

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER --- CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting  
6:30 pm Council Meeting

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

Advisory: Pastor Dan Overbo and Pastor Laura Overbo.

Those Absent: Ann DeSpiegler

Call to Order: Ryan Martin

Opening Devotions/Caring Conversation: Pastor Laura Overbo

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve by Jessica Kruse. Seconded by Jan Birkeland. Motion carried.

Treats: Cindy Day

Review / Approve February 11, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Gwen McGillivray. Seconded by Jessica Kruse. Motion carried.

Review / Approve February 2025 Treasurer's Report:

- Total income for February \$75,718.05. Total expenses \$85,990.62. Leaving a deficit of \$10,272.57. Year-to-date income \$190,389.80. Year-to-date expenses are \$167,174.47. Leaving a surplus of \$23,215.43. 17.5% of budgeted income has been received, and 15.3% of budgeted expenses. The mission of the month was ELCA World Hunger, an additional \$1,138.78 was raised from the noisy can. Motion to approve by Matt Blackwelder. Seconded by Cindy Day. Motion carried.
- Reporting of income and expenses: Discussion about transparency of income and expenses and how to report weekly in bulletin and newsletter. Jessica Kruse made a motion to rename the "Promised" to now read as "Pledged" and to combine "Non-Promised" and "Loose" into one category and name it "Non-Pledged." Alan Stager seconded. Motion approved. Motion amended by Alan to include authorizing the business manager and treasurer to update the format of the Attendance and Offering area in the bulletin to reporting weekly financial status to "Pledged" and "Non-Pledged" and to update as needed. Jessica seconded. Motion carried.

Pastors' Reports:

- Council thanked Mark Iverson for crafting two silver holders for the candle tapers, which will be placed at the front of the church.
- Lent Theme: Savior, Servant, Friend: Lent season started this past week with Ash Wednesday.
- Pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey March 17-March 29: 49 people signed up to attend, including 29 members from LCOOR. Offering a trip to Egypt in January 2026.

- Teaching First Communion Class April 6, 10:30-12:00: Mini plates and chalices will be offered to First Communion Recipients. All 2nd graders, as well as anyone who has not yet received their First Communion, are welcome to participate.
- Pastor Dan leading Thursday Evening Bible Study: 24 signed up; 18 showed up.
- Pastor Laura leading 1st Tuesday Bible study

#### Old Business:

- Revisit in May: Will revisit PPP money after the air conditioning unit is paid for and installed.

#### New Business

- Review Job Descriptions and Finances for the Faith Formation position:  
Alan Stager moves to appoint Wendy Kruger as the Faith Formation Director instead of the assistant, effective immediately. The council will review and revise the Faith Formation Assistant position at a later date. Jan Birkeland seconded. Motion carried.  
Alan moves to amend the motion to take effect starting with the pay period paid on March 14, 2025. Gwen seconded. Motion carried.
- Sound and Technology Position:  
Zach will be graduating and moving at the beginning of May, 2025. Matt Blackwelder made a motion to approve and post this position. Ryan Nuttall seconded. Motion carried.
- Flags in Sanctuary:  
There was discussion about having state, national, and Christian flags in the sanctuary. According to flag etiquette, the flags would need to be positioned higher than the cross. The council decided to gather input and discuss the matter further with congregational members.
- Newsletter:  
The council discussed offering the newsletter in an electronic format to be emailed. Ryan Nuttall moved to transition to an electronic version, making it available via email and the website while also providing printed copies at the welcome center beginning in August 2025. Jan Birkeland seconded. Motion carried.
- Loan Payment- Celebration Date:  
A celebration will take place on April 27, 2025 during and after the 9:30 worship. Pastors wish to acknowledge the ongoing efforts and contributions that have supported the building.

#### Committee Reports

New member pictures were taken.

- Faith Formation - Jessica Kruse - no updates.
  - Next meeting April 7, 2025.
- Fellowship - Gwen McGillivray - Met February 19, 2025:

- Committee will serve soup for Community Lent on April 9, 2025.
- Diamond Dinner set for September 6, 2025.
- Voted against hosting Advent Tour of Nativities in 2025; proposing hosting it on alternate years.
- Reviewed 2024 Ladies Night Out: donated \$350 to Sleep in Heavenly Peace.
- 2025 Ladies Night Out set for November 10, 2025. Looking for possible entertainment ideas.
- Mission & Endowment- Pastor Laura (Ann absent)
  - Kathy McHenry (Lutheran Plan Generosity) will host an endowment education forum at 8:30 on April 13th and stay to give a temple talk during the 9:30 service.
  - Next meeting April 14, 2025.
- Policy - Ryan Nuttall - no updates
- Preschool - Kim Pearson - no updates
- Property - Alan Stager
  - New air conditioner has been ordered.
- Stewardship - Jan Birkland - met in January.
  - Mission of the Month recipients temple talks: Jody will get a video from April with Pine Ridge to be played during service. Members from Fallout Shelter will speak at the beginning of each service on April, 5, 6 and 9th.
  - New study looking for 12 congregations to partake in their stewardship trial called "6 Weeks on Money" (6weeksonmoney.com). It is a 6 week course on faith and money.
- Worship and Music- Cindy Day - no update
- Youth and Family- Matt Blackwelder - no update

Next Meeting: April 8, 2025

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

Treats: Gwen

Closing Prayer: Pastor Dan

Meeting Adjourned: Motioned by Jan Birkland, seconded by Jessica Kruse.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Lent Worship: Wednesday Night Theme: Savior, Servant, Friend
- April 17- Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30 With First Communion Recognition
- April 18 Good Friday Worship 6:30
- April 19 Easter Worship: 8:30 & 10:00 am
- April 21 Office Closed
- April 30, May 3 & 4 Confirmation Services
- May 7 & 11 Senior Recognition, Teacher Recognition and Thank you