

NOTE: This agenda will be in final form after being reviewed and approved at this Council meeting.

## Our Redeemer's Lutheran Congregation Council Meeting Notes v1.0

Meeting Date: September 16, 2025

**Members:** Lora Houska, Roy Lawrenz, Pastor Beth Macha, Earl Macha, Erika Schindel, Greg Stabbe, and Karen Zahn

**Absent:** Ken Holmes, Lowell Suring

Agenda items:

- 1) Convene meeting – Karen Zahn called to order at 6:00 pm
- 2) Opening devotions/prayer.
  - 1) Devotions and prayer were led by Erika, Psalm 33:11.
  - 2) Lora will lead October devotions/prayer.
- 3) Agenda reviewed with additional items added. Motion by Roy, second by Lora, and approved.
- 4) Minutes from August 12, 2025, were reviewed, and approved with corrections. Motion by Roy and seconded by Earl. Approved
- 5) Approval of the financial reports (until audited)
  - General fund
  - Improvement fund
  - Memorial fund
  - Blessing Basket fund
- ✓ All financial reports were approved with clarifications. A motion by Lora and second by Roy, motion carried.
- 6) Monthly benevolence donations
  - 1) Crossways Camp           \$100
  - 2) Nurses Nook               \$100
  - 3) ELCA World Hunger       \$500
- 7) President's report – Karen Zahn
  - 1) Karen suggested the monthly Council Agenda include the Church Council Calendar. Motion by Roy, second by Earl, motion carried.
- 8) ALL COMMITTEES should submit Summary Reports for the Quarter by the end of September to the Office Secretary.
- 9) Pastor's report – Pastor Beth Macha
  - 1) The Christmas Program is in need of planning. We will request someone to direct the program along with coordinating with Maddy and the music.
  - 2) Karen will respond to some paperwork the church received.

10) Committee Reports: Written reports are attached if submitted by a committee.

- i. Blessing Basket, financial report received.
- ii. Building and Improvement/HVAC Sub-committee, written report received.
- iii. Constitution, the synod is in the process of reviewing our document.
- iv. Decorating
- v. Education, next meeting October 29, 2025, at 9:00 am.
- vi. Evangelism/Stewardship
- vii. Landscape
- viii. Memorial, financial report received.
- ix. Men's Group
- x. Women of Our Redeemer's
- xi. Worship and Music

11) Old Business

- 1) Abelskiver money was divided into three donations, with the donations going to the groups voted on in August. The SMAC dollars will be designated for specific purposes. Motion by Roy, seconded by Lora. The \$1000.00 will be used at the discretion of Mary Smith for items they need, (such as seeds or irrigation equipment). Motion approved.
- 2) Cleaning position; some names have been suggested. Further discussion was held. Motion by Earl, second by Roy, to continue research regarding the position. Motion approved.
- 3) Opening and Closing Guidelines were reviewed. Some revisions were recommended to add to include usage guidelines as well. At the October meeting, we will look at the guidelines again after revisions.
- 4) Security, key boxes, locking doors. The Security subcommittee will meet. The discussion was tabled until October.

12) New business

- 1) Portico Pastor's Benefits - the Executive committee will meet and bring a proposal to the Church Council. All information and decisions are to be into the Synod office before October 14. A special Church Council meeting will be held September 28, 2025.
- 2) Quarterly meeting will be held October 19, 2025.
- 3) Budget Planning, ALL COMMITTEE BUDGETS, need to be submitted to Karen Zahn by November 1, 2025, for the 2026 year.
- 4) Fellowship Hall use:
  - Becky Jenko on October 4, 2025
  - Hickory Church October 25, 2025. Lora will open and close for them.
  - Motion to approve these plans by Earl, second by Roy. Approved.
- 5) Lutheran magazine; the magazine has recently started publishing recently and the last issue sent out. We will inquire what members would like to receive this quarterly magazine.
- 6) Time and Talent Sheets; the recommendation was made to send them out, to allow members to decide what opportunities or committees they want to be involved with.
- 7) Noisy Offering discussions moved to Oct.

13) Motion to Adjourn by Greg, second by Lora. Approved.

14) Closing with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Zahn