



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Leadership Council Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 14 – 6:00pm PM**

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

**Absent:** Pastor Nikki, 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** - Emily Block

**Affirmation of Hope and Thanks for this week – What are we hopeful for? What are we thankful for?**

All shared

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

**Reports – Treasurer down below**

**Business Admin Teams (Tim Valen)**

No report

**Congregational Ministries (Katie Holger)**

- **Worship and Music:**
  - Christmas Eve services will be 4:00pm and 9:00pm
  - Church decorating Saturday, December 7 at 9:00 and undecorate on January 11 at 9:00
  - November 24: Women's Thankoffering Sunday
  - Advent and Christmas
    - December 1 Advent 1: Traditional service
    - December 8 Advent 2: Musicians and Memories (Choir candle-lighting piece.) Get memories and pictures to share in a slideshow. Music and readings interspersed.
    - December 15 Advent 3: Kids
    - December 22 Advent 4: Lessons and carols
    - Wednesday Advent time (Informal fellowship time: Supper, Hymn Sing, Holden Evening Prayer)
- **Congregational Care Team:**
  - Prayer Quilt Square making event during Sunday School hour 11/24
  - Christmas Friendship Bags will be created and sent out again. Information on items being collected can be found in the bulletin soon. Sunday School families will help decorate bags.

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

- Shared ministry plans for 2025-2026
  - Palliative Care Program Trip tentatively summer 2026
  - Anticipatory Grief Discussion/Book Study
  - Serve Boldly Youth Trip Summer 2025
  - Monthly Youth gatherings
  - Joint Family Events - Bingo, Game night
  - Joint Worship Services
  - Shared Ministry Pastor Retreat - Jan 2025

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

- From Megan Valen regarding Fair Trade Market & GEV quilt auction
  - We took in almost \$22,000 at our Fair Trade Market. We were very happy with the turn out this year, lots of repeat customers and some new. We set up at Zion Lutheran in Stewartville for their Bazaar and sold another \$1,300. We will also sell at the First Presbyterian Church the first weekend in Dec. We will be selling again on Dec 15th at our church. By the end of the year we have very little merchandise left.
  - The Quilt that 4 of our members made and donated to the Good Earth Village Gala brought \$1,200 this year. It was the 9th year we have donated a quilt for the Gala.
- From Ruby Florine regarding Fellowship
  - September 25 we hosted a game night. Very simple, bring a game & a snack evening. There were about 30 people there; Pastor Ben's table was the biggest! 5 people from Good Shepherd attended.
  - There are three Advent meals. See details below. We have one new member, Laura Train! And the youth are serving the last Advent meal to fundraise for their upcoming trip.
    - December 4 - Ruth & Marie "hosting"
      - Vegetable Beef\*
      - Potato with ham
    - December 11 - Katie, Laura & Ruby "hosting"
      - Chili\*
      - Bacon Corn Chowder
    - December 18 - Youth "hosting" w/assistance from Ruby & Katie
      - Broccoli Cheese
      - Vegetable Beef\*
    - \*our gluten free option
- From Mary Ann Smith regarding women's events
  - We will be having our planning meeting for the coming year on Monday Nov. 18th. Everything is set for Thankoffering service on Nov. 24. Ronald Mc Donald House in Nov. finishes out last stewardship project.
- Possible 2026 Tanzania trip update:
  - Sherry Rengstorf, Joanne Heathman & Kathy Chatelaine (SEMN Synod Global Mission Coordinator) met November 12th to discuss plans for an information meeting to see what interest there is from OSLC & GS for a group to travel to our SEMN Synod Partners in Central Diocese. January 19, 2025 (Sunday) is the informational meeting. Place: Good Shepherd or Our Savior's Lutheran Church?

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

- From Cassie... We had a great weekend trip!!! We're organizing the summer trip. We'll be doing the Thanksgiving pies, having a bake sale and serving in the kitchen for the last advent meal.

### **Vice President (vacant)**

### **Continuing/New Business**

- Staff annual review update - Going slowly.
- Pointsettias - pre order plants. Joanne will handle.

### **Big Conversations**

- Treasurer's Report (Emily Block)
  - Ways to give online for special offerings?
  - New memorial money spreadsheet presented
- Financial Ministry & Overall Ministry Vision for 2025
  - Can we use the strengths of our congregation to creatively solve some of our needs?
  - Needed building repairs
    - \$114k parking lot repair
    - Roof 1, 2, and 3 - \$40k x3? New leak in Fellowship hall.
    - \$30k x2 for AC units?
    - Organ?
  - Personnel raises
    - Tabled until next month when we have pledges in
  - Discussed worship time changes
  - Leadership slots to fill for next year
    - VP, Tammy/Secretary, Tim/Business Admin Teams?, Katie/Congregational Ministries
    - Discussed potential people
  - 2025 ministry
- Pastors' reports - Already included in previous conversations.

**Next Leadership Meeting:** Dec 12, 2024 6pm

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

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Olson  
OSLC Secretary