



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Leadership Council Monthly Meeting
April 20, 2022 – 7:00 PM (Zoom)**

Present: Warren Harmon, Cindy Harbeck-Weber, Bob Westland, Todd Johnson, Phil Kuper, Jennie Loven, Kidron Flynn, Pastor Nikki, Pastor Ben

Absent: Emily Block

Guest: Tim Hornseth, Financial Secretary

As a welcoming and inclusive congregation, we:

- **Affirm and claim our families, however they are defined**
- **Embrace intergenerational faith formation and innovative ministries**
- **Nurture, equip and invite people to share their gifts and talents**
- **Profess our faith through serving those in need**

Opening prayer: Pastor Nikki

Our Affirmation of Hope and Thanks for this week – What are we hopeful for? What are we Thankful for?

Review and approve meeting minutes from March 9, 2022: Bob wondered when Emily was going to change the categories for Quiken. Emily was unavailable to answer, but Pastor Nikki noted it was a work in progress. Bob Westland made a motion to approve the minutes from March 9 and Phil Kuper seconded the motion. All voted in favor of approval.

Treasurer's Report: Emily was unable to attend and the treasurer's report was unavailable. The leadership group reviewed the first quarter financial ministry vision report.

Financial Secretary Report: Tim Hornseth updated information from the stewardship pledge campaign. As of April 20th, 2022:

- 91 Intent cards returned for a total pledge of \$280,543
- 31 givers had no change
- 37 givers had an increase
- 12 givers decreased
- 5 returned cards unable to pledge
- 5 new pledges this year
- 1 card pledged but no name

- Total pledged - \$280,543 + Simply Giving continuation of \$59,140 = \$339,683
- Overall, number of pledges is similar to last year and total money pledged is about \$40,000 less than last year.

Generative Ideas From Leadership: Pastors Ben and Nikki led a discussion with the purpose of discussing/listing ideas and questions that could lead to new ideas for the congregation. This is an ongoing discussion that will be continued at the next meeting. Questions and comments from today included the following:

- Has there been any outreach to members of the congregation who haven't been attending lately?
- What are formats or opportunities to reach out to people/opportunities for communication?

- We haven't had a congregational brainstorming session – could we do a “state of the congregation” open forum and ask the congregation for their ideas.
- Could we use a similar format as we used in lent? Have a weekly topic or question that people could consider for a few days before discussion.
- What other inter-generational activities could we do?
- With both GIFT and LIFT, how could we shift them to broaden their appeal?
- Could we develop groups for other demographics, like older people, empty-nesters?
- How could we (leadership) engage more with the congregation?
- Do we need more activities or how can we help people feel included and listened to?
- Could we use break-out meetings like we did 6-8 years ago?
- What's the core of communication?

New Business

Synod Assembly Voting Member Substitute: Joanne Heathman is unable to attend the Synod Assembly due to an unforeseen family event. Cindy Harbeck-Weber nominated Warren to represent OSLC at the Synod Assembly and **Warren** seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Stewartville Community Band: The Stewartville Community Band (that Bev Gronvold directs) has lost their rehearsal space and Bev has requested that we consider allowing them to use our Sanctuary for their rehearsals this summer. Jennie suggested that we ask for a proposal before considering. Pastor Ben agreed to follow-up with Bev.

HVAC system: Todd Johnson reported that AI had received a bid from Decklever to replace/update the controls of the HVAC system. The bid is for \$ 89,642 with a 30 day window to decide, which expires at the end of April. The bid does not include drywall and other work that could be needed. The bid requires 50% payment before parts are ordered, with the remainder due at work completion. The leadership group was in favor of proceeding. From a budget perspective, we can pay for the first half from cash reserves, but it would be helpful to have a capital campaign before the work was completed. We reviewed the need for congregational approval and requirement to provide 2 week notice to the congregation before a meeting. Todd Johnson agreed to ask Decklever for a 9 day extension, so that we could schedule our congregational meeting for May 8th. Jennie Loven made a motion to hold a congregational meeting on 5/8 at 10:10 with the single agenda item to approve up to \$110,000 for the HVAC repairs, with 50% payable right away and the remainder raised through a capital campaign. Bob Westland seconded the motion.

Summer Services: Pastor Nikki noted that outdoor worship services will be scheduled on the last Sundays of June, July and August.

Custodian Services: The leadership group expressed their true gratitude to Dave Eberhard for his excellent work as our custodian. Warren will choose a gift to recognize Dave. A discussion of new custodian services was deferred until the May meeting.

Leadership Reports:

Business Administration : Todd Johnson reported that 6 trees were infected with the Emerald Ash Bore and would need to come down.

Congregational Ministries: Phil Kuper noted that the OSLC singing group (AI Picket, Ed Heckman, Bruce Rohde) continue to sing to OSLC homebound members. The leadership team thanks them for their ongoing ministry.

Outreach Ministries: Kidron Flynn reported that the first Fair Trade meeting will be in May, with the Fair Trade event scheduled in October.

Youth and Education: Jennie Loven reported that Kidren, Cassie and 5 youth will be attending a summer gathering at St. Thomas University. College care packages are being sent.

Vice president: Bob Westland stated that A CD/DVD player is needed for the sound system. Also, the music ministry needs a computer in the music office.

President: Regarding custodial services, he mentioned that in the long-term, a single person, rather than a company or service would be preferred.

Pastor Ben: Pastor Ben expressed his gratitude for all who helped with worship and activities Easter weekend. He reported that a new computer was needed for Pastor Nikki's office.

Pastor Nikki: Pastor Nikki noted that there were 27 children at the Easter Egg hunt and that LIFT is going well. She also reported that the youth Sunrise Service went well.

Close with the Lord's prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Harbeck-Weber
OSLC Secretary