

Our Savior's Congregational Council Meeting
2/18/25: 6:30-8:30

*Created for Relationship with God, all people everywhere, and creation itself
Called to equip people to Serve by growing disciples of Jesus Christ*

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Present in person: Jeff, Dwight, Kerry, Lauri, Shanna, Marianne, Eric

Present virtually: Pastor Walter, Pastor Susie, and Deb

Absent: none

Congregational Members present: Bennett Putnam

- Devotion:
 - Instead of a devotion, Kerry G. shared a Kudosboard that CC members and Pr. Susie developed to thank Jeff and Shanna whose council terms are completed and Pr. Walter as his interim ministry is drawing to a close at OSLC.
- Call to Order
 - Jeff called the meeting to order
 - Marianne seconded calling the meeting to order.
 - All in favor, meeting initiated.
- Approval of February Agenda
 - Kerry made motion to approve agenda following additions
 - Marianne made motion to approve agenda following additions
 - All in favor, agenda approved following additions unanimously
- Approval of January Meeting Minutes
 - Kerry made motion to approve January Meeting Minutes after edits
 - Kelly seconded motion to approve January Meeting Minutes after edits
 - All in favor, minutes approved unanimously
- Synod Toolkit Discussion in Apple Valley-Jeff
 - Kerry, Bennett, Pastor Susie plan to attend
- Discussion of 3 Small Focus Groups
 - Know Your Congregation: Jeff, Marianne, Lauri
 - Focusing on the report for the synod to be a more accurate reflection of our congregation
 - Jeff sent Marianne and Lauri a file.

- Jeff reported that when he pulled the data, it looks like the last time confirmands were entered was 2018. Pr. Susie reported she has entered names of confirmands each spring.
- Action Item: Jeff will email Pr. Walter with numbers of active members, baptised members at OSLC.
 - Financial Focus Group
 - Kerry- Paul E and Dave B. Welcome Back event tentative date of 4/10/2025. "Celebrating the Path Ahead"
- Action Item: Jeff will communicate with Pastor Leland regarding Welcome Back event, and give him Paul and Dave's contact information.
- Action Item: Jeff, Marianne and Lauri will meet with Paul and Dave help them access and use Breeze information.
 - Noah's Ark/OSLC: Kerry, Shanna
 - Subcommittee met 12/11, Noah's ark members did not attend 2/10 meeting due to Char being ill. OSLC representatives met. Reaching out to Pastor John to get additional support/suggestions.
 - Marketing Team- Deb, Kelly, & Eric
 - No update
- Facility Team report- Dwight
 - Final inspection on restrooms this Thursday.
 - Dedication of bathrooms an announcement during church. March 2 or 9th.
 - Dwight will check with Sierra about scheduling a work session on Saturday, April 12th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Tasks for the work session were discussed.
 - Donna will identify painting projects that could possibly be done as part of the work session.
 - Chuck will look into installing foam insulation in the office to address the condensation issue.
 - Donna will talk to Ruel about repairing damaged sheetrock by the window in the sacristy.
 - A volunteer is needed to replace damaged ceiling tile in the offices and lower level. Ceiling tiles are being purchased.
 - Dwight provided updates on the sewer cleaning, urinal repairs and the progress of the restroom remodeling. Velocity Drain Services is scheduled to complete the drain cleaning on February 14th.
- Youth room updates/furniture fundraising-Kelly
 - Deep cleaned and painted
 - Now fundraising for new furniture: Hope to raise ~\$7000
 - Idea of selling Kwik Trip or Papa Murphy's gift cards
 - Look for Thrivent Grants
 - Request Endowment funds

- ²Financials- Kerry

- Statement of Operations - We have generated \$46.5k in YTD Total Income. Our YTD Expenses are \$48.3k. This puts us at -\$1,299 for January.
- Balance Sheet & Cash Flow - The total of cash and accounts receivable is \$282.4k. Funds allocated to dedicated accounts is \$202k.

- Shanna made a motion to approve financials as presented
- Kelly seconded a motion to approve financials as presented
- All in favor, motion to approve financials as presented approved unanimously

- Action Item: OSLC will complete financial review in 2025

- Personnel Committee-Kerry

- Change exercise- March 4th Angie Robinson will come to staff and lead activity
- Job descriptions almost completed
- Continue to work on employee manual
- Staff will each have 1 goal in 2025
- 2024 Reviews completed
- Pastor Leland's Welcome
 - Sunday March 23th welcome planning
 - Discuss 1 or 2 services, remembering LIFT is scheduled at 9:45

- Action Item: discuss 1 month-3 month-6 month goals and objectives using the MSP as guidance

- Action Item: call committee will help organize small groups for P. Leland to meet OSLC members.

- Staffing Update: Walter

- Traditional Music Director, currently we have no interested candidates based on job description
 - Plan is Doreen H. will conduct choir and Ellie will choose music until mid May

- Annual Meeting Planning-Jeff

- Discuss opening to congregation for volunteers to attend synod assembly and voting
- Discussed agenda for annual meeting including affirmation of covenant during meeting and identification of members to attend synod assembly.
- Discussion of acceptance of covenant
- Voting on ratifying the constitution

- ³Vote on Members for Congregation Council, Nominating Committee, and Endowment Committee
- Plan to make 120 ballots, 50 copies of annual report (in addition to 30 printed last week)
- Action Item: Jeff will ask P. Leland if he wants to join meeting via ZOOM
- Action Item: CC members need to set up tables in Luther Hall for P. Walter's final send off following the annual meeting.
- Congregational Feedback Given to CC members:
 - Concerns raised by congregation members related to conversations hosted by Eleanor Squad. Marianne wanted to add that there was both positive and negative feedback on the Eleanor Squad Dedric Boenhoeffer presentation.
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- Action Item: Need to schedule Congregation Council/Pastors retreat
- Action Item: research what other congregations are doing to discuss "hot topics."
- Action Item: Kerry will ask Eleanor Squad for small paragraph regarding each speaker regarding: topic-how it relates to our church-what is the desired outcome
 - Pastor Walter's Report-Jan 2025
 - Alleluia to the Spirit and people of OSLC in calling Pr Leland to serve as the Lead Pastor! It was a joy to see how your planning and cooperative spirit offered holy space. With Pr Susie, the staff and faithful of OSLC I know God is leading Pr Leland and you to the future!
 - I look forward to serving with you in this quick phase of starting a ministry!
 - I would recommend speaking with Angie Robinson about onboarding a new leader. She shared at HR about her work in this area.
 - There are two important Synod resource events—Feb 1 at St Mark's regarding Spiritual Gifts and Feb 25 Toolkit. Info at Synod website.
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 - Pastor Susie's Report:
 - 1) Our 3rd graders successfully completed their 5 week Bible course and their parents presented them with bibles in worship on Feb. 9th.
 - 2) I met with a bride and scheduled a wedding for this June.
 - 3) We hosted another successful 9th grade retreat at Camp WAPO this past month. We were joined by All Saints Church from Minnetonka. WAPO improved upon our last experience (which was poor), so we were glad to see that our concerns had been taken

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into consideration. The theme of the retreat was based on the letters of the Apostle Paul and how we are one body in Christ.

- 4) We've begun meeting for chapel with Noah's Ark twice a month. Ellie Lehn is providing music, while I'm providing the Bible story and prayer.
- 5) I met with a new Eagle Scout and her mother this past month. They plan to take over the recycling trailer stairs since the initial candidate is no longer able to complete the project. They estimate it will be done in the early spring, but will keep us posted on their progress.
- 6) The Young Families Group met for a Bible study on the book of Ruth. The conversation was lively, and another Bible study has been requested for our next gathering.
- 7) I met with the CEAC group again this month (Centennial community education advisory committee). They're doing good work and trying to engage more community members.
- 8) The youth raised \$800 from their Super Bowl Cookie Fundraiser. These funds will help defray costs for the mission trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico this summer.
- 9) Troop 65 hosted a Scout Sunday on Feb. 9th. They provided readers and ushers. We also welcomed two scouts to receive their Jesus and Me emblems from their faith work.
- 10) There are some ongoing concerns about the feasibility of hosting VBS during July now that the sanctuary will be under construction. Danielle is going to be meeting with her team shortly to determine whether they attempt to do it or reschedule it; neither option is ideal.
- 11) OSLC hosted the latest Community Confirmation this month with a game night and snacks. Living Waters and St. Marks joined us for the fun.
- 12) Youth Club/Youth Club Jr is having their mission month. They hosted the Guatemala team this past month for a time of learning about their siblings in San Isidro Labrador. They also had fun baking traditional Guatemalan bread. They had visitors from the Rauner family during airplane night. The worship skills groups are learning percussion and chimes for the remainder of the year. We're also making preparations for the Lenten services.
- 13) I made arrangements for Angie Robinson to meet with staff next month to help us prepare ourselves to receive Pr. L and look at how we personally experience transitions.
- 14) I also enjoyed four days of vacation this month and traveled to sunny Arizona to visit a friend.

Affirmations: The Rauner family for their participation in Youth Club; Ellie Lehn for providing music for Noah's Ark chapel time; the guides/parents and SALT leaders for their work on the 9th grade retreat; the Guatemala team for sharing their experiences with Youth Club; the volunteers who assisted with the 3rd grade Bible classes; Troop 65 for helping out with worship on Scout Sunday; Israel and Beckett for their work to obtain the Jesus and Me badge; Dwight for hosting the all committee meeting to discuss renovation plan impacts; Angie Robinson for sharing her HR insights and helping us process transitions as a staff; thank you to Pr. Walter for all his work during this interim time!

- Action Items from February meeting:
 - ~~Eric will set up a laptop for P. L. when told everything is official~~
 - ~~Kerry will reach out to Angie Robinson to help with onboarding Pastor L.~~

- Affirmations: Deb and Sierra for all their work on OSLC website, Amy Nielson for leading Youth Room Renovation project; John Bergdahl for re-painting the youth room; all the volunteers that assisted with Guatemala Youth Club Feb 5 and 12th; The Rauner family for their participation in Youth Club; Ellie Lehn for providing music for Noah's Ark chapel time; the guides/parents and SALT leaders for their work on the 9th grade retreat; the volunteers who assisted with the 3rd grade Bible classes; Troop 65 for helping out with worship on Scout Sunday; Israel and Beckett for their work to obtain the Jesus and Me badge; Dwight for hosting the all committee meeting to discuss renovation plan impacts; Angie Robinson for sharing her HR insights and helping us process transitions as a staff; thank you to Pr. Walter for all his work during this interim time!
- Facility Usage Document Update- Lauri
 - Lauri looked at local church websites provided by Eric.
- Next meeting date and details- March 18th: 6:30-8:30
- Adjourn
 - Lauri made motion to adjourn meeting
 - Eric seconded motion to adjourn meeting
 - All in favor, motion approved to adjourn unanimously.
- Closing Prayer – Lord's Prayer
- The Parking Lot: Future items for conversation at CC meetings
 - List of Opportunities Identified by MET team: file in google drive 2024
 - Review/Update of church Wedding pamphlet and fees. - Lauri
 - Contract between OSLC and Noah's Ark needs to be drafted
 - Define Benevolence-
 - ERC filing update
 - Get OSLC email addresses for Congregational ⁴Council Members- Goal of establishing these after new members voted in at annual meeting
 - 10k allocation of special maintenance
 - Discussion regarding not seeing politics in church
 - Review if members of the same family can be a part of church committees (council, endowment, nominating etc.)
 - Youth create a video of activities they are involved in at OSLC.
 - Document role/responsibilities of Lay Leaders: ushers, communion

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