



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

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 – 6:15pm PM

Attendees: Bob Westland, Emily Blain, Tammy Olson, Tim Valen, Kidron Flynn, Katie Holger, Pastor Ben, Pastor Nikki, Emily Block (Invited), Tim Hornseth (Invited)

OSLC Leadership Team Absent: Jennie Loven

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 - Bob Westland

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

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

Treasurer's Report (Emily Block)

Income YTD (as of 12/31/23): \$401,867.72

Expenses YTD (as of 12/31/23): \$432,713.07

Budgeted Expenses: \$448,294.32

- December was very good. Our bank accounts are only \$200 less on Jan 2024 than Jan 2023.

Continuing Business

1. Current pledge information - update from Tim Hornseth

Same as last report. 71 returned. 45 increased pledge.

2. Carole Joyce, Children and Family Ministry Consultant to be let go.

Pastor Ben talked to her this week and let her know. The group was thankful she shared her gifts with OSLC.

3. OSLC Future Direction member discussions to be held January 10, 11 and 23.

- Two different visions in the congregation.
- Chaplaincy - Worship should be comfort and care. Shouldn't be rocking the boat. Pastor is focused on visiting the sick and dying.

- Free flowing - Do things in new ways. Connect in different ways. Connect members' lives with worship.
- Pastor Ben's goal is to connect us with each other. Pastor Ben will share with the group these differences so they understand.
- Become complementary - get folks to understand the other side. Financial stresses make it so pastors can't be doing all the things we want/expect them to do.
- Future Direction task force will be working on how do we meet that complementary state.
- Pastors now have to work exponentially more to engage members. They don't have a captive audience anymore.
- Task force discussed how the models were pastor centric, and we need to move into the community stepping up.

4. Staff annual reviews

- a) As Senior Pastor, Pastor Ben will handle with staff. A member of the Personnel committee will also be in the staff reviews.
- b) Personnel team will review Pastor Ben

5. Long term Rental/Lease agreements – Need to handle in early in the year

Not discussed

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

1. Need to approve 2024 housing allowance for Pastors

- A motion was made by Bob, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved that the ministry compensation paid to Rev. Benjamin Loven during the year 2024 include a designated housing allowance in the amount of \$25,000. This amount shall remain in effect annually until amended or rescinded.
- A motion was made by Bob, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved that the ministry compensation paid to Rev. Nicole Rockne during the year 2024 include a designated housing allowance in the amount of \$22,268.16 . This amount shall remain in effect annually until amended or rescinded.

2. 2024 Financial Ministry Vision – Discussions on current budget and raises.

- Tim motioned to approve the proposed vision. Katie seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Congregational budget meeting on January 14th

4. Congregation annual meeting on January 28th.

5. OSLC 2023 yearbook and Annual Meeting Agenda

- a) Do we ask members for agenda items? Not discussed.
- b) Tammy will take meeting minutes.
- c) Need assistance on:
 - Getting member sign-in sheets set out. Tim will handle.
 - Handing out ballots to vote for new leadership members. Tim will handle.
 - Handing out ballots for voting on the Financial Ministry Vision - Ballots will not be handed out. We will count hands or voice vote.
 - Help with tabulating ballot results.
- d) Last year's minutes
- e) Treasurer's report - Emily Block to provide to Joanne for annual report

- f) 2024 Financial Ministry Vision - Emily Block to provide to Joanne for budget discussion and annual report
- g) Pastor's reports
- h) President report – I'll provide to Joanne
- i) Team reports – has anyone provided the information yet?

6. Nominees for 2024 OSLC Leadership

- a) Vice President - Emily Blain has been asking, but no one has accepted.
- b) Director of Out Reach Ministries - A couple of names have been mentioned and they will be asked.
- c) Director of Youth & Education - Jessica Grimm
- d) Business and finance chairperson and members - One suggestion was mentioned. They will be asked.

Leadership Reports

Business Admin Teams (Tim Valen)

- No update

Congregational Ministries (Katie Holger)

- Update from Worship and Music: Bev is starting a Youth Bell Choir for any youth interested in learning how to play. Practices will be on Wednesdays at 5pm.
- No other updates from Congregational Ministries.

Outreach Ministries (Kidron Flynn)

- Mary Ann Smith: WELCA is considering presenting a solution to the lack of volunteers for funerals. We will meet in 2 weeks to discuss this.
- Megan Valen: Sold another \$744 at Christos in Autumn Ridge. But, we are done selling for quite awhile now.

Youth and Education (Jennie Loven)

- No update from the youth.

Vice president (Emily Blain)

- Doing Budget presentation on Jan 14.
- Looking for a Vice President.

Report from Pastor Ben

- Marvelous Advent and Christmas.
- Planning retreat at Good Earth Village with Pastor Nikki, Pastor Ben, and Pastor Carl-Eric went well.

Report from Pastor Nikki

Going to council for youth gathering.

Pastor Nikki's report to **GS Council**/ OSLC Leadership January 9th 2023

Preach:

10th @ GS

24th @ OS 4pm & **GS 8pm**

Worship

12/17 @ Oslc

Visits:

Sheryl N. 12/4

~~Chuck K. 11/11 Covid~~

Paul N. 11/20

Bonnie S. 11/20

Funerals

Maxine Thoreson 11/23

Weddings

Meetings:

11/27 Synod office

11/28 Joint ministry meeting

12/4 Media That Moves

12/10 Youth Christmas Party

~~12/12 Conference mtg. Covid~~

12/12 OSLC All Staff mtg. Covid

~~12/12 Council meeting Covid~~

12/ 17 Youth Babysitter Fundraiser

Next Leadership Meeting: Not set

Closed with the Lord's prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Olson
OSLC Secretary