

**First Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**January 29, 2012**

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## **Annual Meeting 2012**

- I. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum**
- II. Opening Devotions (from Annual Report Booklet cover)**
- III. Adoption of Agenda**
- IV. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Annual Congregational Meeting**
- V. Congregation Council Report**
- VI. Ministry Reports**

## A. Statistical Report

### STATISTICAL REPORT

	Baptized Membership	Confirmed Membership
Membership as of January 1, 2011	378	318
Received as Members:	9	4
Baptism ...	2	
6/4 - Kayla Anne Neeman		
8/21 - Barrett Michael Miller		
Transfer In		
...	7	4
Matt and Sarah Holthe, Luke and Rachel from Holy Cross Lutheran/Overland Park, KS		
Clark and Katrina Mitchell, Kiera from Immanuel Lutheran/Sioux City, IA		
Confirmation ...		6
Matthew Thomas Ackerman, Tayte Barbara Hansen,		
Kody Levi Mostrom, Megan Daneielle Quast,		
Morgan Dee Rumery, Kortnie Alashai Sheppard		
Removed as Members:	16	10
Death	1	1
Elsie Merle Sanmann - December 17, 2011		
Transfer Out ...	15	9
Lydell and Crystal Pinneo, Desiree and Clayton to First UMC/York, NE		
Roger and Sandra Mills to First UMC/York, NE		
Dan and Sharon Endorf, Ella, Austin and Asher to St. Peter Lutheran/North Bend, NE		
Dean and Jeanette Richardson to Faith Lutheran/Seward, NE		
Torri Janecek, Atley to Holy Trinity Lutheran/Dubuque, IA		
Membership as of December 31, 2011	371	318

#### Marriages ...

[5/14 - David Meyer II and Megan Witzel]

5/28 - Michael Dubas and Cynthia Heine

[7/9 - Benjamin Dally and Brittany Schmidt]

7/16 - Brandon Logston and Christina McCartney

## **B. Office Report**

The office has been running smoothly, despite the construction and temporary location. We are very excited to move to the new office. We also upgraded our computers this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katrina Mitchell

## **C. Members of the Synod Assembly Report**

### **D. Pastor's Report**

WOW! Who would have guessed at the beginning of 2011, what would have been accomplished during the course of this past year. God's blessings have been richly poured out on this family of faith.

We started the year with meetings to begin a Capital Stewardship Campaign. Under the leadership of Tom Bogenrief, Frank Sandall and Stacy Kohmetscher, with the guiding direction of Mark Marshall of Capital Funding Services, and the able assistance of a host of volunteers, the campaign came to a successful conclusion at the end of May with the commitment of \$487,089 toward our building project. Many of our members and families made sacrificial commitments toward this goal which are greatly appreciated. It is our hope that the remainder of the congregation would be willing to "get on board" with a financial commitment or gift toward the renovation of our church building. During early 2012 you will be contacted. Please prayerfully consider making a commitment.

Actual construction began in late August and, as I write this, we are looking at a completion date of early February. Dedication will come this spring. Excitement is building as we look forward to occupying this new space and the ministry opportunities it will offer. With the completion of construction and occupation of the new space, what do we still wish we could do? We are developing a "Wish List" of additional items – items it would be nice to have but because of financial reasons were not included in initial construction. The beginnings of the list include a video projector and screen, a chair lift to make our new entry space handicapped accessible, and permanent chairs to occupy our overflow space. Are there other "things" you see we need? Please let us know.

With these opportunities come challenges as well. Our first challenge is to maintain a strong weekly financial stewardship while continuing our capital campaign fulfillments.

The second challenge relates to the opportunities available to us in this new space. How do we utilize these new areas? What kind of ministry opportunities are now available to us? Your help will be appreciated in answering these questions. I offer three questions for your reflection ...

- What are we, as a congregation, doing well?
- What could we, as a congregation, do better?
- What are some of the needs that we could/should be addressing that you feel are not presently being met by our church/congregation?

Your responses will go a long way to determining the shape ministry will take in this congregation.

The Case Statement for our Capital Stewardship Campaign concluded with these words: "Imagine the personal spiritual benefits as our congregation works together with this common goal at heart! Imagine all those who will participate in ministry opportunities and hear the precious Gospel message in our newly renovated building." With all of us working together, we can achieve our mission of building our church family and doing God's work.

Pastor Terry

## VII. Financial Reports

### A. Report of the Auditing Committee

### B. Treasurer's Report

<b>Acct</b>	<b>Acct Description</b>	<b>2,011.00 BUDGET</b>	<b>2011 ACTUAL</b>
<b>WORSHIP.....</b>			
5110	Worship Supplies	1,200.00	1,006.76
5115	Choir Supplies	250.00	413.53
5120	Copyright Licenses	1,250.00	1,225.49
5125	Cleaning Paraments/Robes	140.00	0.00
5130	Supply Pastor/Guests	750.00	1,151.64
5135	Organist Salary	3,935.00	3,330.88
5140	Choir Director Salary	1,628.00	1,426.80
5145	SS Choir Director Salary	0.00	0.00
		<b>9,153.00</b>	<b>8,555.10</b>
<b>EDUCATION.....</b>			
5210	Sunday School	500.00	1,870.53
5211	Sunday School Director	900.00	438.17
5215	Vacation Bible School	1,000.00	1,600.00
5220	First Communion	50.00	0.00
5221	Confirmation	400.00	512.45
5225	Adult Education	500.00	79.95
5230	Conference and Assembly	400.00	0.00
5235	Christian Crusaders	100.00	13.26
5240	First Lutheran Youth (FLY)	100.00	0.00
5245	Youth Camp Tuition	1,200.00	1,200.00
5255	Devotionals and Periodicals	600.00	431.39
		<b>5,750.00</b>	<b>6,145.75</b>
<b>COMMITTEES.....</b>			
5310	Hospitality Committee	250.00	69.65
5311	Quilting Ladies	850.00	0.00

5315	Social Ministry Committee	50.00	0.00
5320	Stewardship Committee	750.00	205.84
5330	Endowment Committee	0.00	0.00
5335	Outreach Committee	500.00	500.00
5350	Youth Gathering Fund Raising	2,000.00	2,008.52
		<b>4,400.00</b>	<b>2,784.01</b>

**PASTOR.....**

5410	Pastor Salary	40,000.00	39,999.96
5411	Pastor Social Security	4,960.00	4,960.07
5420	Pastor ELCA Pension	10,605.00	9,721.03
5422	Pastor Dental Plan	2,850.00	323.00
5425	Housing Allowance - Pastor	20,100.00	20,100.00
5430	Auto Allowance - Pastor	6,675.00	7,346.49
5435	Pastor Continuing Education	500.00	500.00
5440	Professional Expense	400.00	400.00
5445	Conferences, Assemblies	300.00	236.34
		<b>86,390.00</b>	<b>83,586.89</b>

**OUTREACH.....**

5510	NE Synod ELCA Mission	16,225.00	16,225.00
5515	Seminary Student Support	250.00	250.00
5520	Ministerial Alliance	300.00	286.24
5525	Stephen Ministry	0.00	0.00
5530	NE Synod Capital Campaign	8,000.00	8,002.00
		<b>24,775.00</b>	<b>24,763.24</b>

**UTILITIES.....**

5610	Utilities - Gas	5,000.00	3,953.74
5615	Utilities - Water	1,000.00	1,162.05
5620	Utilities - Electric	6,250.00	6,863.10
5625	Utilities - Telephone	1,600.00	1,393.42
5630	Sanitation Service	300.00	246.00
5635	Organ and Piano Maint.	250.00	0.00
5640	Repair and Maintenance	2,000.00	5,373.60
5641	Lawn Care	2,500.00	1,625.00
5642	Snow Removal	1,000.00	1,018.75
5643	Janitorial Supplies	500.00	320.72
5644	Janitorial Contracts	500.00	0.00
5650	Liability/Property/Comp Ins	3,050.00	2,463.40
5655	Custodian Salary	6,238.00	5,467.20
		<b>30,188.00</b>	<b>29,585.96</b>

**OFFICE.....**

9010	Office Expense	200.00	311.43
9015	Postage	1,600.00	894.66
9020	Paper	1,200.00	245.71

9025	Advertising	100.00	78.25
9030	Church Secretary Salary	7,725.00	6,449.30
9031	Church Treasurer Salary	2,575.00	2,256.84
9035	Computer	2,000.00	1,857.61
9045	Miscellaneous	300.00	1,768.85
9050	Machines/Copiers	2,100.00	1,728.71
		<b>17,800.00</b>	<b>15,591.36</b>

**TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES            178,456.00            171,012.31**

**DESIGNATED GIVING**

5510	Designated Mission Giving		3,272.25
9999	Miscellaneous Reimbursed		8,058.03
			<b>11,330.28</b>

**BUILDING FUND.....**

**6100    Building Fund                            12,000.00            344,056.98**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES                        190,456.00            526,399.57**

**C. Year-to-Date Gift Totals**

2011 Giving Totals

General Budget	183,213.92
Building Fund	61,076.33
Mission Share	835.00
World Hunger / Hunger Appeal	191.63
Blue Valley	250.00
Church Rent	900.00
Endowment	2,081.00
Flowers	632.90
Hospitality	132.25
Interest	20.55
Lenten Offering	2,829.00
Loose Bills	712.00
Sunday School	59.28
Spark	720.00
World Relief	1,150.00
Miscellaneous	66.02
Missionary - Joanne	240.00
Disaster Relief	1,182.60
Pastor Gift	500.00
New Stove	50.00

Text Books for Tanzania	375.00
Transfer from Building	331,845.66
Transfer from Memorial	5,600.00
	-
Total	594,663.14

#### D. Year-to-Date Account Balances

##### CHECKING ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Balance @ 1-01-11		9,662.67
Income	257,217.48	
Transfers from		
Memorial Fund	5,600.00	
Building Fund	331,845.66	
Special Fund	-	
		<u>604,325.81</u>
Expenses:		
Budgeted Expenses	171,012.31	
Building Expenses	344,056.98	
Designated Mission Expenses	3,272.25	
Reimbursed Expenses	8,058.03	
		<u>526,399.57</u>
Transfers to:		
Savings Account	9,000.00	
Building Fund	61,078.33	
Endowment Fund	2,081.00	
		<u>596,477.90</u>
Balance @ 12-31-11		7,847.91

##### SAVINGS ACCOUNT SUMMARIES

Memorial Fund		
Balance @ 1-1-11		11,128.32
Interest	17.92	
Memorials from General Account		
Transfers to General Account	(5,600.00)	
Balance @ 12-31-11		<u>5,546.24</u>
Cornerstone Savings Account		
Balance @ 1-1-11		21,918.41
Interest	54.12	
Transfers from General Account	9,000.00	
Transfers to General Account		
Balance @ 12-31-11		<u>30,972.53</u>

Endowment Fund		
Balance @ 1-1-11		284.60
Interest	0.74	
Transfers from General Account	2,081.00	
Transfers to General Account	-	
Balance @ 12-31-11		2,366.34
Building Fund		
Balance @ 1-1-11		131,042.67
Interest	642.30	
Deposits to Account	161,949.70	
Transfers from General Account	61,078.33	
Transfers to General Account to Cover Costs	(331,845.66)	
Balance @ 12-31-11		22,867.34

LOANS	
Cornerstone Note	
New Addition expenses	519,417.62

Respectfully Submitted,

Bondel Friesen  
January 20, 2012

### **E. Stewardship Committee Report**

The Stewardship Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month to discuss and design ways to help our members affirm their faith by using our time, talents and resources to be more involved in the spreading the word of God.

The fall stewardship emphasis entitled "Sharing the Treasure" challenged our members to increase their support of the church through their time, talent and possessions. 65 giving units indicated they intend to contribute \$142,408 in 2012.

Current committee members are: Tom Bogenrief, Darroll Loschen (Council Representative) Jolene Jensen, Helen Lulow, Tom and Jeanette Shellington, and Jim Wagner. As always we are seeking new individuals to join this committee. Please consider joining us with your thoughts and ideas as we encourage our growth as good stewards of all God's gifts.

Thank you for your support of First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Wagner, Chairperson

## **F. Capital Campaign Report**

We are 6 months into our Capital Campaign and as of 12/31/2011 \$164,775 of the \$487,104 committed has been received, nearly 34%.

Thank you for your support, if you have any questions concerning your commitment please contact me.

Jim Wagner  
Fulfillment Director

## **VIII. Elections**

### **A. Appointment of Tellers**

### **B. Presentation of the Report of the Nominating Committee**

### **C. Additional Nominations from the Floor**

## **IX. Standing Committee Reports**

### **A. Education and Youth Committee**

### **B. Endowment Committee**

### **C. Hospitality Committee**

The purpose of the Hospitality Committee is to provide a lunch and opportunity to fellowship after the funeral of a loved one. This year the committees served one luncheon for the funeral of Elsie Sanmann.

We especially appreciate the church ladies for providing food, money and workers for the funerals.

Preparing for the funerals could not be done as efficiently without the help of the committee callers: Kim Hoffman and Beth Sandall; Donna Dedlow and Billie Petersen; Dorothy Fisbeck and Linda Martindale; and Judy DeBuhr and Linda Koehler.

Respectfully submitted by  
Jeanette Wagner

### **D. Memorial Committee**

### **E. Outreach Committee**

The Outreach Committee is made up of volunteer members who meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Members of this committee are: Edie Kleen, Jean Gaver, Janette Shellington, Jill Cosier, Judy DeBuhr, Beth Cosgrove, Chair Person, and Valerie Kaliff, Counsel Rep. Until this last fall, the members assembled the newsletter.

The committee discussed the fact that we need to know members of our congregation better. So it was proposed, that each month a picture and information shared by the members would be included in the monthly newsletter

The Outreach Committee has selected cups with the picture of the new church and the church's name to be given at the time of dedication. We have also inserted into the newsletter a request for information about people in the community that may be looking for a church home.

We continue to reach out to members and visitors in our church and community.

Beth Cosgrove  
Chairman

#### **F. Property Committee**

#### **G. Social Ministry Committee**

Our committee is unique in that each member has a specific job which they carry out at certain times throughout the year, but we also function as a group when the need arises. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the odd months at 7 pm.

Committee members are: Carolyn Sandall, Chair; Shar Most, Council Rep; Edie Kleen, Jean Gaver, Helen Lulow, Linda Duell, Donna Loschen, Sandi Teegerstrom, Orpha Friesen, Billie Petersen, Staci Naber, Chris Tonniges, Jan Axdahl, and Pauline Smith.

Activities for 2011 included: helped provide a Lenten Meal; collected 38 pounds of soup and over \$100 on Super Bowl Sunday for the Souper Bowl of Caring; helped deliver Meals on Wheels in January and October; organized congregational food drive for Blue Valley Food Pantry in April and collected food and monetary donations equal to 703 pounds of food; purchased 1000 pencil sharpeners for Lutheran World Relief school kits; revised the committee's bylaws; collected money in October for Lutheran World Relief to help with the cost of shipping items overseas; and served as the contact group for the annual Salvation Army bell ringing at WalMart in Dec.

Upcoming activities for 2012 will be continuing to support many of the same causes and activities we participated in during 2011.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Sandall

#### **H. Worship and Music Committee**

Members: Jolene Jensen, Hannah Miller (Council Representative), Jeanette Wagner, Deanna Warnken, and Pastor Terry Cosier.

We strive to the best of our ability to be inspired by God as we plan the worship services of First Evangelical Lutheran Church utilizing the Word and sacraments to nurture spiritual growth and bring people of all ages into the Christian community of God.

The Worship Committee met the first Tuesday of most every month; Saturday evening and Sunday morning worship services were held; we hosted one of the Lenten meals; we participated in joint services with the Presbyterian church the first Sunday in February; we determined to stop our joint services in October and will re-evaluate in the future if there is a need to resume this practice; a Healing Service was held in March; we celebrated Daily Life Ministry (Vocation Sunday) Labor Day weekend; we are continuing the monthly ministry worship teams; we have copyright license with Augsburg for [sundayandseasons.com](http://sundayandseasons.com), Onelicense, and CCLI so we can continue user friendly bulletins.

Our goals are to continue planning our worship services. We are always looking for new ideas especially in our newly renovated church building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jolene Jensen, chairperson

## **X. Church Organizations Reports**

### **A. Adult Forum**

### **B. Quilting Ladies**

The Quilting Group meets Thursday mornings from 9-11. Presently we are sewing off site until the church renovation is completed. This year we made 78 quilts with several more in various stages of completion. 10 quilts were delivered to York Rescue Mission, 20 went to Bridges of Hope in Lincoln, 20 adult and 7 baby quilts went to Lincoln City Mission, 15 quilts were sent to LWR, and 6 more Senior quilts were also made. Also, 18# of rolled bandages were sent to Global Mission. We welcome anyone to join our group for a couple hours of fellowship and sewing, even if you don't know how to sew.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine, Jayne, Dorothy, Jeanette, Gwen, and Edie

### **C. Women of Joy**

## XI. Presentation of the Budget for the coming year

		2011 Budget --- 2012 Proposed Budget		
	Account Description	2011 Budget	2012 Proposed Budget	% of Change
<b>Worship</b>				
	Worship Supplies	1,200.00	1,200.00	
	Choir Supplies	250.00	250.00	
	Copyright Licenses	1,250.00	1,250.00	
	Cleaning Paraments/Robes	140.00	140.00	
	Supply Pastor/Guests	750.00	1,400.00	87%
	Organist Salary	3,935.00	4,085.00	3.8%
	Choir Director Salary	1,628.00	1,690.00	3.8%
		<b>\$9,153.00</b>	<b>\$10,015.00</b>	9.4%
<b>Education</b>				
	Educational Program/Supplies	500.00	1,000.00	100%
	[Sunday School Director]	900.00	0.00	
	Vacation Bible School/Day			
	Camp	1,000.00	1,700.00	70%
	First Communion	50.00	50.00	
	Confirmation	400.00	350.00	-12.5%
	Adult Education	500.00	200.00	-60%
	Conference/Assembly (Lay)	400.00	400.00	
	Youth - Middle School	100.00	100.00	
	Youth - High School	100.00	100.00	
	Youth Camp Tuition	1,200.00	1,200.00	
	Devotionals/Periodicals	600.00	600.00	
		<b>\$5,750.00</b>	<b>\$5,700.00</b>	-0.9%
<b>Committees</b>				
	Hospitality Committee	250.00	250.00	
	Quilting Ladies	850.00	500.00	-41.2%
	Social Ministry Committee	50.00	50.00	
	Stewardship Committee	750.00	750.00	
	Outreach Committee	500.00	500.00	
	Youth Gathering Fund Raising	2,000.00	2,000.00	
		<b>\$4,400.00</b>	<b>\$4,050.00</b>	-8%
<b>Pastor</b>				
	Salary	40,000.00	43,500.00	8.75%
	Social Security Off-set	4,960.00	4,865.00	-1.9%
	ELCA Pension Plan	10,605.00	10,490.00	-1.1%
	Dental Plan	2,850.00	2,850.00	
	Housing Allowance	20,100.00	20,100.00	
	Auto Allowance	6,675.00	6,675.00	
	Continuing Education	500.00	500.00	
	Professional Expenses	400.00	400.00	
	Conference/Assembly	300.00	300.00	
		<b>\$86,390.00</b>	<b>\$89,680.00</b>	3.8%

<b>Outreach</b>				
	NE Synod/ELCA Mission	16,225.00	16,712.00	3%
	Seminary Student Support	250.00	250.00	
	Ministerial Alliance	300.00	300.00	
	NE Synod Capital Campaign	8,000.00	0.00	
		<b>\$24,775.00</b>	<b>\$17,262.00</b>	-30.3%
<b>Utilities</b>				
	Utilities - Gas	5,000.00	5,500.00	10%
	Utilities - Water	1,000.00	1,000.00	
	Utilities - Electric	6,250.00	6,800.00	8.8%
	Utilities - Telephone	1,600.00	1,600.00	
	Sanitation Service	300.00	300.00	
	Organ/Piano Maintenance	250.00	250.00	
	Repair and Maintenance	2,000.00	2,000.00	
	Lawn Care	2,500.00	2,500.00	
	Snow Removal	1,000.00	1,000.00	
	Janitorial Supplies	500.00	500.00	
	Janitorial Contracts	500.00	0.00	
	Laibility/Property/Comp Ins	3,050.00	4,000.00	31.1%
	Custodial Salary	6,238.00	6,475.00	3.8%
		<b>\$30,188.00</b>	<b>\$31,925.00</b>	5.8%
<b>Building</b>				
	Service Building Loan	\$12,000.00	\$18,000.00	50%
		<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$18,000.00</b>	50%
<b>Office</b>				
	Office Expense	200.00	250.00	25%
	Postage	1,600.00	1,000.00	-37.5%
	Paper	1,200.00	1,200.00	
	Advertising	100.00	500.00	400%
	Administrative Assistant Salary	7,725.00	7,725.00	
	Church Treasury Salary	2,575.00	2,673.00	3.8%
	Computer	2,000.00	1,600.00	-20%
	Miscellaneous	300.00	300.00	
	Machines/Copiers	2,100.00	2,100.00	
		<b>\$17,800.00</b>	<b>\$17,348.00</b>	-2.5%
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditures</b>		<b>\$190,456.00</b>	<b>193,980.00</b>	1.9%

**XII. Old Business**

**XIII. New Business**

**XIV. Recognition of Outgoing Council Members**

**XV. Installation of New Congregation Council**

## A Service of Recognition and Installation

*[Outgoing Church Council members are invited to stand.]*

P: Sisters and brother in Christ, in Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you as members of his body, the church, and called you to lives of service, as partners in the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus. As you complete your terms of ministry and service on the First Evangelical Lutheran Church Council, we acknowledge and honor your good work among us.

You have served faithfully, using the gifts and talents given to you for the service of God's people. On behalf of all who have been blessed by your ministry, please accept our gratitude and appreciation. Believing that God continues to call us and lead us in ministry, we commend you now to the new tasks that God has for you. In doing so, we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you and sustain you in all that you do.

**↑C: We stand in recognition and appreciation of your gifts to God and to First Evangelical Lutheran Church. We thank God for all that you have done and will continue to do in the name of Jesus.↓**

*[Present and Newly Elected Church Council members are invited to stand.]*

P: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his Church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith. I ask you, together with all who are here gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we are baptized.

**↑C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen↓**

P: Paul writes: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in the First Evangelical Lutheran Church congregation.

You are to see that the words and deed of this household of faith reflect him

in whose name we gather.

You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ is done in this congregation, and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world.

You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully to carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

**Council Members Response: Yes, by the help of God.**

P: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**C: Yes, by the help of God.**

P: I now declare you installed as officers and council members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Let us pray. Almighty God, we commend [*Council members*] to your care. By the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others. In the name of the one who calls us into witness and service, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: God bless you with God's Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

**C: Amen**

## **XVI. Closing**

## **XVII. Adjournment**

Table Grace