

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Congregation Council  
Meeting Notes

20 May 2025

Members present: Ken Holmes, Lora Houska, Roy Lawrenz, Pastor Beth Macha, Earl Macha, Erika Schindel, Greg Stabbe, Lowell Suring, and Karen Zahn.

Agenda items:

- A. Karen Zahn convened the meeting at 6:03 pm.
- B. Opening devotions/prayer
  - 1. Devotions and prayer were led by Lora Houska on Peter 1: Care for the common life; recognize the excellent quality of God.
  - 2. June devotions/prayer will be led by Ken Holmes.
- C. Agenda review and repair. Roy Lawrenz made a motion to accept the agenda, as presented. Lora Houska seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- D. Review, (revise), and accept meeting notes from the Council meeting on 10 April 2025.
  - 1. A motion was made by Earl Macha and seconded by Ken Holmes to accept the notes from the Council meeting on 10 April 2025. The motion was passed unanimously.
- E. Approval of the financial reports (until audited).
  - 1. General fund
  - 2. Improvement fund (approved quarterly – April)
  - 3. Memorial fund
  - 4. Blessing Basket fund
  - 5. A motion was made by Erika Schindel and seconded by Ken Holmes to accept the financial reports of the General, Memorial, and Blessing Basket funds, as presented, until audited.
    - i. It was questioned if the dedicated monies have been moved into the Improvement Fund from the General Fund. The Treasurer and manager of the Improvement Fund will address the question.
    - ii. The motion was passed unanimously.
- F. Monthly benevolence donations
  - 1. Crossways Camp                      \$100
  - 2. Nurses Nook                          \$591
- F. President's report – Karen Zahn
  - 1. With the Council meetings scheduled on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, it can be difficult to meet the newsletter deadline with the draft notes of the meeting. The Secretary will make a reasonable effort to distribute draft notes to Council members within 3 days after the meeting. Council members will then make a reasonable effort

to review the draft notes and respond to the Secretary. Once 3 responses have been received, and the newsletter deadline can be met, the Secretary will submit the notes for inclusion in the newsletter. If that deadline cannot be met, the Secretary will have the notes posted on the kiosk.

G. Pastor's report – Pastor Beth Macha.

1. A written report was provided.
  - i. A service for the celebration of the life of Marcia Wagner was held on 9 May 2025.
  - ii. Erika Schindel made a motion to reimburse Pastor Macha for the cost of 2 internet signal boosters for the Church building out of technology funds. The motion was seconded by Earl Macha and passed unanimously.

H. Reports of Committees That Have Met Recently.

1. Blessing Basket.
  - i. The financial report was received and accepted.
2. Building Maintenance and Improvement (BMI)/HVAC Sub-committee.
  - i. A written report was provided.
  - ii. The BMI Committee made a motion to replace the shingle roof with metal to provide longevity and to replace the siding with a no-paint-needed material. Color options will be decided by the membership. The motion was seconded by Erika Schindel.
    - a. The roofing will be made of a high grade of steel. Steel panels and steel shingles will be considered.
    - b. The siding will be a composite made from a blend of glass fibers and polymers, such as polystyrene that has enhanced durability and low maintenance.
    - c. The motion passed unanimously and will be presented to the membership at the next quarterly meeting
3. Men's Group
  - i. Members of the group are planning a Congregational picnic at Lee Lake on 17 July 2025. Also in the planning stage are attendance at a baseball game and automobile race.
  - ii. Also being planned is construction of an entry ramp for Al Winkler.
4. Memorial.
  - i. The financial report was received and accepted.
5. Women of Our Redeemer's
  - i. A written report was received.

I. Old Business

1. Monitoring monthly cost of printing color copies.
  - i. The Council will continue to monitor the cost associated with printing color copies. If the cost becomes excessive, alternatives will be discussed.
2. QR codes.
  - i. The Congregation will not begin using any new QR codes for financial matters until a replacement is selected for the Financial Secretary position.
4. Giving to the Congregation.
  - i. This will be discussed when a replacement is selected for the Financial Secretary position.
- J. New Business (and added agenda items).
  1. Review the Incident Report Policy.
    - i. Upon review, Roy Lawrenz made a motion to approve the policy as it stands. The motion was seconded by Ken Holmes and was passed unanimously.
  2. Financial Secretary.
    - i. Tony Lenz resigned as Financial Secretary as of 14 May. Beverly Hicks will serve in that position until a permanent replacement is appointed.
    - ii. The person filling the position should be a member of the Congregation.
    - iii. Consideration should be given to increasing the salary associated with the position.
    - iv. With Tony Lenz's departure an outside audit needs to be conducted on the associated financial records.
      - a. Lora Houska will contact Jill Wendt to ask her to conduct the audit.
      - b. Beverly Hicks and Tony Lenz will need to be at the audit.
  3. Added agenda items.
    - i. Recognition of this year's graduates
      - a. The Council will give the graduates cards of congratulations and gift cards for the ice cream stand in Suring.
  4. The next meeting date will be Tuesday, 24 June 2025 at 6:00 pm.
  5. Greg Stabbe moved and Earl Macha seconded a motion to adjourn. President Karen Zahn declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.
- L. The meeting ended with recital of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:  
Lowell Suring  
Council Secretary