



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Leadership Council Monthly Meeting
Minutes**

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 6:15pm PM (In person and some via Zoom)

OSLC Leadership Team Attendees: Bob Westland, Emily Blain, Tammy Olson, Tim Valen, Jennie Loven, Kidron Flynn, Katie Holger, Pastor Ben, Emily Block, Pastor Nikki

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**

Devotion and opening prayer - Pastor Ben

Our Affirmation of Hope and Thanks for this week – What are we hopeful for? What are we Thankful for? Not shared this time.

September 2023 meeting minutes were approved via email and sent out to the congregation.

Treasurer's Report (Emily Block)

Income YTD (as of 09/30/23): \$284,402.36
Expenses YTD (as of 09/30/23): \$347,762.11
Budgeted Expenses: \$336,220.74

Continuing Business

- 1. Long term Rental/Lease agreements** - Where are we on this? No update
- 2. Custodian is back this week.** We should send thank you's to the people that stepped up to clean the weeks Bryant was out.
 - Tammy and Bob sent some. Emily Block will send the rest.
- 3. Congregational discussion on Sunday September 17th,** leadership met on Sunday October 1st to go over the discussion and begin to ask for task force members
- 4. Last month we voted to increase Pastor Nikki's position from 1/2 time to 3/4 time.** However, things have changed and we need to change this plan.
- 5. Legacy Partnership Foundation plan for early next year** - Hold until next year

New Business Agenda Items – Pastors Ben and Nikki and Leadership Team:

- 1. Fair Trade weekend** Over \$18,000 in sales. One vendor didn't come and the big baskets didn't sell, so total sales were down a little.
- 2. OSLC Future Direction task force???**
 - a) Membership: Pastor Ben, Bob Westland, Emily Blain, Joanne Heathman, Melissa Psomas. Need one more person. A few possibilities were floated, and there are council members who will ask them.
- 3. Stewardship Appeal letter has been printed and needs to be mailed out.** Joanne is out Tuesday and Wednesday. Does leadership need to handle?
 - Tammy did a number of them, there are still some left to do.
- 4. Pastor Nikki's position change**, goes back to ½ time, **but 60% Good Shepherd 40% Our Savior's.** This will reduce things Pastor Nikki was planning on doing. So we need members to step up.
 - Pastor Nikki will be working 80 hours a month. Priorities will focus on "must do's": prep worship, sermon, meetings, and youth.
 - Joint Lay Ministry - every other month. Visits will be for those who are sick or hospitalized, not for those who are homebound. Lay Ministry team also does visitation.
 - Family Sunday school - Done through December. Need a point person. Katie Holger agreed to be the point person. Emily Blain can help as well.
 - Fully lead joint youth team. Individual churches will handle their own activities.
 - Will be at OSLC one Sunday a month and preaching that Sunday.
 - Carole Joyce arranging Christmas party and another event.
 - Bob asked for motion. Tim motioned to approve the change. Tammy seconded. Passed by unanimous vote.
 - *** Note: After the meeting we learned Good Shepherd's council approved the reduction to 1/2 time, but did not approve the switch to 60% instead of 40%. Pastor Nikki will remain 60% at OSLC and 40% at Good Shepherd.
- 5. Christmas Eve Worship Schedule**
 - Cross pollinate services with Good Shepherd. OSLC services will be at 4pm and 10pm. Good Shepherd's will be at 4pm and 8pm.
- 6. Offerings designations for midweek Advent and Thanksgiving Eve services**
 - Thanksgiving Eve OSLC will have a worship service with offering. Good Shepherd will come here for service. Pie fellowship after service is a fundraiser for youth gathering.
 - Advent and Thanksgiving Eve services offerings will go proportionally to local benevolence groups: Samaritan Bethany, Good Earth Village, and Rainbow School.
- 7. \$14,000 gift**
 - Will be used to pay for 3 last months of mortgage in 2023 and the remaining amount (about \$4,000) will go to reduce the principal.
- 8. Preliminary budget discussion.**
 - a) Emily, Emily, Tim and Bob meet to start looking at this.
 - Joanne will not go to 1/2 time. She might be willing to be creative with benefits and not get retirement contributions.
 - b) Medical benefits for Portico.
 - Emily Blain motioned to keep the benefits the same (Gold Plus). Tim seconded. Jennie abstained. Passed by unanimous vote.
 - c) Suspend benevolence payments until December.
 - Payments to be decided at that time.

Leadership Reports

Business Admin Teams (Tim Valen)

No updates

Congregational Ministries (Katie Holger)

Update from Congregational Care Team: Katie Z and Doreen attended a meeting at Good Shepherd with Pastor Nikki regarding a coordinated effort with our Lay Ministry. Our visits, card sending and the Sing alongs with Al, Ed and Bruce continue. Soon the video that Katie Z and Warren have done will be shown at church.

Outreach Ministries (Kidron Flynn)

Fair Trade update from Megan: It went well. Sales were down but one vendor didn't show up and for some reason we didn't sell baskets this year. We took in over \$18,000, but still waiting for the final number.

Youth and Education (Jennie Loven)

Youth report from Cassie: Working on getting ready for the Youth Gathering in New Orleans. The Saturday only weekend mission trip is planned. Two events. Will have Thanksgiving pies, a bake sale and a babysitting event coming up by the end of the year as fundraisers-with Good Shepherd.

Vice president (Emily Blain)

Looking at marketing options. Deferred discussion to another time.

Report from Pastor Ben

- Fall program starting. Joint youth monthly meeting with Good Shepherd. Meeting this month will be at OSLC.
- Hang out sessions with grades 6-12 on Sundays after church going well.
- Fun events happening: Bingo night (food paid for by Thrivent). Four Daughters trip. Trunk or Treat.
- Musical groups are doing well.

Report from Pastor Nikki

Pastor Nikki's summer report to **GS Council**/ OSLC Leadership

Preach:

Sept. 17th

Sept. 24th

Oct. 8th

Visits:

Sept. 25th Gladys Jenson

Sept. 26th Ardie O'Hanalon

Sept. 27th Maxine Thoreson

Sept. 28th Called Elieen Hammre

Funerals

Bill Rohe September 3rd

Weddings

Meetings:

Sept. 5th OSLC All staff mtg.

Sept. 10th Youth groups met while we ate on Rally Sunday

Sept. 12th Zumbro Conference meeting

Sept. 12th GS Council meeting

Sept. 27th GS staff meeting.

Sept. 27th Cassie, Collin, Pastors Carl-Eric, Ben and myself met to discuss logistics of youth groups and gathering

Oct. 4th Met with OSLC Lay ministry team, GS; Grief support, freezer meal, and potential home visit people

Oct. 8-10th Fall theological conference for all Rostered leaders.

Oct. 10th OSLC leadership meeting.

Other:

Rally Sunday Sept. 10th

Media group went to Barbie movie Sept. 11th

We had two joint office shared times this past month with both pastors..

Next Leadership Meeting: Tuesday, Nov 14 at 6:15 m via Zoom.

Closed with the Lord's prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Olson

OSLC Secretary