

May Congregation Council Minutes

Date: May 19, 2026; **Time:** 6:30 PM; **Location:** OSLC Conference Room

Present: Pr. Leland Armbricht, Pr. Susie Modrow, Juli Ackerman, Tyr Altman, Kyle Bartholomay, Kerry Gustafson, Erin Hall, Lauri Pudwill, Matt Martien

Remote:

Absent: Deb Morris, Sarah Ward

Agenda

1. **Call to Order | A** (2m) 6:31pm
2. **Devotions | P** (4m)
 - Kerry
3. **Consent Agenda | A** (8m)
 - Review and approval of pre-distributed reports and routine items for efficiency.
 - i. [April Minutes](#) - add Pr Susie's Affirmations to April minutes and Kerry's revisions
 1. Motion to approve: Matt
 2. Second: Tyr
 3. Approved by All
 - ii. May Agenda
 1. Motion to approve: Kyle
 2. Second: Julie
 3. Approved by All
 - iii. [Ministry Team Reports](#)
 - iv. [Pastoral Reports](#)
4. **Financial Report | A** (20m)
 - **Prior Month Review** (10m)
 - i. Financial Statements
 1. Motion to accept: Kyle
 2. Second: Erin
 3. Accepted: All
 - **Loan or Other Financial Details** (10m)
 - i. Send Noah's Ark agreement to MIF (loan holder) - done!
5. **Consent Exceptions | A:** Address any items pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion. (10m)
 - June 14 Eleanor Squad invitation to bike/walk to church with table in Narthex to sign up as a car pool driver or rider - go ahead!
6. **Council Working Groups | S** (20m)
 - Noah's Ark (Kerry, Karen, Christine)
 - i. Agreement has been signed. Subcommittee work is completed. Who from council should continue being a point of contact with Noah's Ark (relationship building)? Council suggestion: Deb should be as she will be on the advisory board (if Deb accepts). << Deb accepts
 - ii. 3rd of June is NA's graduation at 1pm in their sanctuary.
 - Finance/Stewardship (Kerry, Kris Cafferty, Pat Mann, Kyle)

- i. Zoom invite for tomorrow at 7pm, with Peter Reuss our consultant for an introduction of SAS for the Council
- Beyond the Plate Conversations update (Deb, ____). Kerry talked about her discussions with Bob Zaske about being the coordinator of Thrivent Action Cards and he has agreed.
- Harvest Hosts - We would only consider Friday and Saturday night in order to avoid any issues with Noah's Ark. According to our insurance carrier they would not cover any liability and our umbrella coverage won't cover this either. Per Harvest Host, they do not provide insurance coverage for hosts. Guests would have to sign a legal waiver to make this something that we would even consider. Kerry will get back to Renae on this.

7. Old Business | A/P/S (10m)

- [Council roles/responsibilities](#) edits, update and approve - we worked through all of the suggested edits. Kerry will format and organize and re-send to the group for final approval
- [Employee handbook](#) edits, update and approve
 - i. Deferred. Edits/updates from HR Committee received only today.
- Nature Trail update - deferred
- Endowment grants submitted, all have been approved
 - i. Lauri: vacuum
 - ii. Kerry: toilets
 - iii. Deb: stewardship program
- Staff Leadership, (see PL's Pastoral Report) - don't have an accompanist yet and dir of finance is in process
 - i. PL brought forward a pay comparison which indicates we are offering a lower rate than what is the norm. In a quick calculation, this would be a \$2,000 increase to raise the weekly service rate to \$175/hour. Should we hire at a higher rate? There might be a service we could use? There are subscriptions. Do we commit to advertising at a higher rate?
 - ii. Motion: to increase the compensation rate up to \$175/worship per service for accompanist
 - 1. Motion made by: Kerry
 - 2. Seconded by : Julie
 - 3. Approved by : All

8. New Business | A/P/S (20m)

- Insurance - property re-evaluation question. Deferred.
- Ministry Team Alignment
 - i. Prayer Chain (Kyle), Yardeners (Erin), Youth Ministry and Confirmation (PS), Worship Music & Arts (Tyr)
- Devotion Schedule - we'll take the schedule and assign from Nov - Feb (Sarah to do)
- Coffee Hour coordinator - this position signs people up for coffee and orders supplies. Let Leland know who might be able to do this and he will ask.
- PL mentioned that June 14th we start worshipping in the sanctuary without slides

9. Congregation feedback | P (2m)

- Should we allow coffee in the sanctuary after carpet is laid. Maybe put a little sign about having a lid on or something. Encourage people to put a lid on their drinks. This should go to the marketing team (PL will take this).

10. Affirmations | P (4m)

- The Noah's Ark Subcommittee and the Council Officers for their time and energy in getting an Agreement in place with Noah's Ark.
- The crew that has completed Phase One of the sanctuary project
- Matt and Roy for their work coordinating our new lawn care volunteer teams
- SALT youth for their leadership throughout the year
- Yarderners beautifying our property
- Sharon, Dennis, Marianne, Julie, and Russ for representing OSLC at this year's St Paul Synod assembly
- Erin Hall for being our nursery volunteer coordinator
- Cindy Ellenwood for prompting our summer movie night theme
- Lilly Robinson for being available to watch the littles during movie night
- Shanna Semmler and John Draheim for their service as confirmation guides
- The SALT youth for supporting the confirmands
- The confirmation adult volunteers.
- Roy Feine for taking the mower on its first run and getting it ready for operation!
- Thanks to Matt Martien for searching for and purchasing the mower and other lawn-care equipment.

Motion to End | A

- i. Motion to approve: Kyle
- ii. Second: Kerry
- iii. Approved by all

11. Lord's Prayer (2m)

Reference Docs

Parking Lot:  CC Parking Lot

[Council Meetings and Devotion Schedule](#)

Notations

S = Strategic

A = Admin

P = People