

February Congregation Council Agenda

Date: February 17, 2026; **Time:** 6:30 PM; **Location:** OSLC Conference Room

Present: Pr. Leland Armbright, Pr. Susie Modrow, Deb Morris, Dwight Benoy, Eric Peterson, Kelly Marquard, Kerry Gustafson, Lauri Pudwill, Marianne Erlien, Matt Martien, Sarah Ward

Remote: Absent: Guests:

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** (2m)
 - Thank you to outgoing council members: Kelly, Eric, Dwight, Marianne
2. **Devotions** (4m)
 - Sarah Ward
3. **Consent Agenda** (8m)
 - Review and approval of pre-distributed reports and routine items for efficiency.
 - i. January Minutes: [01.03.2026](#), [01.15.2026](#), [01.20.2026](#)
 1. Motion to approve with the modification from Lauri's email:Dwight
 2. Second: Kerry
 3. Approved by: All
 - ii. February Agenda
 1. Motion to approve as modified: Kerry
 2. Second: Sarah
 3. Approved by
 - iii. [Ministry Team Reports](#)
 - iv. [Pastoral Reports](#)
4. **Financial Report** (20m)
 - **Prior Month Review:** (10m)
 - i. Financial Statements
 1. Motion to approve: Lauri
 2. Second: Kelly
 3. Approved: All
 - **Step-up Campaign Update**
 - i. Current giving to Pledge and giving amounts will be looked at on April 15, 2026 to be looked at during the April council meeting
 - ii. Could we make adjustment
 - iii. Will we propose to the congregation to approve the budget contingent on the giving of \$65,000. If that is not made we will have to revise the budget mid-year and align our spending with actual giving.
 - **Loan or Other Financial Details:** (10m)
 - i.
5. **Consent Exceptions:** Address any items pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion. (10m)
 - Eleanor Squad - A CYF event and the Eleanor Squad both felt that they should have had access to Luther Hall for their event. This highlights a communication issue about the use of space and the ways in how we operate with each other. Council will talk with Eleanor Squad (Kerry)

- Endowment Committee - The council will discuss the ask of \$10K from the Endowment fund at the March 2026 council meeting

6. **Council Working Groups** (20m)

- Know your congregation (Lauri, Marianne, Jeff)
 - i. Breeze has been updated. Ellie has provided a spreadsheet with all data to Laurie. Laurie has all the pew pads to check against the complete list. Do we have documented processes for new members, baptisms, confirmation, and deaths to update Breeze? We think it's being done but there is no process written down. Suggestion to update a procedure document for all three. Pastors will be the people updating the membership field for the above four events
- Marketing and Design (Deb, Kelly, Sierra, Donna, Leland)
 - i. Donna is going to adjust the bulletin board to provide more space for CYF.
 - ii. Sierra and Aleshia are going to prune "Frank"
 - iii. A lamppost and sign will be added at the end of the sidewalk
 - iv. The blue sign will be repainted in the spring
 - v. Wayfinding signs are going to be made and placed around the church
 - vi. The AED got moved to by the sanctuary
 - vii. Social media advertising calendar has been created and deployed
- Noah's Ark (Kerry, Shanna, Karen, Christine)
 - i. The draft agreement has been reviewed by council members and an attorney. Kerry has continued to try and get together with Char and Keri to finish working through the last few items that have been red lined.
 - ii. The attorney has been focused on making sure NA is tax exempt. We believe we have confirmed that
 - iii. The attorney has recommended OSLC obtain a copy of Noah's Ark bylaws
 - iv. A motion was made to replace the (agreement) hard due date of February 28th to March 6th.
 - 1. Motion to approve: Deb
 - 2. Second: Lauri
 - 3. Approved: All
 - v. A motion was made that Deb, as president of the council, sign the agreement with Noah's Ark.
 - 1. Motion to approve: Lauri
 - 2. Second: Sarah
 - 3. Approved: All
- Finance/Stewardship (Kerry, Mark Groff, Pat Mann)
 - i. No updates
- Beyond the Plate Conversations update (Deb)
 - i. No updates
- Safety Team (Pr. Leland)
 - i. Did not meet

7. **Old Business** (10m)

- Definition of an affiliated ministry per ELCA (research and discuss in context of Noah's Ark)
 - i. Defer this to the March meeting
- A motion was made to rescind the motion from the May minutes to include the President's role as a non-voting member within the Noah's Ark Advisory Board.

- i. Motion to approve: Kerry
 - ii. Second: Lauri
 - iii. Approved: All
- Review secretary of state filing for non-profit status of OSLC, and add this to annual tasks we need to do going forward
 - i. Pastor Leland renewed the paperwork and will set up a process for annual renewal

8. **New Business** (20m)

- Pastor Leland identified people to attend the synod assembly - need to vote at annual meeting
- Honoring staff changes (Danielle, Nursery Attendants, Cleaners)
 - i. March 1, 2026 between services (cake and thank you cards) and put in the pulse (Lauri)
- San Isidro Labrador (ILAG) contract renewal
 - i. Marianne made a motion to renew the three-year contract with San Isidro Labrador (ILAG) at a cost of \$1,500 per year. Matt seconded the motion, All in favor
- Annual Meeting
 - i. Identifying benevolence and partnerships for global mission/outreach as talking points (Deb)
 - ii. Connect with newly voted council members and send names to Eric to create email addresses (Deb, Eric)
 - iii. Add synod assembly candidates to the annual meeting vote (Deb)
 - iv. Agenda Creation and Printing (All, Deb)
 - v. Logistics Planning
 - 1. Sign-in sheets on clipboards (Marianne, ushers)
 - 2. Speaking - (Deb, Kerry)
 - 3. Ballots - Prepare paper ballots for nominees and budget
 - 4. Pens and pencils (Ushers)
 - 5. Microphone runners (Lauri, Kelly)
 - vi. Remote attendance option - While allowed by our constitution, the constitution and state statutes outline a process that is complex and we are not fully prepared to navigate them in order to comply with state law for nonprofit voting.
- Building update
 - i. There was a sewer backup the week of 2/17, Dwight is working with construction teams to identify the problem and possible solutions. There is a proposal to line the pipes that have been problematic; 200 feet for \$53,000. The upstairs restrooms by the choir rooms will be temporarily closed
 - ii. The roof has three leak areas
 - iii. The office furnace needs some additional work
 - iv. The alarm system is not functioning properly and the vendor has been identified
 - v. The elevator has been repaired
 - vi. An article to go in The Pulse asking for facilities expertise (Dwight)
- Communications; Process for ensuring the Lead Pastor is aligned with the messaging and tone for a unified voice - table to March
- Relationship building: Noah's Ark Advisory Board and Congregation Council

- i. Meeting to happen in March
- Land assessment for purchase
 - i. An inquiry was made to PL about the possibility of purchasing vacant land, fact finding
- Re-evaluation of all staff adjustment to work with staff on volunteer leads
 - i. Pastor Susie is collecting information from current volunteers, a survey to CYF families, COW, and confirmation; data will be presented once complete
 - ii. Continue the conversation around process and logistics at next council meeting
- Follow-ups to 1/11/2026 meeting - Table to March
 - i. 5 year plan, revenue generation, evangelism, children's ministry team,

9. Congregation feedback (2m)

- Thank you to the council for listening to the congregation
- Congregants have had trouble hearing the pastor's microphones
- When congregants go online to watch the 8:45 AM service the video shows the front pews only
- Congregants have asked for prayers for Tarkanfi to be added to the church prayers
- Continued budget feedback

10. Affirmations (4m)

Create

- All our musicians for creating meaningful worship opportunities for all.
- To the youth and families for your survey feedback

Grow

- Danielle, Joy, Pr Susie for their leadership with 3rd grade Bible instruction
- Angie R, Kyle B, Danielle D, and Joy R for your roles in our 3rd grade Bible class
- The Marketing Team for creating a plan for sharing the Good News in new ways to reach a wider audience.

Equip

- Vern and Chuck for their work clearing sidewalks Sunday mornings so the path is clear for those attending worship.
- Sierra who does so much to enable all our ministries to flourish.
- Vern and Dwight for your tireless attention to our building

Serve

- The Facilities Team for their efforts on yet another plumbing backup.
- Kerry for her work on an agreement with Noah's Ark.
- Thanks for putting information about Mobile Hope in the Pulse so we can activate our Christian faith to help our neighbors.
- Thank you to Pastor Susie for reaching out to owners of Ponchos.
- Thank you to outgoing council members: Eric, Marianne, Dwight, and Kelly'
- There will be several sessions of Feed My Starving Children upcoming
- Scouts for hosting Scout Sunday
- Nominating committee for their service

11. Motion to End:

1. Motion to adjourn: Kerry
2. Second: Marianne

12. Lord's Prayer (2m)

Reference Docs

Parking Lot:  CC Parking Lot

[Council Meetings and Devotion Schedule](#)