



Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Leadership Council Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, June 10, 2025 -- 6:00 pm

Present: Emily Blain, Jessica Grimm, Dan Jordan, Pastor Ben Loven, Tim Valen, Sherry Rengstorf, Katie Zahasky

Absent: Jon Alleckson, Emily Block (invited)

May 2025 meeting minutes were approved via email and sent out to the congregation.

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- President Emily Blain

Affirmation of Hope and Thanks – What are you hopeful for, and what are you thankful for?

***Note** - There was a leak of fluid (?glycerin) in the mechanical room today, resulting in staff moving to remote work and notifying the congregation of the smell. Al Pickett and Jon Christensen are working on clean-up and repair.

Reports -

Business Admin Teams (Tim Valen)

- Call list- flood sensors will be activated shortly and call list and response procedure is needed in case a flood occurs. Tim suggested the following, based on responsibilities and current members:
 - First call- Chairperson for Building/Grounds (Al Pickett)
 - Second call - Director of Business Administration (Tim/Megan Valen)
 - Third call – Senior Pastor (Ben Loven)
- Plan approved. Tim will follow-up with a proposed response procedure.
- Properties- contract has been signed for \$1,500.00 roof inspection. Any work <= \$1,500.00 is covered. Roof patching over Fellowship Hall - done. No other leaks noted at this time, no other action needed at this time.

Congregational Ministries (Jon Alleckson)

- Reports pending from Altar Guild, Lay Ministry, and Worship/Music

Joint Ministry Team (Katie Zahasky)

- No meetings, no updates

Outreach Ministries (Sherry Rengstorf)

- Women of OSLC - Nothing new. Joint Bible Study set for August 6th at 1pm.
- Fellowship - Parish Fellowship is working on the July 6th after worship picnic. Good Shepherd has been invited. Gleason's is catering the pulled pork, BBQ sauce and buns. We're making coleslaw. Should be fun!
- Fair Trade Market - Our first planning meeting for our October Fair Trade Market is Wednesday, June 25th.
- Tanzania Partnership/Possible TZ trip 2026 - Pastor Carl-Eric re-sent trip information to members in his congregation & asked if interested to let him know by mid-June. Kathy from the synod office is having a zoom meeting with Joanne & Sherry June 12th to discuss.

Youth and Education (Jessica Grimm)

- No updates

Vice President (Dan Jordan)

- No updates

Treasurer (Emily Block)

- Income YTD (as of 05/31/25): \$160,705.69
- Expenses YTD (as of 05/31/25): \$176,174.07
- Budgeted Expenses: \$160,096.10

*Note: Benevolence and Memorials section updates pending.

Continuing/New Business

Personnel conversations

- Personnel will plan to meet after regular Leadership meetings to develop a Sabbatical Policy. Evaluations are being scheduled and planned completion by end of July, 2025

Columbarium – Joanne has all the content and is getting it organized for Tim to place in folders. Committee reformation is planned after this work is completed.

Capital Campaign/building maintenance

Building maintenance updates/reports- Tim

- **A/C condensers in Sanctuary** – quotes from MMC Contractors, the company we have worked with in the past:
 - Replacement of the one, failed condenser = \$19,228
 - Replacement of BOTH condensers = \$34,710
 - Replacement of BOTH condensers + coils = \$48,767

Discussion of the options - Before making decision, the group ask Tim to request several more bids and determine the deadline for this bid, if we decided to delay this work.

- **Building maintenance fund**- discussion regarding the value of growing a Building Maintenance Fund (BMF) for properties and repairs - Leadership approved.

***Note**- suggestion was made for \$5,000 from undesignated Memorial funds be used to seed the BMF. No decision was made at this time.

Discussion of benevolence – Reviewed giving in 2025, to date, the only benevolence given was to Samaritan Bethany.

Capital Campaign – discussion on how best to approach this topic, goal, and use of the acquired funds. Capital campaign requires prior discussion with congregation, followed by special congregational meeting for a vote.

***Note** – Zoom meeting can be used for discussion and voting if there is also an in-person vote taking place simultaneously.

Leadership discussed, voted, and approved the following:

- Present a proposed capital campaign plan to the congregation for discussion after worship on **Sunday, June 29, 2025**.
 - Goal - \$75,000
 - Distribution -
 - \$50,000 for replacement of A/C condensers/coils in Sanctuary
 - \$17,500 to seed Building Maintenance Fund
 - 10% for benevolence

- Barring the need for any additional planning, the congregational meeting to vote to a) approve spending \$50,000 for the condensers + coils and b) to approve the proposed capital campaign will take place after worship on **Sunday, July 13th, 2025.**

Follow-up May 18 Congregational Meeting

- What 3 things are we going to focus on, and for how long-
 - Website needs re-design and updating, we want it to:
 - Match who we are as a congregation
 - Help viewers decide if they want to come for a visit
 - Be updated on a regular basis
 - Need a web-site designer, thechurch.co works with several churches
 - Pastor Ben and Emily will gather more information, Zumbro Lutheran has good webpage, need to get more online reviews to drive traffic to the website.
 - Sherry has neighbor who is web-designer- she will talk to him
 - Social media- Mtg with Annika Weber- She would be interested in working on this, in the short term - lots of good ideas:
 - Need Instagram account and someone who knows how to post on it
 - Highlight everything with pictures, every engagement matters
 - 90% of content should address who we are and why people should come to OSLC
 - 10% of content should invite people to join us
 - OSLC- outdoor movie night this summer – late July or early August.
 - Pastor Ben will take lead on contacting Warren Harmon who does this in his neighborhood, for equipment, getting family-appropriate movie, etc. Offer popcorn with free will donations to go to charitable groups.
 - Community engagement-
 - Jessica will check into the Park/Rec trailers for summer and winter activities ? neighborhood event in park? Food truck? Do we need event coordinator to get this launched and planned? TBD.
 - Emily will follow-up with Katie Holger (She has a cousin who does this type of work.)
- Pastor Ben has written a new mission statement- *We are a warm and welcoming community, gathered by Jesus to share God's unbounded love.*
 - This will be used, going forward on website, FB, social media, etc.

***Note: Summer pastoral coverage**

Pastor Ben coverage:

June 15th - Pastor Corinne Thul (Father's Day)
June 22nd - Pastor Rushton
July 27th - Pastor Jan Wiersma
August 3rd - Pastor Jan Wiersma

Pastor Ben leading worship, sermon coverage only:

June 1st- Madi Grimm
June 29th – Cassie Fohrman

Close with the Lord's prayer: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us

from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 from 6-7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Zahasky, Secretary, OSLC Leadership Council