

CROSS OF CHRIST CHURCH COUNCIL
Minutes of November 18, 2009 meeting

Attendance:

Officers	P	A	Pastors	P	A	Cabinets	P	A	Cabinets	P	A
Krin Berg (P) / <i>Personnel Cab.</i>	x		Lane Zaffke	x		Sheri Johnson (<i>Finance</i>)	x		Ann Abraham (<i>Personnel</i>)	x	
Garry Edwards (VP) / <i>Worship Cab.</i>		x	Louise Stromberg	x		Darlene Paulson (<i>Evangelism</i>)	x		Lisa Skifton (<i>Stewardship</i>)	x	
Lynn Meyer (S) / <i>Evangelism Cab.</i>	x					Justin Zmyewski (<i>C of C Grounds</i>)	x		Jeanne Tippery (<i>Education</i>)	x	
						Mickey Meyer (<i>Finance</i>)		x	Wayne Olson (<i>St Church Bldg</i>)		x
Karen Todd (<i>Financial Sec</i>)	x					Grant Olson (<i>C of C Building</i>)	x		Rae Evenson (<i>W/ELCA</i>)	x	
Patrick Forsyth (<i>Fin Admin</i>)	x					Denise Thompson (<i>Youth & Fam</i>)	x				
Guest: Bunny Novak of Custom Survey Services											

President Krin Berg called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Cross of Christ. Pastor Lane led us in devotions.

Review of Agenda: The agenda was unanimously approved upon motion by Pastor Lane, seconded by Darlene Paulson.

Church-Wide Survey: Justin Zmyewski introduced Bunny Novak of Custom Survey Services located in Winona who is willing to assist Cross of Christ in conducting a church-wide survey. Ms. Novak would charge a flat fee of \$500 to prepare and distribute the survey, compile data and complete a report. This rate includes up to 50 selection statements/questions and up to 10 open-ended statements/questions. Postage would be extra as would additional questions on the survey. The survey would be done anonymously with the respondents' surveys being mailed to a post office box or delivered to a drop box that only the consultant would have access to. After further discussion about the survey, Ms. Novak left the meeting.

REPORTS:

Pastor Lane's Report - October: 3 Hospital visits, five office visits, 4 Financial Peace classes, Theological Convention, Root River Pastor's meeting, 1 Text Study, 1 Baptism (Shane Loken), 1 Funeral (Dale Runningen) plus planning, 2 Confirmation receptions, 1 day at habitat house, Good Neighbor day with the confirmation students, 2 property cabinet meeting, 1 Evangelism Meeting, 1 Executive Meeting
Community: Ticket taking at 1 volleyball match, ticket taking at 1 football game
Pastor Lane also reported Cross of Christ was recognized at the synod convention for the congregation's giving to our Ikungi partner congregation in Tanzania.

Pastor Louise Stromberg October 2009:

Visits: Hospital – 0 Home – 7 (3 with Communion for 4) Phone – 2 Office Visits: 4
Premarital: 2: (Rohweder & Wagner) - (Schiebstad & Drury) Visitation: Dale Runningen
Events & Activities: VVHC Communion; VHC Prayer Group – 2 sessions; VVHC Coffee
VV Manor Communion – 4 people

C of C: Fall Supper & Potato Peeling session Executive Cabinet Meeting; Council Mtg.; 50th Anniv
Comm Mtg; Staff Support Committee Mtg

Hymn Planning; WELCA Bible Study; Confirmation Banquet; Confirmation Celebrations – 4 students
Neighbor Day Lunch;

Community: Speaker at SEMCAC Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Vacation Days: 1; Holiday: 0; Days Off: 5; Sick Day: 0; Personal Days: 0

Pastor Louise provided an update on her knee situation by informing the Council she had met recently with an ortho physician who tells her she needs to spend less time on her feet for the next two months or be facing knee replacement surgery. It was suggested she do some of her work from home which she has discussed with Pastor Lane and the Personnel Cabinet. Pastor Louise will change her work habits by working from home when she can and structure her pastoral visits to places where she can use her electric cart. She and Pastor Lane will work on some kind of a schedule for the next two months.

President's Report: President Krin Berg indicated she and other Executive Board members had met recently with Justin Zmyewski to discuss the church-wide survey project. The Council will review more on this later at this meeting.

Secretary's Report (minutes) of the October 21, 2009 meeting were unanimously ratified upon motion by Sheri Johnson, seconded by Darlene Paulson.

Financial Administrator's Report: Patrick Forsyth's report indicated a \$7734 loss for October largely because there was an extra payroll. After reviewing the Profit & Loss for Oct. 09, the P&L for Jan-Oct, 2009, the Statement of Expenses and the Balance Sheet, the Financial Administrator's report was unanimously accepted as submitted upon motion by Lynn Meyer, seconded by Justin Zmyewski.

Financial Secretary's Report: Karen Todd presented the Financial Secretary's report. She stated compared to last year at this time offerings are up in the Simply Giving category but down in plate offerings. The Financial Secretary's report was unanimously accepted as presented upon motion by Denise Thompson, seconded by Sheri Johnson.

CABINET REPORTS:

Education Cabinet: November 3, 2009 Minutes
Sunday School update – Shelly was not available to give an update.
Calendar: December 19th: Practice for Program – Time?
December 20th: Program
December 27th & January 3rd – no Sunday School
January 24th: Annual Meeting
February 21st: Carnival
March 28th: Palm Sunday – SS children sing @ worship
April 4th: Easter Sunday No SS
May 2nd: Last Day of Sunday School

Need to know the time of program practice on the 19th so it gets in the PV.

Will need to meet with the SS leaders to fit program into the worship plan done by the worship cabinet.
Jeanne will look into treat bags for the students.
Elsie will check with WELCA and Lynn Halverson about serving something following worship.
Suggested that it be muffins or breads instead of a high sugar treat.
Budget for 2010 was developed from previous years, costs of current materials and estimates of what might be needed for rest of this year as far as the Christmas program.

Proposed Education Cabinet Budget for 2010:

	2007	2008	2009	Actual – so far	2010
Christian Education:					
Sunday School:	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,000.		\$ 1,500	\$
1,353.18 \$ 1,600.					
VBS	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000.	\$ 1,250	\$ 997.00	\$
1,250.					
Confirm/5thGr.	\$ 750	\$ 1,000.	\$ 1,000	\$ 754.00	
\$ 1,000.					
Adult Education	\$ 400	\$ 400.		\$ 400	\$
236.00 \$ 400.					
Conferences/ Convns:	\$ 800	\$ 800.		\$ 800	\$
473.00 \$ 700.					
Guest Speakers	\$ 150	\$ 150.		\$ 150	\$
\$ 150.					
Library	\$ 100	\$ 100.	\$ 100	\$ 200.00	
\$ 100.					
Archives	\$ 100	\$ 100.	\$ 100		
\$ 100.					
<u>Total:</u>	\$ 6,800.	\$ 6,550.	\$ 5,300	\$ 4,013.18	\$
5,300.					

Note: Ed Cabinet had asked for \$2,500 for SS in 2009 but only \$1,500 was given.

Next Meeting: sometime in January

Evangelism Cabinet Report - October: We met Nov. 4th to discuss two issues:

2010 Budget: We prepared the proposed Evangelism budget for 2010, taking into consideration potential costs of upcoming mailings to inactive members along with potential costs for conducting a church-wide survey as has been discussed by the Council. It was felt any costs of doing a church-wide survey should be shared between the Evangelism and Worship Cabinets. The proposed Evangelism budget was forwarded to Sheri Johnson and Patrick Forsyth.

Review of Membership: (Goal #1 – to bring inactive members back to the church) We began the task of reviewing existing rosters maintained by the church office for various categories of Cross of Christ membership. In the process of reviewing each and every individual name, we made decisions on how to approach an individual member’s status within Cross of Christ based on that individual’s personal situation. Some will receive letters asking their intentions regarding Cross of Christ membership, some individuals will be carried as members based on their personal situations (i.e. students/military), some will be reinstated as active members based on current information and some will be visited personally by our pastors. We will be soliciting help from others to make phone calls for such things as current mailing addresses. We have scheduled another meeting for Nov. 17th to continue this project.

28 hand-written postcard messages were sent to visitors who worshipped at Cross of Christ during September and October.

Finance Cabinet: The Finance Committee met recently. They developed their proposed 2010 budget based on input from the various Cabinet heads. This item and the investment policy will be acted on later in this meeting.

Personnel Cabinet: Ann Abraham reported another staff support committee meeting has been held. She updated the Council on recent salary adjustments made for church staff.

Property Cabinet: met once for budget and to decide on snow removal. It was decided to hire Dave Olson whose bid was the lowest. He will clear the parking lot and the sidewalk and provide for ice control.

Here are the items the three Property Committees are requesting for the 2010 Budget:

- 1). New gutters
- 2). Ice guards

These 2 items would be for Cross of Christ Church.

Stewardship & Mission: Stewardship Cabinet Met 11-4-2009

1) Neighbor Day-

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Volunteers	39	?	?	42	33
Homes	13	9	9	14	14

- 2) Habitat House-November 28th-Cross of Christ Work Day-we need volunteers
- 3) Stewardship Commitment Sunday-November 15th-people will be given time during the service to fill out their stewardship commitment and their time and talent sheets
- 4) Budget for 2010:

Yearly stewardship education	\$400
Partnership Congregation Program	\$100
Neighbor Day (food)	<u>\$100</u>
	\$600

- ** Proposed Mission Giving for 2010:
- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| ELCA Churchwide and Synod | 7% giving |
| Tanzania Mission Projects | 1% giving |

**propose to have these two items separate on our line item financial report, labeled “Mission Beyond Our Congregation”, and propose to separate the Evangelism and Stewardship/Mission line items on our financial report

Worship & Music: No report.

Youth and Family. **2009 YEAR END REPORT**

2009: A Year to build fellowship, family, and fun

This year, our mission for the Y&F Cabinet is to bring families, youth, and children together in fun active venues to worship and celebrate Christ’s love for us.

Report: Monthly Events

Month/Attendance Cost/Activity

January Cost : \$10 / Event ½ day of skiing, 30 minute free lesson (50 cents BBQ + drink)

Attended-3 Families=10 people

We started out the year strong by gathering at Mt. La Crosse for downhill skiing and snowboarding. The day was truly blessed. The weather was fabulous with lots of sunshine, snow, and temperatures in the low 40's. The cost of skiing was significantly reduced for CC members and guests received a discount too. Mt. La Crosse was celebrating their 50 Anniversary that weekend so we benefited from the \$0.50 cent BBQ pork meals offered on the patio and free 60 minute ski and snowboard lessons! If you missed out, be sure to join us next year for this awesome event!

February Cost: FREE / Movie night +Popcorn and soda

1st feature: Families – 20 attendees

2nd feature teens – 2 attendees

This month called for something a little more close to home so we warmed up the church hall, popped the pop corn and settled in for a night of free movies, popcorn and soda for all. The first movie, a Disney children's classic Horton Hears a Who, was enjoyed by more than 6 CC families. A few guests were able to join us as well. While they were with us, we were able to share more about CC and we invited them to the next service. The next movie was chosen for our youth and teen crowd. Fighting the Giants is a popular christen movie that shows us how faith and love can prevail over life's hardship. Our guest family, my own family, and the Stromberg's enjoyed this feature. Next time, we look forward to seeing more of CC youth at Movie Night.

March Cost: \$3.00/ per game 4 hours of bowling on Saturday –

12 attendees -4 families

This was an opportunity to test our bowling skills. The Nordic Lanes in Rushford offered discounted rates which allowed CC to provide free bowling and pizza to CC members. Several families took advantage of this opportunity to engage with family and church family members in this fun activity. One guest family also joined in the fun to be a part of our fellowship. Guests paid their own way to this event.

April – No event scheduled

May – Twins Game- Canceled – no sign ups

June cost : \$7 (includes hot dog & drink)PER PERSON / Loggers Game-family event

20 attendees

This event is well attended. Lots of fun for all

July cost: \$23.00 (free coach transport & pavilion) Noah's Arch- family Day

34 registered, 39 showed (incredible considering the weather – about 59 degrees that day)

This event is well attended. Lots of fun for all

August – Waterskiing trip – canceled – weather and no attendees

September – Family Hike- Nature center – 0 attendees – Saturday – cost free

October Cost \$3.00 – – Holmen Corn Maze –

5 attendees- &1.00 hot dogs

November – C, Y&F Pot Luck November 29, 2009 on Sunday at Noon. Families will have the opportunity to decorate our church for the Christmas season.

December no activity scheduled

Year End Results

Goal #1: By the 50th Anniversary celebration, we will build a testimony, which includes one or two testimonies from each generational group and relates how involvement in the church and / or the events sponsored by the church changed their lives.

Result: Still In Process

Goal #2: To increase Youth and Family program participation by 30 percent, we will build opportunities that increase and encourage participation in our church family.

Result: Created opportunities but attendance remained low with the exception of a few key seasonal events

Goal #3: In conjunction with the Worship Cabinet, the Youth and Family Cabinet will arrange participation of the youth in the worship service once a month; this participation could be special music, a special reading or a skit and would build ownership and engagement for Youth and Families within the worship service.

Result: This did happen a couple of times this year on a small scale. I would still like to work with the Worship cabinet to make this a staple of our worship service.

After some Council discussion, Denise offered to research the possibility of establishing a youth Face Book page and will report back to the Council regarding her progress.

W/ELCA President Rae Evenson reported on her recent meeting with the pastors to discuss W/ELCA's upcoming allocations and seek their input on how to prioritize W/ELCA's donations. Recent activities have included lefse making for the Nov. 21st holiday bazaar. In that Rae will be having knee surgery in December, this will be the last Council meeting she officially attends as W/ELCA president so she wanted to thank the Council for all the support they have given to W/ELCA efforts.

50th Anniversary Committee: No meeting this month. Jim Skree and Shelly Jerviss have been asked to contact Luther College to solicit college students' assistance in organizing the Cross of Christ archives for next year's celebration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget: Patrick Forsyth referred to the proposed budget for 2010, calling attention to the .6% decline in budgeted expenses overall. He also suggested we begin budgeting income. Further discussion will be held at the December 16th Council meeting.

Survey: Krin Berg indicated the church-wide survey being developed should be a way to determine our members' attitudes, both positive and negative, toward the way Cross of Christ functions. The Executive Board will meet to review the materials provided by Bunny Novak. It is intended that each cabinet head would be given the survey questions directed toward their cabinet's mission.

NEW BUSINESS: **Investment Policy:** Patrick Forsyth and Sheri Johnson indicated there needed to be one small change to the language of the proposed investment policy; i.e. in the distributions section..... "Annually the fund may distribute a maximum of 4% of the portfolio's fair market value as of December 31st." With this change, Lisa Skifton moved approval of the Investment Policy. Denise Thompson

seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Patrick will prepare a proposal for consideration at next month's Council meeting regarding investment of certain funds.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Council members are encouraged to solicit volunteers to work at the Habitat for Humanity house on November 28th.

Youth and Family will be decorating the Cross of Christ Christmas tree on Sunday, Nov. 29th.

December 20th is the Sunday School Christmas program.

CALENDAR:

Nov 19	Lefse Baking		Nov 28	C of C Volunteer Day @ Habitat
Nov 21	Holiday Bazaar		Nov 29	Y&F Christmas Decorating at CofC
Nov 22	Contemporary Service		Dec 4	W/ELCA Christmas Program 2 pm
Nov 24	Circle Briefing		Dec 5	Houston Community Holiday Dinner
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Eve Worship	7:00 pm	Dec 5	5:00 pm Service of Holy Communion
Nov 26	Thanksgiving Day		Dec 6	Cookie Walk 10:30 am
Nov 27	Church Office closed		Dec 12	Schiebstad/Drury wedding
			Dec 20	C of C SS Children's Program

Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm upon motion by Lisa Skifton, duly seconded by Lynn Meyer.

President Krin Berg led us in the benediction.

Submitted respectfully,

Lynn Meyer - Secretary

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, December 16th -- 7:30 pm.