

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Congregation Council  
Meeting Notes

10 April 2025

A.

Members present: Ken Holmes, Lora Houska, Roy Lawrenz, Pastor Beth Macha, Earl Macha, and Karen Zahn.

Excused Absent: Erika Schindel, Greg Stabbe, Lowell Suring.

Agenda items:

- A. Karen Zahn convened the meeting at 6:00 pm.
- B. Opening devotions/prayer
  - 1. Devotions and prayer were led Pastor Beth Macha on Jeramiah 29:11: We make plans and God laughs.
  - 2. May devotions/prayer will be led by Lora Houska.
- C. Agenda review and repair. Roy Lawrenz made a motion to accept the agenda, as revised. Ken Holmes seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - 1. Danish Festival.
  - 2. Kitchen responsibilities.
  - 3. Giving to the Congregation.
- D. Review, (revise), and accept meeting notes from the Council meeting on 13 March 2025.
  - 1. A motion was made by Earl Macha and seconded by Roy Lawrenz to accept the notes from the Council meeting on 13 March 2025. The motion was passed unanimously.
- E. Approval of the financial reports (until audited).
  - 1. General fund information was provided later in the meeting by Nancy Macha.
  - 2. Improvement fund
  - 3. Memorial fund
  - 4. Blessing Basket fund
  - 5. A motion was made by Earl Macha and seconded by Roy Lawrenz to accept the financial report of the General fund, as presented, until audited. The motion was passed unanimously.  
  
A motion was made by Ken Holmes and seconded by Lora Houska to accept the financial reports of the Improvement, Memorial, and Blessing Basket funds, as presented, until audited. The motion was passed unanimously.
- F. Monthly benevolence donations
  - 1. The monthly benevolence donations will be included in the quarterly meeting report.

F. President's report – Karen Zahn

1. Tony Lenz as resigned the Financial Secretary position. Beverly Hicks will fill in until a replacement is announced.

G. Pastor's report – Pastor Beth Macha.

1. A written report was provided.
2. Confirmation will be on 4 May.
  - i. Pastor Beth Macha has ordered bibles, two robes, and stolls for the Confirmands.
  - ii. Ken Holmes will purchase gift certificates from the ice cream stand for the Confirmands in our celebration of their Confirmation.
  - iii. Lora House will purchase cards and flowers for the Confirmands.

H. Reports of Committees That Have Met Recently.

1. Blessing Basket.
  - i. The financial report was received and accepted.
2. Building and Improvement/HVAC Sub-committee.
  - i. A written report was provided.
  - ii. Earl Macha has been making contacts with companies so they have colors and kinds of materials used in the church buildings on file (in addition to pictures of the buildings). This will help to make responses to repair and renovation needs quicker.
3. Memorial.
  - i. The financial report was received and accepted.
4. Worship and Music
  - i. The Committee needs to address removal of the old attendance slips from the pews. Lora Houska will let the Committee know they need that item on their agenda.

I. Old Business

1. Monitoring monthly cost of printing color copies.
  - a. Nancy Macha was not available to report on this item. Monitoring will continue and it will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
2. QR Codes will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

J. New Business (and added agenda items).

1. Danish Festival.
  - i. Positive feedback from members of the Congregation and from the community.
  - ii. Process for handling the funds needs to be clarified (i.e., General Fund or Women of the Church).

- iii. What kind of coffee should be served (i.e., Danish or regular).
- iv. Requesting monetary donations instead of individuals purchasing supplies worked well.
- v. Delivering orders to people that could not be there was a high point.
- 2. Project planning.
  - i. Congregational priorities and their costs.
  - ii. The Building and Improvement Committee will address this and report on the Congregation's priorities (e.g., automatic door openers, enhanced security, create a community safe-place in emergencies [will potentially need an industrial generator]).
- 3. Kitchen responsibilities.
  - i. There was a general discussion on who has responsibility for kitchen upkeep and maintenance.
  - ii. Roy Lawrenz made a motion that the Congregation is responsible for maintenance, repairs, and day-to-day supplies and cleaning. Earl Macha seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - iii. Following that discussion, Roy Lawrenz made a motion to compensate the janitor (cleaning person) for a one-time, additional cleaning of the kitchen. Earl Macha seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Karen Zahn will discuss this with our cleaning person.
- 4. Giving to the Congregation.
  - i. Tabled until the next meeting
- 5. The next meeting date will be Tuesday, 20 May at 6:00 pm.
- 6. Earl Macha moved and Ken Holmes seconded a motion to adjourn. President Karen Zahn declared the meeting adjourned.
- L. The meeting ended with recital of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:  
Lora Houska  
Recorder  
Lowell Suring  
Council Secretary