

# FREDSVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Council Minutes

Sunday, August 27, 2023 following Worship

\*\*\* These Minutes have been approved electronically\*\*\*

**Attendance:** Pastor Lee Gable, Linda Nielsen, Brenda Cooper, Sue Green, Sharon Hemmen, Kelley Knutson, Meridith Sandlin, Todd Mikkelsen, Tom Verhulst. Absent: Jana Hermann, Erin Frahm

**Call to Order:** President Brenda Cooper

**Devotions:** Pastor Lee:

How are we hearing, seeing and telling of God's peace? God reaches out to each of us in moments of love.

**Secretary's Report:** Sue Green:

The June 26, 2023 Minutes were approved electronically. Note: Council did not meet in July.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda Nielsen

As of July 31:

- General Fund: \$54,277.85
- Building Fund: \$33,884.49
- Memorial Fund: \$15,016.95

Tom Verhulst moved and Kelley Knutson seconded that Gary Karr's name be removed from all the Fredsville Lutheran Church financial records at Fidelity Bank and Trust in Dike. Motion carried.

Meridith Sandlin moved and Todd Mikkelsen seconded that Art Lupkes's name be added to the Cemetery Lock Box signature card. Motion carried.

Linda would like budget proposals from committees submitted by September 30.

### Updates:

1) Sue Green moved and Todd Mikkelsen seconded that the asterisked items of the "Amendments to the Model Constitution for Congregations" approved by the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, be voted on by the Fredsville congregation at their next annual meeting. The motion passed with one dissenting vote. This member did not object to the proposed clarifying/updating language to the constitution, but did feel that these changes were unnecessary.

2) More volunteers (Lectors, Communion Assistants, Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes and Refreshments) are needed at the Sunday Worship services. No one is interested in calling and very few sign up on the clipboards. It was decided that Secretary Whitney will send out a weekly email with a list of volunteers still needed for the upcoming Sunday. It was also suggested that the Greeters remind people to sign up.

3) God's Work Our Hands. This is an ELCA "Day of Service" in our communities. Pastor Lee has ordered several of the *God's Work Our Hands* t-shirts that can be worn when we have our "Day of Service". Several ideas were suggested, including volunteering at the NE Iowa Food Bank event on Martin Luther King Day in the Uni-Dome. A congregation member(s) is needed to organize and implement a service idea for our congregation. Note: Pastor Lee is going to allow the confirmation students to write about their service activities as an alternative to writing up worship notes.

4) Tom Verhulst moved and Sue Green seconded to approve Pastor Lee's Compensation Benefit Package which included the updated ELCA guidelines. Motion carried. Note: On May 7th, the congregation voted to approve Pastor Lee's Compensation Benefit Package with the ELCA guidelines known at that time.

**Pastor Report:** Pastor Lee

1) The final night of VBS included a wrap-up worship on the last night with kids singing and dancing with family and friends as they recapped the stories and heard God's invitation to take the story out to others.

2) Due to a light rain, the Community worship service for Watermelon Days was moved inside to the Dike United Methodist Church with Pastor Kris Frank and Pastor Lee leading the worship together. Over \$530 was collected for the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown.

3) Confirmation is scheduled to begin on September 6th and will be held on Wednesday evenings, twice a month. It will be a combination of class work and home work along with worship/service notes to complete.

4) Pastor Lee attended the *Northeastern Iowa Care of Creation Network* via Zoom. He was part of a team that wrote a prayer for *Lutherans Restoring Creation*. Pastor Lee attended another digital forum with *Interfaith Power & Light* about financing solar energy project for non-profits and congregations and is working with a contractor about the possibility of adding solar energy to Fredsville. Pastor Lee will be discussing this with the Property Committee at their next meeting.

5) Pastor Lee and Pastor Dena drove to Pennsylvania to attend the ordination of a former parishioner. He met with the Northeastern Iowa Candidacy Committee.

6) Heather and Nate have move into the Villa as they transition between homes.

7) Pastor Lee has reached out to the House of Hope, Salvation Army Men's Shelter, and Lutheran World Relief, (all organizations that have benefitted from Fredsville's generosity) to find out more about their mission and to see how we can partner with them.

8) Pastor Lee will be needing a new computer soon. He plans to put this in the 2024 budget.

**New Business:**

1) Tom Verhulst moved and Todd Mikkelsen seconded that a maximum of \$100 be spent on purchasing video editing software. Motion carried. This software will allow members of the congregation to edit the Worship Services if Jeff Sandlin is unavailable. Note: The current video editing software is "professional grade" – similar to what Jeff uses in his job at KWWL.

2) Tom Verhulst moved and Sue Green seconded that a maximum of \$350 be spent on an additional extra wide screen for Secretary Whitney. Motion carried.

3) Secretary Whitney will be asked to look into whether phone calls made to the Fredsville church phone after hours could be forwarded to Pastor Lee. If so, this will allow the Fredsville parishioners to be able to contact Pastor Lee without Pastor Lee having to give out his personal phone number.

4) Tom Verhulst moved and Sue Green seconded that the Cemetery Committee pay \$4000 and the Fredsville Congregation pay \$1000 for a water line to be bore under the road and over to the area next to the shed in the cemetery. A frost-free hydrant will be installed by the shed for watering the flowers. The water line will be tied into the new waterline that goes to the Vicar's Villa.

## **Upcoming Committee Meetings:**

### **1) Worship and Music:**

a) This fall our worship will focus on the Season of Creation.

b) A subcommittee of Jean Loger, Meridith Sandlin, Jeff Sandlin and Pastor Lee will be meeting on September 5th at 7 p.m. at the Sandlin residence to continue planning future worship services.

2) **Technology Committee:** People need to be recruited to learn how to use the new editing software to post edit the Sunday worship services.

3) **Mutual Ministry:** This committee met in January and again in July. Their goal is to meet quarterly. They have a pending meeting in October.

4) **Property Committee:** Their next meeting will be on Monday, August 28th at 7 p.m.

5) **Education Committee:** Their next meeting will be on Sunday, August 27th at 7 p.m. with the goal of finding a way to engage more children and their parents.

6) **Farm Committee:** The Farm Committee is now accepting farm bids for 2024 and 2025 to rent the 225 acres owned by Fredsville Lutheran Church. The bids are due by 9:00 a.m. on September 29th. Reach out to Kevin Pruisner, Jarrod Bakker or Eric Andersen if you have any questions.

**Closing Prayer:** The Council said the Lord's Prayer in unison.

**Next Meeting:** Sunday, September 24th after Worship.

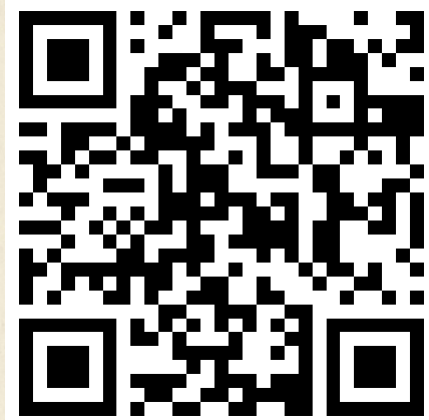
**Respectfully Submitted:** Sue Green, Secretary



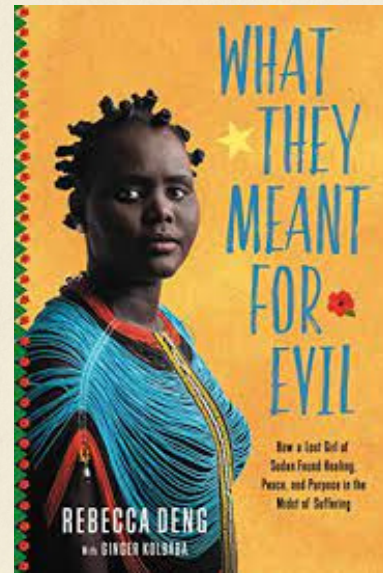




**QR Code for Offering**



**Pictured are Pastor Lee and  
Pastor Kris from the Dike  
UMC at the Community  
Worship Service for  
Watermelon Days.**



**Book Recommendation:  
"What They Meant For Evil"  
By Rebecca Deng**



# SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Clothes Closet 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
3 Worship 9:30 am	4 Office Closed. Happy Labor Day!	5	6 Confirmation 6:30-8:00 pm	7 Quilters 9-11:30 am	8	9
10 Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	11	12 Sew Pillowcase Dresses 12:00 pm	13 Confirmation 6:30-8:00 pm	14 Quilters 9-11:30 am	15	16
17 Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	18	19	20	21 Quilters 9-11:30 am	22	23
24 Worship 9:30 am Council Meeting Following Worship Sunday School 10:30 am	25 Newsletter Deadline	26	27 Fancy Fingers 9:00 am to 4:00 pm	28 Quilters 9-11:30 am	29 Scholarship Deadline	30