

COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 20, 2026, 6:00 PM

HELD IN PERSON

IN ATTENDANCE

DAN STREHLOW, MARIA GATHJE, DOLORES PEMBLE, TRICIA BREMER, SAMMI WARNECKE, JEN KLOS, NATALIE CARDA, JUDY HANSEN, JOHN NYE, PASTOR GREG GEIER

CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT DAN STREHLOW – 6:02PM

SECRETARY'S REPORT

SAMMI WARNECKE

No changes noted to June Council Meeting Minutes.

Jen Klos made a motion to approve the June minutes.

Judy Hansen seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

TREASURER'S REPORT

DOLORES PEMBLE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Due to lack of agenda items, FMT did not hold a meeting in July. We approved the June financials by email. We will meet in August to begin the budget process for 2027.

Judy Hansen made a motion to approve the June minutes.

Natalie Carda seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

VP JUDY HANSEN

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Bike rack update – A work in progress. Glenda thought SPLC may have had a bike rack prior to the sanctuary construction project, but none has been found. The search has begun for a new rack to accommodate bikes of various sizes. Expected cost is about \$1,000. A donation of \$800 has already been committed.

The team has not met officially, but building and grounds care always continues. The AC recently went out in the new office wing. Following a service call from Binder, it is working again. The annual inspection of the sprinkler system and fire extinguishers occurred at the end of May. Upon follow-up, it was discovered two extinguishers were missed, so the vendor will need to return. Three small dead crab trees on the 15th street side were removed.

Parking lot cracks are scheduled to be repaired on August 10 by a new vendor. Light switches in the sanctuary & light control from the sound board are not functioning properly. A call will be

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made to Premium Electric to assess the situation. Also, some exit lights are out & will need our attention soon. Another matter pending is the dead tree by the fire pit. It will need to be taken down professionally. Rivertown Tree will be contacted for a quote.

Added during meeting: Repairs to light switches needed; air conditioning quotes already received for necessary repairs.

SERVING MINISTRY REPORT

TRICIA BREMER

FELLOWSHIP

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No update.

STEWARDSHIP

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

The Stewardship Ministry Team will meet the second Tuesday, August 11.

The agenda will be to select a theme, dates and names of members for temple talks and a date for pledge card Sunday followed by a pancake breakfast. It will likely be on "Christ the King" Sunday pending a conversation with Pastor Geier.

The newsletter continues to provide an article called "Stewardship Bits" which lifts up the 2026 theme "Rooted in Gratitude, Growing in Faith". In most months Gerri Lundby's selection for "Keeping Connected" is also under the stewardship banner. (Nothing was in July due to space concerns)

HR REPORT

NATALIE CARDA

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No meeting held.

WORSHIP MINISTRY REPORT

MARIA GATHJE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No meeting held.

LEARNING MINISTRIES REPORT

JEN KLOS

PRESCHOOL

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NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No meetings during summer.

FAITH FORMATION

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Planning for the 2027 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis is underway. It will take place June 28-July 2. Students entering grades 8-12 this school year are able to attend. Families will be asked to pay the \$175 nonrefundable deposit (plus incidentals). The remainder of the registration, lodging, and meals will be fundraised. We are currently planning on doing an envelope wall this fall, gift wrapping during the holiday season, a pasta dinner with a silent auction in February, and 1-2 parents' night out.

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No meeting held.

Added during meeting: Donations will be requested for youth room snacks.

COMMUNICATION, MARKETING, AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT

JOHN NYE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Bruce changed out the containers that hold the letters for the sign out front. We also cleaned out a junk drawer in the narthex.

PASTOR'S REPORT

PASTOR GREG GEIER

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

- I have tried to attend or at least be in touch with our ministry teams as well as our members in nursing homes, assisted living or otherwise homebound.
- Numerous pastoral care conversations and pre-marriage meetings.
- Had first Campfire Conversation on June 21st and second one on July 19th. I am guessing we moved the second one inside due to heat and smoke, but I will let you know.
- I lead worship at Oak Ridge on June 24th
- I attended a synod candidacy meeting in Shoreview on June 25th
- I led worship at Benedictine on June 29th
- I officiated at a service for George Beatty on July 9th
- I participated in our Vacation Bible School this week and it was awesome.

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- I have completed the remaining staff performance appraisals and met with our council president for mine

Discussion point brought forward by Pastor during meeting: If Pastor is too ill to lead worship, would people feel more comfortable if he refrained from coming to worship and had a substitute lead instead?

Majority opinion: If he is feeling well enough to come, then he should feel welcome to do so. If he is not, the council and others are here to step in and step up.

Discussion during meeting: Pastor would like to step back and allow for others to step in and step up for youth gathering volunteers. To put on agenda for NEW BUSINESS for August's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

JULY 4 EVENT – RECAP SUCCESSES AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR

- Ordered 15 cases and handed out 14 cases, remainder came inside for youth.
- Volunteers handed out water and pinwheels up and down the street and from the table.
 - Difficulty with carrying up and down the street, need a better method to carry bottles.
- For next year: Will bring wagons to hand out goodies up and down the street. Can put cooler right in the wagon. Can put a sign on the wagon/decorate so people know who the water is from.

NEW BUSINESS

THANK YOU TO BECKY AND ALL VBS VOLUNTEERS – ADD SIGNING THANK YOU CARD TO AUGUST AGENDA FOR NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Jen Klos made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Judy Hansen seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries and the meeting is adjourned at 6:31 PM.

CLOSING PRAYER

PASTOR GEIER LED THE GROUP IN CLOSING PRAYER

SUBMITTED BY SAMMI WARNECKE, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY