

COUNCIL MINUTES

JUNE 15, 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

ABSENT

JOHN NYE, PASTOR GREG GEIER

CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT DAN STREHLOW – 6:02PM

SECRETARY'S REPORT

SAMMI WARNECKE

No changes noted to May Council Meeting Minutes.

Natalie Carda made a motion to approve the April minutes.

Jen Klos seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

TREASURER'S REPORT

DOLORES PEMBLE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

FMT met by email this month to approve the May Financials due to the garage sale. No issues were identified. Updated garage sale total: \$21,352.

Jen Klos made a motion to approve the April minutes.

Maria Gathje seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

VP JUDY HANSEN

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

The spring grounds cleanup took place on May 16 with 20 volunteers answering the call. Bruce Arndtson brought in mulch from the Tree House to cover much of the prayer garden and partial area on the south side. He then went for another load making it possible to complete both sides of the front entrance. He also trimmed out the flowering crabs of low hanging branches. The big improvement was in the rain garden between the two driveways, which became an arduous task of cutting the winter grasses down to 10 inches and bagging them. Jeff Lucas did most of the cutting of the grasses. Robyn, Trish, Judy, and others worked that ditch most of the morning. Since that day Bruce and Brenda did some work independently on the west side of the garage by bringing in mulch after cutting down the weeds. They also trimmed out buckthorn plants which had volunteered themselves by a power pole on the south rim of the grounds.

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Two known service calls took place: Binder did a summer adjustment for the office area's AC operation and Majeski Plumbing was called to correct a malfunctioning spigot that serves the columbarium. Still pending are the crack fill repairs to the parking lot, which will be done in August. We were able to hold off on the major project of paving and striping until next year. There are three dead flowering crabs on the north side of the church. Bruce may be asking for some help from volunteers with removing those smaller trees.

SERVING MINISTRY REPORT

TRICIA BREMER

FELLOWSHIP

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No June meeting.

STEWARDSHIP

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

As known, Stewardship does not convene during the spring-summer season. We will resume activity in August as we lay out plans for the fall stewardship pledge campaign.

We're posting stewardship testimonies in the monthly newsletter from members of the committee. It's called "Stewardship Bits", please take note of it.

Keeping this year's Stewardship theme "Rooted in Gratitude, Growing in Faith" in the forefronts is our goal through these personal testimonies.

HR REPORT

NATALIE CARDA

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No report submitted.

WORSHIP MINISTRY REPORT

MARIA GATHJE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Service Debrief: Services have been going well with consistent attendance. Average attendance the last four Sundays in May was 144. Appreciation was expressed for Pr. Sharot who was the guest minister on May 31. Music has been good. There have been requests to ensure balance of voices for the online listeners when Unity sings. The article that Marge wrote featuring the Altar Guild co-chairs, Judy Liffrog and Lois Wrogge, was nicely done.

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Council: CMT will see that the Double Down Daredevils will be noted on the corner sign for the outdoor service on June 14. CMT will purchase a new sign featuring St. Philip's that can be used for the 4th of July parade as well as other future events.

Music planning

- June 21: Unity (New hymn to introduce)
- June 28: Song leader: Jan Kochendorfer
- July 5: Praise Band; Meg Rein
- July 12: Jan Kochendorfer
- July 19: Unity
- July 26: Jan Kochendorfer

Outdoor Service: June 14, same set-up as last year with the band on the sidewalk and congregation facing them on the grass. Fellowship will serve treats. There will be a rolling cart with the cross, chalice and wafer for communion words of institution. Congregation will get kits. Offering will be placed in offering plate before the service at another rolling cart with bulletins and communion kits. Ushers will bring the offering forward for the prayer.

LEARNING MINISTRIES REPORT

JEN KLOS

PRESCHOOL

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No meetings during summer.

FAITH FORMATION

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No report submitted.

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No report submitted.

COMMUNICATION, MARKETING, AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT

JOHN NYE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

No report submitted.

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PASTOR'S REPORT

PASTOR GREG GEIER – READ IN BY DAN STREHLOW

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.
- I attended the Hastings Ministerial Association on May 27th at Life Tabernacle.
- I lead worship at Oak Ridge on May 27th
- High School Orchestra Concert on May 27th
- Premarital meeting, rehearsal, and wedding for Katelynn Krey and Alex Schweich on June 1, 11, & 12.
- On June 2, Amy and I served 63 garage sale volunteers at church at our baked potato bar.
- Although it has been my goal to complete our staff ministry team performance appraisals by our June council meeting, that has not happened this year for a number of reasons. I plan on completing them by the time we meet next month.
- **On a personal note:** Since our last council meeting, I spent 5 days at my father-in-law's in Napa, CA, and three days in Glendale for my granddaughter's dance recital. (It is just my humble opinion, but there is no reason in all of God's good creation that a dance recital needs to last 2 ½ hours.) In addition, I will be missing this council meeting as grandparent duties are once again needed while my daughter-in-law undergoes a procedure and I will be gone this next week. I will be able to work remotely and available via phone for emergencies.
- Sometime during Garage Sale prep week, I contracted what is commonly known as the Romulan Respiratory Rot. Although I led worship on Sunday, after 30+ years I am still trying to discern what is the best and most faithful practice. I have largely been working and sleeping downstairs this past week waiting for this to run its course. The biggest drawback is that pastoral care conversations are limited to phone or Zoom calls.

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OLD BUSINESS

JULY 4 EVENT

- Banner – previously assigned to John Nye. Need to follow up – is it ready?
- HCTV will not be recording this year.

NEW BUSINESS

WEBSITE UPDATES

- John Nye now has access to the website to manage updates and ensure accuracy.
 - Talk to ministry teams about reviewing current website info and how to request updates that are needed. All requests should go to both John Nye and Deborah Dreher.
 - Dan asked if everyone was in favor – all present were in agreement.
 - John can communicate with Deborah Dreher regarding updates to the website.

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 6:25 PM.

CLOSING PRAYER

DAN STREHLOW LED THE GROUP IN CLOSING PRAYER

SUBMITTED BY SAMMI WARNECKE, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY