

Council Minutes
October 9, 2025 5:00pm

Members attending: Mary Koepke, Pastor Tom, Ron Egelseer, Steve Stretz, Scott Siegrist, Susie Grulke, Sonja Daly, guest Mary Hershoff

Prayer partners – “Where have you seen God at work this week?”- highs & lows
The Chosen made an impression on Susie’s daughter and her husband, Pastor attended Pastors appreciation event and had rewarding talk with other pastors, box city – all girl group – good relationships, Ron’s daughter donating a kidney, God provided a blessing at work

Recite: Our mission “Sharing God’s Love, Caring for Community”

Approve minutes: Review/approve previous meeting minutes

- Steve motion to approve, Ron second, all approved

Deepen: Devotions: Mary

Devotions next time? From Daily Grace, Women of ELCA, meet repentance with grace, think of yourself less and more of others. Have care for others, the “beloved community”.

Next Meeting: November 13, 2025

Pastor Tom next devotion

Soup Troop:

- Oct. 17th will be next cooking

Follow up on these items:

Prairie project—Mary Hershoff

- Mary presented drawing, Garrett working on CAD drawing to come, Gavin installing labyrinth Saturday, need to contact Earl on mowing – it is marked out, showed picture of benches that we will start with. Jim Lumstant already planted 6 arborvitaes. Discussed other aspects of the land, archway, and topology, rain garden, spraying before planting, etc. Will be presentation for congregation.

Mission Fund – Guidelines for Mission Fund requests continued.

Several items discussed, some revisions made.

(Final document not received. Mission Team to submit revised approved version.)

Also request for funds to be sent to Box City and Lutheran World Relief

- John motion to approve with revisions to 1b and 2a, Scott second, all approved.
- Mission team proposed \$500 to youth box city event – Family Promise, \$1000 LWR efforts in Gaza for reconstruction or food aid.
- Mary indicated funds from box city would go to Family Promise. Pastor indicated that another alternative would be for Redeemer considering Randy was there and did presentation. No motion made.

Mary indicated that there is money in mission fund for Olga / Redeemer.

- John motion to approve as originally proposed, Ron 2nd, all approved.

Belize Mission Team 2026, including motion presented by Pastor Tom; Further funding using Mission Fund?

- May have 10 people, one new person Paul Zuius's friend, 8 day trip thus \$500 additional per person. Funding looks ok with Italian dinner and other fund raising. If there is a short fall will address later.
- There was outstanding motion for \$630. for materials. Decision to take from Mission Fund. (may require some juggling if Mission Fund does not have money available now) Pastor motion, Steve Second, all approved.
- Sonja planning to turn in money for matching funds. She will contact Lee Chapman.
- Thrivent looking for volunteers to go to North Carolina, Ashville in February.

General topics:

Donation to scholarship fund clarification—Steve

- After discussion the assumption is that donations will go to principle. If someone designates that it be used in the current year that will be accommodated. This possibly would limit fund growth, which was intended to be a priority. If we get to a point where fund does not increase the scholarship fund team and council will address this in the future.

Intern—Pastor Tom

- Pastor had conversation during Wild Church walk with another pastor that intern may be one of the last ELCA pastors Our Saviors in Oconomowoc (shortages of pastors). He is affiliated with Lord of Life on Hwy P. His and his wife's parents go there. Thought St. Olaf would be good option for him.

Long-range planning—Pastor Tom

- *No report*

Stewardship, 2025: Living Generously

Thrivent presentation recap

What's been accomplished thus far including mailings, messages, video presentations

- Excellent progress and great work by Scott and team. Pastor indicated this is an important project. It reaches people. Thanks to people who have done videos. Went over schedule for next weeks.

Important dates: Leadership Dinner 10/30, Commitment weekend, Nov 8-9

- Invitations are out. Some handed out to those at meeting.
- Pastor will follow up with Shannon on emails to youth. Pastor feels it is important that giving be discussed in the home (more than just communications) Scott will also forward some emails to Shannon as needed.
- Need volunteers for egg bakes on Nov. 9th. Cheese plate from Mary K.

Internet/Phone provider—follow-up?

- No future report

Rodent Control—follow-up?

- Some progress. Don't know if they are finished or not. Don't know if they are done.

Council membership for 26,27—possible candidates?

- Jane was gone but Paul may be president and Linda Feutz as secretary.

Youth & Family Ministry –Scott

- Oct. 26th confirmation Sunday, 3 confirmands. Contacted necessary people for cake, flowers, etc.

Worship and Music-Gift card for Brian Bolling.

- Request for \$25 for gas card. Everyone agreed. Kathy will give Steve money from the good samaritan fund per Pastor

Property Committee –Roof repair? Dave

- Class 3 shingles, Wolf Exteriors, \$130,000 for church, \$4800 for church garage, \$18,500. for parsonage. Have not heard from other group that wanted to quote. Need to follow up with them.

Finance update —John

- Looking good, paid full insurance bill, normally do half but we have the funds. Thus, down a little bit but manageable. Everything else good.
- Approx. values as of 9/31, Gen. fund to use - \$26,190. Scholarship fund - \$126,000. 16.24% gain, Capital fund to use - \$89,620., Mission fund \$3,750., Youth \$12,680. (for details and exact amounts contact finance)

Vision Fund—

- 14.98 % gain. Approx.. \$5300. to spend.

Thrive Team:

- Met last month. Randy working with group to monthly help prepare food. Different groups can volunteer, Women of Grace, etc.
- Dec. 20th Christmas workshop again.
- Received another \$1500 from Marquette as part of training with them.

Closing: Lord's Prayer