

July 15th. Council Meeting:

Date: July 15, 2025

Time: 6:30PM

Location: OSLC Conference Room

Attendees (Legend: P-Present, R-Remote, A-Absent):

P Pr. Leland Armbright

A Pr. Susie Modrow

A Bennett Putnam

P Deb Morris

P Dwight Benoy

R Eric Peterson

A Kelly Marquard

P Kerri Gustafson

P Lauri Pudwill

P Marianne Erlien

P Sarah Ward

Minutes approved: August 19, 2025

Schedule

Call to Order

Welcome and official opening of the meeting by the presiding chair.

Consent Agenda

Review and approval of pre-distributed reports and routine items for efficiency.

- [Previous Month's Minutes](#)

All outstanding minutes will be reviewed and approved in August (April, May, June, July)

- **Ministry Team Reports**

Accept: All reports accepted

- **Pastoral Reports** (Pastor L, Pastor S)

Accept: All reports accepted

- **Consent Agenda**

Accept: (No items).

Financial Report

Decisions

- February 22, 2026 is our annual meeting date.
- Discussed archiving a hard copy of council data, annual reports, and annual meeting minutes in perpetuity. We also need to retain 7 years of key financial data.
- Kerry and P.Leland will continue their search for financial paperwork re: land we sold south of the parking lot.
- ERC funds of \$35K will show up in the July month-end financials.
- We have received \$6K so far to help pay for the sewer costs.
- Church van is having trouble. The van is at a shop in Albuquerque, should be fixed by Thursday for the trip home. Struggles with the engine being sluggish, particularly in the mountains.
- The facilities team needs to follow up on the maintenance of the van with Mike Kell (Joe Kell's dad) who had volunteered to manage getting routine maintenance performed on the van.

Council Working Groups

Updates and insights from working groups with council oversight on their recent efforts and plans.

- **Know Your Congregation (Lauri, Marianne, Jeff):** Updates pending. Waiting on Jeff. May need to revisit purpose and look at team makeup. Dwight recommended they reach out to Nancy Berkowitz for assistance with excel spreadsheet. Lauri to reach out to Jeff to get this work going again.
- **Marketing and Social Media (Deb, Bennett, Kelly, Eric):** Group met in June. Talked about signage on the property, upcoming website changes, bulletin board design/update, sermon snippets online (maybe in August).
- **Noah's Ark (Kerry, Shanna, Karen, Christine):**
 - An update on current discussions was provided to the council.
- **Finance/Stewardship (Kerry, Mark Groff, Pat Mann):** Annual meeting scheduled for February 22, 2026

Old Business

- Review action items from May meeting.
- Mutual Ministry Update (Pastor L): Four people part of Pastor L's team, to be included in his pastoral report (informational, no decision required).
- Nature Trail (Kerry): Proposal needed to move forward. Funding source TBD. Real estate developer (Centra Homes) proposed land acquisition, not favored. Potential for developer to include nature trail if pursued. Congregational vote required. Action item: Request Roberta or Karen Moberg for past minutes regarding land sales and financials. KG is getting a group together to discuss it and will bring this to the council at a future meeting.

New Business

- **PL** to communicate with Centra Homes on their inquiry about the northeast corner of our property.
- **Congregation Feedback (2m)**: People are excited about Katherine (pianist/organist). Nice to see more people at the services. Lauri has had positive feedback on the direction of the church.
- **Affirmations (4m)**: Katherine, our new pianist! See Leland's report for additional affirmations.
- **Mission and Vision Meeting (Kerry)**:
 - Further discussion on "Create, Equip, Serve, Grow."
 - Equip
 - Prepare
 - Educate
 - Access
 - How to find info
 - Inclusion
 - How to engage
 - Skill development
 - Strength finders
 - Spiritual gifts inventories
 - Worship - fueled
 - Lift
 - Noah's Ark
 - Backpacks
 - Get to know your community
 - Serve
 - Community
 - Backpacks
 - Time and Talent
 - Invite (leave the building and ask someone to come through the door) vs. Welcome (we are waiting for people to walk through the door)
 - Bravery .. stepping outside your comfort zone
 - Is it for us or for them?
 - Knowledge (who, what, when, where, why, how?)
 - Engaging Volunteers
 - Celebrate Serving
 - Volunteers appreciation
 - How might we promote/ make people aware of how we serve our local and global community?
 - Celebrate the many ways our members serve in different organizations in our community/the world?
 - Day in the lift ... volunteer roles (short videos shared at service, could also be shared on the website)

- Grow
 - Share the story (ex: mission trip daily recap via social media)
 - Share the story of what we are doing at our church - how we serve the community
 - Share the gospel – the organic nature of communicating what we are doing as part of our serving/growing/equipping at our church.
 - WHEAT: framework for conversation - helps to find something in common.
 - Where are you from?
 - What are your hobbies?
 - What are your education or experiences?
 - Who are our acquaintances?
 - Where have you traveled?
 - Peer ministry (another approach). How do you build a deeper rapport and build trust in relationships? Strangers are just friends you haven't met.
 - Devos on website (God pods from Luther Seminary >> is that the right source?)
 - In house devos
 - Nourished
 - hearing/expeirencing gospel
 - Relationships
 - Physicality
 - Labyrinth
 - Chair yoga
 - Mindful Mondays
 - Walk OSLC (inside/outside)
 - Did you know (sunday bulletin or Pulse)
 - Adult's and children's book stands (narthex)
- Other Notes
 - Mission Outpost of the Gospel (Good News of JC)
 - Toxic Charity (book recommendation from PL)

Coming in September

- Not printing readings (scripture) in the bulletin, encouraging people to bring their bible or open one in the pew and follow along.
- At traditional and maybe contemporary service .. changing the format to a wide column format with content, and then narrower columns that explain the "why"
- Bulletin board will be updated to highlight create, equip, serve, and grow.

Next steps:

- Continue figuring out how we live into our current mission statement.
- Evaluate how our ministry teams are aligned to those four key areas (create, equip, serve, grow)

Motion to End

Motion to end the meeting: Kerry Gustafson

Second: Lauri Pudwill

All in favor: Yes.

Action items:

- Deb to send out April and May minutes for review. Approve at next meeting.

Parking Lot (August meeting)

- **Small Group Meetings (Pastor L):** Kyle and another member involved.
 - Continue discussion at council meeting (August agenda item).