

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER --- CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, August 12, 2025
6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
6:30 pm Council Meeting

Council Members: Ryan Nuttall, Ann DeSpiegler, Gwen McGillivray, Alan Stager, Jan Birkeland, Kim Pearson, Cindy Day, Matt Blackwelder

Advisory: Pastor Dan Overbo and Pastor Laura Overbo

Those Absent: Jessica Kruse

Call to Order: Ryan Nuttall

Opening Devotions/Caring Conversation: Pastor Laura

Approve Agenda: Gwen McGillivray made a motion to approve the August agenda. Seconded by Ryan Nuttall. Motion approved.

Review / Approve June 10, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes: Ann DeSpieger made a motion to approve the June minutes. Seconded by Jan Birkeland. Motion approved.

Review / Approve June & July 2025 Treasurer's Report:

- The June income received was \$85,401.97 with expenses of \$82,847.67 - with a gain of \$2,554.30. The mission of the month totals \$2,627.72 and will be given to Church on the Street. July income received was \$74,144.13 with expenses of \$80,431.88 - exceeding income by \$6,287.75. The mission of the month totals \$4,453.44 and will be given to Watertown Sandwich Ministry. Year-to-date, we still have a surplus of \$14,900. Matt Blackwelder made a motion to approve the June and July treasurer's reports. Seconded by Gwen McGillivray. Motion approved.
- Discussion:
 - The final payment on the air conditioner has been paid.
 - The remaining funds that need to be disbursed from the PPP loan is \$16,443.51.
 - The playground was installed. That fund has a balance of \$2,153.06, but additional expenses remain for the fire pit, estimated at \$5,600. Coffee and donut donations (final total known in September) will help offset this cost.
 - Current interest balance of Premier Money Market Account: \$3,228.06.

Pastors' Reports:

- Thank you note will be sent to Riddles for the railing donation.
- Since the last meeting, five weddings have been performed; three more are scheduled before the next council meeting, and two are already booked for 2026.
- Pr. Dan was the Prairie Coteau representative to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in AZ where Bishop Curry was elected.

- Pr. Dan and Pr. Laura will have continuing education via zoom all year long for three different groups: Compelling Preaching, The Moses Project, Wonders of Worship all sponsored by LILY Endowments.
- New programs/activities: adding new activities to Fall Festival, Redeemers Kitchen, Craft Fair.
- Asking parents and youth to attend the meetings on 9/3 for teachers, acolytes and confirmation.

Old Business:

- Revisit: PPP Money after the Air Conditioning Unit is Paid and Installed
 - See below in “New Business”
- Policy for Camperships
 - Discussion was held regarding policy updates. Alan Stager made a motion to approve the policy as adjusted to include adults accompanying children, as well as children under 18, in accordance with the stated discount structure. The motion was seconded by Kim Pearson. Motion approved. Jodi will update the revised date on the new policy.
- Mortgage payment
 - Revisit at the next meeting.
- SD Synod Assembly
 - Pr. Dan reported that the bishop was confirmed in a single voting session and commented that the Synod is in “really good shape.”

New Business:

- Air Conditioning
 - AC is installed and running correctly. \$3,137.86 of the PPP funds will be used to pay off the balance.
- Screens for projection
 - Pr. Dan contacted Phil from Tricorn, who installed the previous equipment. Phil will visit on August 20 to address ongoing issues with the live stream. During the visit, Pr. Dan will ask for recommendations to update the projection system and request permission to record the training for those unable to attend in person. More details will be provided at the next meeting.
- Bells for the lower octave
 - Currently, there are not enough bells for the players. Bev Splinter located used bells online for the lower 4th octave at a total cost of \$2,700, including shipping. Cindy Day made a motion to take \$1,347.78 from the dedicated fund and cover the remaining \$1,352.22 from the PPP. Seconded by Matt Blackwelder. Motion approved.
- Outdoor Youth Area
 - The playground has been installed and paid for. The fire pit is installed but has a remaining balance of \$5,648.19. Ryan Nuttall made a motion to apply the Premier Money Market interest of \$3,228.06 and additional PPP funds of \$2,420.13 towards the balance. Seconded by Jan Birkeland. Motion approved.
 - The dedication and rally day for the firepit and playground will be held on September 7 and September 10.

- Proposed Eagle Scout Project
 - High school student Hannah Bartelt is interested in completing an Eagle Scout project by creating a small prayer garden at the church. This project will need approval from the Property Board.
- Sabbatical Policy
 - Handouts were provided with examples of the current policy and an alternative policy to review before the next meeting.
- Choir Director Position
 - Kristi has stepped down as Choir Director. The Worship Committee plans to advertise the position for one month. In the meantime, Kristi will continue to lead seasonal choirs. Gwen McGillivray made a motion to post the Choir Directors position. Seconded by Cindy Day. Motion approved.

Committee Reports:

- Faith Formation - Jessica Kruse: nothing new.
- Fellowship - Gwen McGillivray:
 - Fellowship met on 7/9/25 to discuss catering options and pricing for the Diamond Dinner. The current budget is \$1,000, but due to rising costs, the group would like to increase the budget to \$1,500 for next year.
 - Discussed plans for Ladies Night Out. Dessert options are still being decided. Pastor Dave Nerdig will serve as the evening's speaker.
- Mission & Endowment - Ann DeSpiegler: nothing new. Plan to meet November 17.
- Policy - Ryan Nuttall: nothing new.
- Preschool - Kim Pearson:
 - 19 students are currently enrolled, leaving one open spot. The open house will be held on August 27, with the first day of school beginning September 2.
- Property - Alan Stager: nothing new.
- Stewardship - Jan Birkeland:
 - The committee met on 8/12/25, to discuss the 2026 stewardship campaign. Informational postcards will be sent out to the congregation on 10/19/25.
 - Directory: As far as we know, the directory is still in progress. It has been proofed and returned to the company for printing.
- Worship and Music- Cindy Day:

- The committee met on 8/12/25 and decided that the term limit for members will be three years and they will meet four times per year.
- Discussion was held on creating sub-groups for seasonal decorating. Roger Austad will lead the fall season, while Gwen McGillivray and Lisa Olerud will lead the winter season. A leader is still needed for the spring season. Each representative will create a group of helpers.
- The committee is looking for another person to assist Sam with sound during the summer months. This past summer, he was able to keep up with both services with help from Robbyn Givens. The discussion was tabled until closer to next summer, but it was noted that the portable sound system may need to be used to improve sound quality at the lake service.
- Youth and Family- Matt Blackwelder: nothing new.

Next Meeting: September 9, 2025

- Executive committee- 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m
- Church council- 6:30 p.m.

Treats: Ann

Closing Prayer: Pastor Dan

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn Cindy Day.

Upcoming Events:

Rally Days 9/7 and 9/10

Diamond Dinner 9/6