

**First Lutheran Church Joint Council Meeting ~ Clarion and Dows
July 5, 2017**

The First Lutheran Church Councils of Clarion and Dows met together at Dows on Wednesday, July 5, 2017. Clarion council members present were Austin Charlson, Lori Frink, Bruce Frink, Joyce Charlson, Shannon Brooks, Margaret Askelsen, Deb Sebby, Leslie Moore and Joan Voigts. In addition, Pastor Nicole Woodley and 13 Dows members were present for a total of 23 people in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by the Clarion council president, Austin Charlson.

Pastor Nicole led devotions and gave a prayer.

Secretary's report was given. A motion by Maynard Agena and second by Mary Haugen to accept the report. All approved. Introductions of council members were given next.

Pastors' reports were given. Pastor Nicole reported they have held Peer Ministry meetings and meetings to plan for confirmation. They have had meetings for the Freedom for Youth program.

Old Business:
None

New Business:

Austin brought to the attention of the group, the article in the April "Living Lutheran" magazine about how partnerships of two or more small churches has made a big change. There were some good ideas for all churches to try so they survive and stay to identify their communities. Dows members reported the Freedom for Youth program is in its beginning stages.

The topic of confirmation was discussed. A hand out was given to all the group. The group had several questions from the handout. One question was where the Small Catechism would be taught. Another topic was where it will be taught. The question was also if the class would be taught with just Lutheran kids or would the ecumenical kids be involved too. After much discussion, the topic was tabled until each council could decide and make motions as to what each church wants to do. Then a special joint council meeting would be held with the details of the motions.

The Christmas schedule for December 2017 was discussed. A motion by Mary Haugen and second by Loran Linneman to set the schedule at Sunday December 24 at 9:00 A.M. In Dows and December 31 at 9:00 am in Clarion. Each church will have a 7:00pm Christmas Eve service. There will be no services on December 25th.

A motion by Craig Russell and second by Loran Linneman that the next joint meeting will be held in Clarion on December 6, 2017 at 7:00.

With no further business, a motion was made by Lori Frink and second by Marv Moss to adjourn at 9:05pm. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Frink
Church Council Secretary