper will be Friday, April 26, 2019, and they are looking for a new Pancake Supper Chairman.

OLD BUSINESS

- Dale Janssen moved and Jim Wubbena seconded it to ratify Vilmar's Constitution. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ron Salge moved and Kyle Roose seconded it to approve the proposed budget. Motion carried unanimously.
- Pastor Martin informed the congregation on how bishop selection works, as the NALC will be voting for a new bishop at the 2019 Annual Convocation.

CLOSING

Bill Debner moved and Isabella Seehusen seconded it to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Following the annual meeting, a short council meeting was held. Kurt Roose and Monica Edeker were nominated for chairman. A ballot vote was taken, and Kurt was named the chairman. Kurt Roose moved and Rhonda Edeker seconded it to have the installation of council members on Sunday, Feb. 10, with a council dinner following fellowship at the diner in Dumont. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
 A Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
 P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
 P Harlan Martzahn
 P Pastor Martin

P Isabella Seehusen
 P Diane Hummel
 P Ron Salge
 P Rhonda Edeker

A Wayne Dralle
 P Evan Steere
 P Monica Edeker
 P Jeff Seehusen

Respectively Submitted, *Rhonda Edeker*

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Pastor Martin was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — No report.

REPORTS

- **Chairman:** Covenant of Conduct was given to council members to review and follow. A copy will be put in the March Herald. Council approved to have Church Mutual Insurance vote on our behalf.
- **Stewardship & Finance:** None.
- **Mission & Outreach:** Rhonda shared how mission money will be dispersed each month. All loose offerings and any money designated to missions will be sent to the chosen monthly mission. Additional money will be added to meet the monthly goal, if needed. Rhonda moved and Ron seconded to have special offerings dispersed as follows: Lent, Lutheran World Relief; Thanksgiving, split between North Butler Lunch Program and Butler County Visions of Well-Being; Easter, Iowa's NALC Youth Mission Trip; Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, split between Christian Crusaders, Life 101.9, and 88.9 FM American Family Radio. Motion carried unanimously. The Brotherhood has applied for and been given \$250 grant from Thrivent for their annual pancake supper. Thrivent has suggested setting up an online donation for the event; approved by council. Kenny and Helen Debner are looking for someone to help organize the pancake supper and to be in charge for 2020.
- **Worship & Fellowship:** None.
- **Deacons:** Items brought forward for discussion that were: fix the sidewalk north of the church, the possibility of a cemented handicap parking area; extend the sidewalk to the cemetery; and additional speakers for the sanctuary.
- **Trustees:** Evan noted that the trustees are checking into the rodent/insect control for the church.
- **Parish Ed.:** Monica reported the Good Friday Day Camp will be held Friday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will not be Wednesday classes on Ash Wednesday, March 6. During Lent, Wednesday classes will run from 5:30-6:50 p.m.
- **Pastor Martin:** Pastor completed four worship services, including a service at Valley View Care Center, one funeral and 10 home visits. He will be serving on a panel for Mission in Rural and Small Town Ministry. The Iowa NALC's youth mission trip will be July 21-28, and is open for youth in grades 7-12. Cost is \$250/individual.

OLD BUSINESS

- It was reported that EcoLab was contacted about following up with rodent control. Other options were discussed.
- The door on the safe in Pastor Martin's study has been repaired.

NEW BUSINESS

- Concerns about controlling the echo in the sanctuary during the service were addressed. Pastor will contact the quilt committee about exploring options of quilt(s) being hung in the balcony.

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019

SUMMARY

NEW BUSINESS, cont.

- Rhonda moved, Wayne seconded it to approve getting a credit card for Pastor's use only, to purchase needed supplies. Motion carried unanimously.
- Prayer chain assignments were handed out.
- Pastor will visit with Ken Kimball about interest in serving as Bishop for the NALC.
- Diane will work with Jane concerning a gospel group coming to Vilmar on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2019.
- Rhonda moved, Ron seconded it to get a "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" checking account set up. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, March 10, 2019, at 11 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
A Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
A Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE | Sunday, March 10, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Aimee was reviewed and approved.

REPORTS

- Chairman: The church charge account at Pooley's has been set-up.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: Rhonda reviewed food bank donations for the month of March. A donation from Liesa Niehaus family was given and designated to be used to benefit needy and hungry children. Pastor Martin moved to designate \$500 to the North Butler Lunch Program and \$1,500 to Feed My Starving Children Fund. Seconded, and carried unanimously. April missions are tentatively set up for the North Butler Scholarship Fund. May will be for the North American Lutheran Seminary Scholarship.
- Worship & Fellowship: Diane will be reviewing the scholarship application for seniors. Ron moved, Diane seconded it that the gospel group, Paul's Journey, that is coming in September will be paid \$1,000 through free will offering, and any outstanding balance will be paid from the general fund. motion carried unanimously.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: Items brought forward for discussion: prices on dust control; repairing or replacing the clock in the church fellowship hall; church mowing – looking into a volunteer sign-up, as Dennis Prange has asked for replacement, and his mowing services have been appreciated; water issues in the basement.
- Parish Ed.: Monica received information about EWALU delegates. Pastor will check on this as to whether they still want us to participate.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor made seven visits; one pre-marital counseling session; a service at Valley View Care Center. Pastor shared that the webinar panel he served on, "Rural and Small Town Ministry," was well received and another one is being scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS

- Balcony/sound system issues were tabled until after discussion with quilting committee.
- Concrete work will begin when the weather and group conditions are suitable. Supplies will be donated with volunteer labor.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, April 14, 2019, at 11 a.m., following worship service.

CLOSING

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
BARB WAGNER, Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE | Special Session Sunday, March 24, 2019

SUMMARY

The Church Council of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church held a special meeting on Sunday, March 24, 2019 immediately following the morning worship service. Chairman Kurt Roose called the meeting to order. Pastor Martin served as Secretary Pro-Tem for this meeting due to the absence of Secretary Barb Wagner.

Kurt shared with the Council that Treasurer Aimee Deuell had submitted a Letter of Resignation as Treasurer to Pastor Martin this past week, with her resignation being effective April 1, 2019. A copy of her letter has been placed on file with these minutes. Aimee's resignation was accepted on a motion by Harlan, seconded by Wayne. Carried unanimously.

Kurt noted the Constitution gives the Council the responsibility for filling the remainder of Aimee's term. Two names were suggested. Kurt will contact both individuals this week to see if either one is interested in filling the remainder of Aimee's term as Treasurer. The Council will hold another short meeting next Sunday, March 31, following the worship service to report on progress, and if possible, appoint a successor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
REV. CHRISTOPHER MARTIN, Secretary Pro-Tem

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Aimee Deuell (Treasurer)
A Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

A Evan Steere
A Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, April 14, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Brenda was read and approved.

REPORTS

- Chairman: None.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: Rhonda gave a report on the donation to Pastor James; \$500 was sent to Midwest Flood Relief through the NALC; and April mission offering will be used to supplement the North Butler scholarship program.
- Worship & Fellowship: Readers and coffee and fellowship hosts are needed.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: Harlan gave an update on the new pest control that has been put in place. Dust control will be applied for, and the trustees will look into some needed road repair before the application. They will be getting estimates for repair of the basement steps and wall.
- Parish Ed.: After checking with EWALU, we were denied as voting delegates due to no longer being associated with the ELCA. Monica shared that help is needed for the Easter Sunrise Service breakfast, and plans are in place for the Good Friday Day Camp.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor had eight visitations, one service at Valley View, and attended text study. Confirmation students will be helping with the Easter Sunrise Service. One young adult will be confirmed in June. Pastor gave a report on certain documents needing to be updated through the State of Iowa and the IRS, which was brought to our attention due to the changing of the council treasurer.

OLD BUSINESS

- The sound guy was out and got the system operating for us. A new microphone was also found and is working with the system.
- There are various options being looked into for creating a sound barrier in the balcony.
- Ken Kimball declined nomination for Bishop.
- Heaven's Best was approved to clean the carpets and the floors at \$400 for the carpet and \$2,100 for stippling, cleaning, and re-waxing the floors.
- Two \$500 scholarships have been awarded to two North Butler students. Pastor Martin will present the scholarships at the awards ceremony on Tuesday, May 14. (The recipients' names will be shared in the June newsletter.)
- Council received information on sponsoring a youth baseball team. After discussion, council voted the sponsorship down.
- There was discussion concerning charging at various businesses.

NEW BUSINESS

- Spring clean up has been designated for Saturday, April 20 at 9 a.m. Council members were encouraged to call individuals on their call list and request one hour of help.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, May 19, 2019, following worship.

CLOSING

- The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE | Sunday, May 19, 2019

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.
- Secretary's report — Read and approved. Brenda requested a filing cabinet for the treasurer's records. An area will be provided that is safe and secure for those records.
- Treasurer's report — Reviewed and approved.

REPORTS

- Chairman: Has been approached about a summer service at Wilder Park. Worship committee will explore date options available.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: Mission projects will be distributed to Relay For Life in June and Little Lambs Preschool in July.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: Two contractors were contacted regarding repair to the steps into the basement. Both reported that an estimate is difficult to determine until steps are removed to see the extent of damage/ reason for the issue. The condition of the steps is a concern and council felt that the issue needs to be addressed immediately. Both contractors will be contacted to see who is available first. Drainage problem around the church needs to be addressed. Dan Peterson will be contacted to explore where the problems areas are under the supervision of the trustees.
- Worship: None.
- Parish Ed: Monica reported 18 youth attended the Good Friday Day Camp. She acknowledged thanks for all the help for the Easter breakfast. May 19 was the last day of Sunday School and June 2 will be Confirmation Sunday. She is working on the possibility of at camp out at Wilder Park for the youth group. Little Lutherans will now include third grade.
- Pastor Martin: Reported a list of visitations, baptisms, funerals, and services conducted including Valley View Care Center. He attended text study and updated parochial records. Upcoming events are the second webinar of "The Academy" on rural churches, on June 4. Pastor will also be gone on June 30, attending a family celebration. He is securing pulpit supply in his absence.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Council approved the position of Brenda Boden as treasurer, thus authorizing her name to be on the signature card at the bank and removing Aimee Deuell as past treasurer.
- Margaret DeBower will be the voting delegate at the NALC Convocation and Kenny DeBower is the second delegate.
- Council approved Keyan Ensign for Confirmation pending all necessary requirements are completed.
- Heavens Best Carpet Cleaning will be done after step repairs are completed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, June 9, 2019, at 10 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
A Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
A Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, June 9, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report was read by Monica who was filling in for Barb who could not be at the meeting. Report was approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report was reviewed and approved. Pastor Martin gave a brief update on the progress of getting new signature cards at the bank.

REPORTS

- Chairman: None.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: None.
- Worship & Fellowship: Chairman signed the organ contact, and it will be sent. The servicing amount has not changed from last year. Pastor Martin is working on pulpit supply for Sunday, June 30 when he will be absent.
- Deacons: It was brought to the deacon's attention that the gutters need to be cleaned.
- Trustees: Harlan gave information about the possibility of moving the flag pole. The issue will be discussed at the next council meeting. Council discussed their concern about the lack of supplies in the restrooms, and the weekly janitor responsibilities that have been overlooked recently. Rhonda moved and Diane seconded it to terminate the one-person janitor position and switch it to a two-person janitor position for the weekly cleaning of the church. Kurt will talk to Aimee about this change, and the new positions will be advertised in the July/August Herald. Motion carried unanimously. Drainage issues were explained and discussed. Council had previously, and are continuing to give the authority to the trustees to make sure the job is done correctly. The trustees will get sump pumps to help with the water issues, and continue to work with the contractors and electrician to make sure all repairs are made properly. Carpet for the stairs has been ordered from Dralle's. Once all repairs have been made, council will look at setting a date to complete any outdoor ground maintenance that may be needed. Pastor Martin reported that doorknobs have been falling off the doors in the parsonage, because the spindles have become stripped in the doors. Council ok'ed it for Lindsay to order and install new spindles, in order to keep the original glass knobs.
- Parish Ed.: The Wilder Camp Out for the Little Lutherans and Confirmation students is set for Thursday, Aug. 1. Information will be sent to the Vilmar kids in the coming weeks.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor completed five calls and the Confirmation of Keayn Ensign, attended the installation of a pastor in Laurens, and was part of the panel of the pastors on the NALC's discussion "The Academy: Small and Rural Churches." The pastors from the panel are looking into additional discussion options/venues on this topic to be held at a later date. Pastor Martin also reported that his family has made the decision to homeschool their children starting in the fall.

OLD BUSINESS

The church service at Wilder Park will be held Sunday, Aug. 18. Vilmar has reserved the chapel and the shelter house from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be a potluck. More details will be available closer to the date.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no other new business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, July 14, 2019, at 10 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Monica Edeker

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
A Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
A Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
A Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
A Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, July 14, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Brenda was read and approved. Pastor Martin gave a brief update on the progress of getting new signature cards at the bank. Money from unspecified account was discussed. Brenda proposed paying Rhonda and Monica for their help in cleaning at the church. Motion made by Ron and seconded by Harlan. Motion carried.

REPORTS

- Chairman: None.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: Rhonda reported July missions will support Little Lambs preschool and August missions will go to Feed My Starving Children. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Jen Seehusen if interested in helping with the FMSC event at Bethel Reformed Church.
- Worship & Fellowship: Sunday, Aug. 18 is the outdoor service at Wilder Park. Positive comments were shared regarding the hymn sing.
- Deacons: A concern was brought up about whether there were communion wafers/wine that were pre-blessed and available to use and distribute if needed. Pastor Martin explained the times when that pre-blessing would be appropriate. At this time there is no need to have communion sacraments pre-blessed.
- Trustees: Harlan updated the council on continued/completed work in and around the church. The new steps to the basement are completed and carpeted. Re-shingling the steeple is being looked into.
- Parish Ed.: Monica is preparing for the Wilder Camp Out on Aug. 1.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor completed four worship services; confirmation of Keyan Ensign; baptism of Samuel Steere; four visitations. Michael and Christine Uhlenhopp have requested transfer in from Latimer.

OLD BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was some discussion regarding ushering out. Will be brought up at Annual Meeting in 2020.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019, at 10 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
A Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

A Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved. Addition: \$18,800 was transferred to general account from unspecified memorial CD.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Brenda was read and approved. Past due penalties have been paid to IRS. Discussion on fuel payment options for 2019-20 year. Ron made motion to book 3,000 gallons of fuel on contract \$1.12/gallon. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS

- Chairman: None.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: None.
- Worship & Fellowship: Sunday, Aug. 18 is the outdoor service at Wilder Park.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: Harlan updated the council on maintenance on grounds. Continued discussion on location of flag pole. REC will be consulted on safe location. Sidewalk will be repaired when flag pole is relocated and cemented in.
- Parish Ed.: Monica reported 10 children attended the Camp Out at Wilder Park. Sunday School will begin Sunday, Sept. 8; Confirmation and Little Lutherans will begin Wednesday, Sept. 4.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor completed four worship services with two communion, five visits, attended Wilder Park Camp Out, participated in video conference, attended a book study and attended the Mission Festival and Convocation of the NALC in Indianapolis, Indiana. Pastor will be involved in the Iowa Mission Convocation on Sept. 14, a video conference on Oct. 2, and Oct. 3 will be attending the District Council Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Some have stated concerns over the continued echo in the church during service. The quilt group will be consulted about possibly making some quilt banners to hang in the balcony to absorb sound.

NEW BUSINESS

- A new Youth Volunteer Policy has been put into place for the 2019-20. It addresses the requirement for criminal background checks for individuals working 1:1 with youth from the church in different settings (ex. Sunday school staff, support staff, league sponsors, etc.) Background checks will be done through insurance company Church Mutual Insurance. Brenda made motion to adopt and put policy in place. Wayne seconded the motion. Motion carried. The policy will be available on the church website.
- There was discussion about making the treasurers job a paid position. Tabled for further discussion.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019, at 11 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

A Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
A Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Brenda was read and approved. Brenda presented a bill from Church Mutual for insurance that needed clarification. Kurt will inquire on the billing confusion. Brenda issued a check to Paul's Journey for \$1,000; \$418 was paid by the church to meet the difference from donations.

REPORTS

- Chairman: None.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: September donations are going to the Gideons. October and November are to be determined yet.
- Worship & Fellowship: Diane suggested/shared ideas about programming for 2020 Rally Sunday.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: Minor electrical work was needed to safely run the copy machine. A pipe in the parsonage was repaired.
- Parish Ed.: Sunday School has resumed. High School/Luther League class is being taught by Lindsay Martin on Sunday mornings. Kids will sing in church on Sunday, Sept. 29. Backgrounds checks have been completed for needed volunteers. A lock-in for the youth will be held later this fall.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor completed four worship services with two communions; five visits; assisted in one funeral for a family member in Minnesota and attended Iowa Mission District's Convocation in Manchester. Two transfers were approved for Monte Shear and Daniel Deuell's family to St. James, Allison. NALC Stewardship Workshops will be held on Saturdays, Sept. 28 and Oct. 5. Pastor will furnish the Pastoral Column in the Allison newspaper on Thursday, Oct. 10.

OLD BUSINESS

- Flag pole relocation has been determined and will be centered in front of the church/educational unit.
- The area designated for "parking for less mobile" will be widened to include parking area. This will enable those who park in this area to transfer to the church safely. Motion by Jeff, seconded by Ron. Motion carried.
- Council approved hiring Jean Morris and Julie Eberline for the co-janitorial positions. Rhonda and Monica Edeker will work with them to transition into the job. Motion by Ron, seconded by Diane. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- Advanced Systems was given a contract for a new copy machine. Motion by Jeff, seconded by Ron. Motion carried.
- Rain gutter discussion was tabled until the Oct. 13 meeting.
- St. John's – Vilmar was asked to consider hosting the 2020 Iowa Mission District Convocation meeting, which is usually held the second or third Saturday in September. After discussion, Diane moved and Barb seconded it to host the 2020 Convocation. Motion carried.

SUMMARY, cont.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019, at 11 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
A Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

A Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
A Rhonda Edeker

A Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
A Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019

SUMMARY

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Brenda was read and approved. It was noted that \$841 was paid to Workman's Comp.

REPORTS

- Chairman: Currently working on the 2020 ballot. Completion of concrete work is pending weather.
- Stewardship & Finance: None.
- Mission & Outreach: \$500 was paid to Pastor James for medical leave. One baby crib and three thermometers were purchased for Little Lambs Child Care. October project is the Operation Christmas Child. Shoe boxes must be returned to the church by Nov. 3 Christmas delivery. The committee is looking for ways to support Bremwood students directly.
- Worship & Fellowship: Diane noted that the organ is in need of a key repair
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: It was brought to attention that another outlet is needed in the kitchen. A bid from Stirling Seamless Gutters was submitted for installation of commercial grade gutters on the church and parsonage. Rhonda moved and Jeff seconded it to accept the bid of \$6,300. Approved unanimously.
- Parish Ed.: Monica noted that the lock-in will be planned for January 2020. Parish Ed. will sponsor 2 shoe boxes, and the Christmas program is being planned.
- Pastor Martin: Pastor led five services—two with communion; one funeral; made 10 visitations; and attend a stewardship and finance workshop. He gave a report on Pastor James' health, and reported there is improvement. Pastor Martin will be attending the Mission District Council meeting on Saturday, Oct. 19, and will be meeting for a pastor's luncheon with Greene clergy on Thursday, Oct. 24.

OLD BUSINESS

- A solution to solve the echo issue in the church continues to be explored.

NEW BUSINESS

- Pastor Martin is preparing a draft to amend the Articles of Incorporation to list the legal name of the church as St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vilmar. This is being done because paperwork through the IRS and the State list the name different. Council will review the draft on Sunday, Oct. 20. The proposed amendment will be presented to the congregation for vote of approval.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019, at 11 a.m. The next regular meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019 at 11 a.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE

Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019

SUMMARY

A short council meeting was held Sunday, Oct. 20 following the worship service. Pastor Martin opened with prayer. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vilmar. Pastor explained some of the changes and why they were necessary. Council reviewed the document. Jeff made a motion to accept the presented changes and Wayne seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. The proposed Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation will be presented to the congregation for a vote on Sunday, Nov. 17, immediately following the service. Meeting adjourned.

COUNCIL CAPSULE: Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019

OPENING

- Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.
- Secretary's report — Report from Barb was read and approved with the following corrections: gutter quote includes parsonage; October mission project was Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes; November meeting date is Nov. 10.
- Treasurer's report — Report from Brenda was read and approved. Ron moved, Jeff seconded it to approve a budget adjustment of \$2,652.26. Motion carried unanimously. A donation of \$200 was received from Iowa State Bank and put in the mission fund.

REPORTS

- Chairman: Currently working on the 2020 ballot. Elections will include one trustee, two deacons, one stewardship and finance delegate, one treasurer, one cemetery member, and delegates for the NALC Convocation and Iowa Mission District Convocation.
- Stewardship & Finance: Old gutters will be given to Warren Van Dyke for recycling.
- Mission & Outreach: Rhonda reported 34 shoeboxes were packed, exceeding the goal of 20. November mission project is Bremwood students. Thanksgiving Eve offering will be divided between North Butler Lunch Program and Butler County Visions of Well-Being.
- Worship & Fellowship: None.
- Deacons: None.
- Trustees: Evan gave a report of various projects and concerns.
- Parish Ed.: Christmas program is being planned. Fellowship following Thanksgiving Eve will be hosted by the Little Lutherans and Confirmation students.
- Pastor Martin: Led four worship services, two with communion; had six visits; presented gifts to Little Lambs Child Care Center; attended Mission District Council meeting; attended lunch with area pastors. One member, Terri Hardisty, transferred out. A disaster response for supplies near Manchester. There was interest expressed in providing a more local response center from an area business. This will be looked into further to see if there is a need.

OLD BUSINESS

- A sample ballot for the Nov. 17 Congregational Meeting to amend and restate Vilmar's Articles of Incorporation was approved. Motion by Barb, seconded by Pastor Martin. Board approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- The council discussed the restructure of the administrative staff of the church in the following manner: Eliminate the position of Pastor's/Church Secretary. Create a new part-time position of Director of Communications to be effective upon the hiring of a Director of Communications by the Church Council. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING, CLOSING

The next meeting will be Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019 at 11 a.m. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
A Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL CAPSULE: Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019

SUMMARY

A special meeting of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vilmar was held on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019, immediately following the day's worship service in the sanctuary. Chairman Kurt Roose called the meeting to order with a quorum for the transaction of business present. The purpose of this meeting was to vote on the Council's recommendation to adopt the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation for the church. Pastor Martin gave a brief explanation of the changes and updates in the document and why these were necessary. After some spelling and grammatical corrections were noted and made, a ballot vote was taken, asking to adopt the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation. The vote was unanimous, 34 yes to adopt, 0 not to adopt. The officers and Pastor will sign the document after this meeting and it will be filed with the Iowa Secretary of State's office in Des Moines this week.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Barbara Wagner, *Secretary*

COUNCIL CAPSULE: Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019

SUMMARY

The Church Council of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vilmar held a special meeting on Sunday, Nov. 17 following the special Congregational Meeting in the Council Room. Chairman Kurt Roose called the meeting to order. Kurt gave the Council a brief update and summary on a meeting that was held on Monday, Nov. 11 with Florence, Kurt, Brenda, Wayne, and Pastor in Pastor's office at the church, a summary of which has been placed on file. Florence's verbal resignation as Secretary, effective immediately, that she submitted during the Nov. 11 meeting, was accepted on a motion by Ron, seconded by Brenda. The Council decided to continue to pay Florence's budgeted wages through the end of the month of November on a motion by Ron, seconded by Isabella.

The Council then reviewed the job description of the new Director of Communications position. With a couple of amendments, the Council approved the Job Description on a motion by Monica, seconded by Ron. Notice of the job opening will be posted on the Church website and Facebook page later today, and will also appear in upcoming bulletins and the December edition of The Herald. Resumes will be accepted until Wednesday, Dec. 11 at noon. There will be a special meeting of the Council on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. to review applications that have been submitted and to proceed with interviews and next steps in the hiring process. The Council will work together to provide administrative assistance for Pastor Martin as needed on a volunteer basis until the new Director of Communications position is filled.

The Council discussed plans for a special day to honor Florence for her many years of dedicated service as Secretary of the church, which will be held on Sunday, Dec. 15. Pastor Martin will have a Rite of Recognition during the worship service, and a potluck dinner will be held in her honor after worship.

The Council set the date for the 2020 Annual Meeting for Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020. Annual Reports will be due to the church office by Friday, Jan. 10, 2020. Reports must be submitted, ready to print. Electronically submitted reports would be appreciated, if possible.

There being no further, business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Barbara Wagner, *Secretary*

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
P Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
P Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

A Evan Steere
P Diane Hummel
P Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

A Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
A Jeff Seehusen

COUNCIL CAPSULE – Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019

Pastor Martin opened the meeting with prayer.

REPORTS

- **Secretary:** Reports from the last three council meetings were read by Kurt and approved. It was noted that since choir added a practice on Wednesday, Dec. 11, the council needed to move their special meeting from 7:30 p.m. up to 6:30 p.m. on that night.
- **Treasurer:** Report from Brenda was read and approved.
- **Chairman:** Kurt will meet with the nominating committee before Christmas to fill out the ballot.
- **Stewardship & Finance:** Kurt plans to meet with Brenda after the new year to work on the budget.
- **Mission & Outreach:** Rhonda reported that we received a little over \$400 for the November mission of Breewood. She and Brenda bought supplies for the students, and it has been delivered. The Thanksgiving Eve offering plus the \$200 donation from Iowa State Bank was just short of \$1,000, so the mission team used mission funds to make up the difference to give an even \$500 each to both the North Butler Lunch Program and the Butler County Visions of Well-Being.
- **Worship & Fellowship:** It was noted that we are in need of volunteers for reading and serving.
- **Deacons:** None.
- **Trustees:** The gutters are up, but they are crooked and need to be fixed. Kurt will call them to come back to complete the job correctly. In the spring, one of the gutters will need to be dug in to the drain tile behind the church. The exit door on the north side of the church was rotten and bent, so Miller's was contacted, and they put a new door on. Harlan put a cover on the sump pump in the furnace room. Evan called Window World and they have ordered a new window for the cracked window in the craft room; the replacement was covered, and the new window will be here in 6-8 weeks. Evan fixed the light behind the pulpit and put a new light by the entrance to the educational unit. Council discussed the stained glass windows, and the need of new weather stripping due to draft issues in the winter months. Council suggested getting bids from contractors for repair. Kurt, Jason Edeker, Kyle Roose, and Brent Staker fixed the section of sidewalk. Kurt moved the dirt/gravel piles so the county can plow snow. Pastor Martin reported that our state elevator permit was approved for another year. We will need to make a frame to hold the certification inside the elevator. Trustees will work on this. It was mentioned that Brenda is working on the banners for the back wall of the balcony.
- **Parish Ed.:** Kids are working on the Christmas program. The Little Lutherans and Confirmation students will make fruit baskets to the carolers to take to the shut-ins. The stage will be put up Saturday, Dec. 21 at 8 a.m., with the help of any available council members. The Christmas sacks will be assembled by the Edekers for Christmas Eve.
- **Pastor Martin:** Pastor led four regular services and the Thanksgiving Eve service, had one service at Valley View, had a video conference with the Mission Office's Renewal Team, completed eight visits, and attended a Parish Ed. meeting. Pastor has currently been working on a lot of administration tasks, put together the December Herald, has been reviewing and updating the church directory, and created a spreadsheet and is working to input the past communion records. Pastor thanked all those who have helped with folding, stuffing, inserts, etc. in the past weeks. Pastor reported we will be adding a new member to our roster, Butch Freese. The Confirmation students have been working on the 10 Commandments and will soon be moving to the Apostle's Creed. Pastor Martin also reported that for the time being, the Disaster Response team suggests we focus our attention on the building in Manchester. They thought it would be too much of a stretch for the Mission District to financially support a second location. Pastor will have a video conference with the Mission District on Jan. 23. During the Pastor's Conference from Feb. 12-15, he will also be meeting with the Mission Team, much of his expenses will be paid by the NALC since it is during the same time as the conference.

OLD BUSINESS

- Pastor Martin reported that he will meet with Tony Ede, of the NALC, after Advent to address the microphone issues in the church. It was also mentioned that the lectern mic should not be bent down, because it can't pick up the sound at that angle.

CONTINUED: COUNCIL CAPSULE – Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019

NEW BUSINESS

- The council set the date of Saturday, Dec. 21, following the stage construction, as the time for an annual parsonage and grounds walk-through.
- It was noted that some members had difficulty reading the font size of the Herald. This will be addressed with the Director of Communications, upon hiring.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020, following the church service. The council will meet Wednesday, Dec. 11 for a special meeting at 6:30 p.m.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted By: Monica Edeker, *in the absence of Secretary Barb Wagner*

MEMBERS PRESENT

P Kurt Roose (President)
A Brenda Boden (Treasurer)
A Barb Wagner (Secretary)
P Harlan Martzahn
P Pastor Martin

P Evan Steere
A Diane Hummel
A Isabella Seehusen
P Rhonda Edeker

P Wayne Dralle
P Ron Salge
P Monica Edeker
P Jeff Seehusen

SPECIAL COUNCIL CAPSULE – Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019

The Church Council of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vilmar held a special meeting on Wednesday, December 11th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room. Chairman Kurt Roose called the meeting to order. Pastor Martin was named Secretary Pro Tem for this meeting due to the absence of Secretary Barb Wagner. Pastor Martin shared the day's devotion from the "Blessed is He Who Comes" Advent Devotion written by Pastor David Wendel, Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry & Ecumenism of the NALC and led us in prayer.

The purpose of this meeting was to review and interview candidates for the Director of Communications position. While more than one person inquired about the position, there was only one applicant who had submitted a resume by the deadline earlier today. Kurt presented the resume of Monica Edeker for the Council's review. Pastor Martin and council members offered questions for Monica regarding the Director of Communications position and her thoughts on the work that was listed in the job description. After the question and answer session, Monica was excused and the remaining Council members had a brief discussion on her qualifications, the job description, and compensation. Following this discussion, Brenda moved, Isabella seconded, to offer the position of Director of Communications to Monica Edeker, to begin immediately, paying the current year's budgeted Secretary wage of \$350 per month, with pay for the entire month of December. The motion carried unanimously. Monica was called back into the meeting and she accepted the council's offer and will begin her duties immediately.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned, and the Council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted By: Rev. Christopher Martin, *Secretary Pro-Tem*

Members Present: Kurt Roose, Evan Steere, Diane Hummel, Wayne Dralle, Brenda Boden, Isabella Seehusen, Jeff Seehusen, Rhonda Edeker, Ron Salge, Harlan Martzhan, Monica Edeker, Pastor Martin.