



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Leadership Council Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 15, 2024 – 6:00pm PM**

**Attendees:** Emily Blain, Tammy Olson, Jessica Grimm, Sherry Rengstorf, Katie Holger, Pastor Ben, Pastor Nikki

**OSLC Leadership Team Absent:** Emily Block (invited), Tim Valen

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** - Tammy Olson

**Affirmation of Hope and Thanks – What are we hopeful for? What are we thankful for?** All Shared.

**April 2024 meeting minutes were approved via email and sent out to congregation.**

**Treasurer's Report (Emily Block)**

Income YTD (as of 04/30/2024): \$159,531.63  
Expenses YTD (as of 04/30/2024): \$152,393.36  
Budgeted Expenses: \$157,102.98

**Continuing Business**

1. Future Church Taskforce/Evangelism Team - any updates/requests?
  - a. Met this afternoon. Bob working on setting up Live Stream technology. Memorial funds will be used.
  - b. Signage be updated by Properties and Taskforce.
  - c. How to increase digital presence
  - d. Pastor Ben needs dedicated chunks of time to create content. Hard to do with current schedule. Discussion on how that could happen.
  - e. Could it be extended to collaborate with other churches.
  - f. Ideas on removing barriers.
2. Staff annual reviews
  - a. As Senior Pastor, Pastor Ben will handle with staff.
  - b. Personnel team will review Pastor Ben
  - c. Process has been started.
3. Long-term rental/lease agreements – Carolyn agreed to \$225/month; will increase in Sept.
4. Still need a VP - Need to talk to people in person.
5. Summer pastoral coverage – taken care of

6. Memorial Tracking
  - a. Checked, and there is money for youth and live stream service.

### **New Business Agenda Items**

1. Recap the Barriers conversation with Brandon and Katie
  - a. Focused on barriers for autistic and ADHD people.
  - b. Squeaky doors.
  - c. Anxiety about what door to go in, where to park.
  - d. Verbiage around communion was good. Good invitation and instructions.
  - e. Bulletin was hard to follow.
  - f. Hymnal was good because the pastor frequently said what page we were on.
  - g. Cozy area with couches in narthex good. Discussion followed regarding whether to add toys, etc for kids.
  - h. Liked the tables and children sermon for kids.
  - i. Simple screens for where we are in the service.
  - j. Ear plugs for adults, headphones/earmuffs for kids, cough drops.
  - k. Reminder to turn phones off.
  - l. Questions about Friendship papers. If we're tracking attendance, can we do something else with that piece of paper? Prayer requests?
  - m. If there were small group conversations, how would a visitor feel about that? Include more movement instead of staying where you're sitting.
  - n. Be friendly before and after worship. Don't assume people remember you. People were friendly in the sanctuary.
  - o. Overall they thought we did things really well.

### **Reports**

#### **Business Admin Teams (Tim Valen)**

- **Business and Finance**
  - Working on getting the final maturing CD renewed.
  - Getting a second opinion on liability Coverage, however we are also inquiring about making a claim to repair the window vandalism.
  - Possible roof and A/C repairs/replacement expenses. Merit Roofing will be stopping by to look at the leaks.
- **Properties**
  - Working on the same window issue trying to find someone to do the work.
  - Got a bid to replace the kitchen sanitizer (about \$10,000 installed) and they would like permission to ask the congregation to raise funds to purchase and install the unit.
  - Renewed the previous year's mowing service contract.
  - Update landscape by the office door. Should have money in memorials for that.

#### **Congregational Ministries (Katie Holger)**

- **Worship and Music:**
  - Summer worship:
    - Pastors have been meeting to discuss a joint preaching for the summer. The theme: "The Lore of Jesus" to connect OT to NT. Stories of promise, stories of broken/failure/"whoopsies", stories of reconciliation.
    - Pastors will both be gone June 16 and July 28. Pulpit supply is lined up.

- Joint ministry with GSLC: July 7th at GS (similar to last year) and July 21st at OS (sermon preached at youth gathering). GSLC is doing outdoor worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the summer and OSLC is invited.
- Worship Arts Camp: We won't do one this year, but we'll revisit it next year (discuss in January) or at another time of the year. Something to get the kids involved.
- **Congregational Care Team:**
- 24 May Day Baskets were put together with Family Sunday School. They included pocket square quilts, wooden flowers colored by the kids, goodies, lotions, chapstick, and a hand made card. Everyone loved receiving the baskets.

#### **Joint Ministry Team (Katie Holger)**

- Joint worship services: July 7th at GS (similar to last year) and July 21st at OS (sermon preached at youth gathering).
- GSLC is doing outdoor worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the summer and OSLC is invited.
- A joint ministry summer calendar has been created with some fun events.
  - Tuesdays Together -
  - June 4th at Good Shepherd - smores and sing 5:30-7
  - July 9th at Good Shepherd - kickball 5:30-7
  - Aug 4th (Monday) - Honkers game

#### **Outreach Ministries (Sherry Rengstorf)**

- **Women's Group**, Mary Ann Smith
  - Our joint Bible Study will be held August 14th @ 1 pm. Our tentative program for our Fall Event is the church group of singers who visit the shut-ins.
- **Fellowship**, Ruby Florine
  - Bingo night Friday, May 10, approximately 35 in attendance with 5 from Good Shepard & several other guests. Good time by all!
- **Fair Trade Market**, Megan Valen
  - We sold \$437 of Fair Trade at the Woman's Conference in Kasson and over \$800 at the World Jubilee in April.
- **Global Ministry/Palliative Care Program in TZ**, Joanne Heathman
  - Several new photos from program director, Martina, put on website & OSLC private Facebook. Pastor Deborah (from TZ) will preach/present October 6th Fair Trade Market Sunday.

#### **Youth and Education (Jessica Grimm)**

- We are going to go bowling on Sunday for a final event of the year.
- We did get enough Memorial money and fundraised money to pay for the trip and probably for an extra couple of meals.

#### **Vice president (vacant)**

#### **Pastors' reports**

##### **Pastor Ben**

- In addition to items mentioned above ...
  - First podcast posted.

- Confirmation classes have restarted for 6-12 graders and their parents.

**Pastor Nikki**

- Synod assembly
- Still feeling less connected. Not sure if there's a solve for it.
- Good Shepherd youth is used to regularly scheduled events. OSLC events are more adhoc. Working with the youth volunteers' schedules.

**Next Leadership Meeting:** TBD

**Closed with the Lord's prayer.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Olson  
OSLC Secretary