

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAY 18, 2026, 6:00 PM

HELD IN PERSON

IN ATTENDANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT DAN STREHLOW – 6:02PM

SECRETARY'S REPORT

SAMMI WARNECKE

No changes noted to April Council Meeting Minutes.

Judy Hansen 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

The FMT met by email this past week as there was not any business to discuss in person. The April treasurer's report was sent out, questions addressed and it was passed by email vote. Traditionally, our June meeting is also by email because it directly follows our garage sale. Our next in person meeting will be July 13 @ 6:30 pm.

Maria Gathje made a motion to approve the April Treasurer's Report.

Judy Hansen seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

VP JUDY HANSEN

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

The parking lot requires only crack repair this year. Seal King will come on August 9 and complete the project for just under \$1600. We will budget for sealing and striping in 2027 if we see the need. A detached down spout by the west door was repaired by Steve Wolverton. The eaves in the courtyard were flushed out by Bruce Arndtson.

A spring clean-up is scheduled for May 16 from 9 to 11:30. Goals for the morning include weeding, trimming (especially the decorative grasses), and spreading new mulch. Bruce Arndtson will bring in 8 buckets of mulch from the Tree House for just over \$200. An additional 30 bags were purchased from ACE, costing \$72. Details from the day will be provided at Monday's council meeting.

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SERVING MINISTRY REPORT

TRISH BREMER

FELLOWSHIP

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SURVEY OF FAMILIES: We looked over survey that pastor shared with us last month. We had nothing to react to it at this time.?
2. JUNE 14 OUTDOOR WORSHIP: We will set up on the sidewalk, on west side of grass area. Becky said she's going to invite families to play on the playground and have other activities after the worship time. Camille will pick up 100 sundaes. Pam, Brenda, Darla and Glenda will set up and serve. 2 tables, coolers, checkered table cloths, napkin holders, waste baskets. Camille will request tables set out, Cancel donuts. Becky plans for children's activities.
3. ADMISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY: Flowers and card were given to Dawn.
4. LEDUC CONCERT AND PIE AUGUST 30: Glenda said she'll have something in the August bulletins, (newsletter?) sign up for help and donations.
5. BELLS OF THE BLUFF: Brenda said they served 108 after the concert. Thanks, Brenda for helping LuAnn Roiger serve pinwheel sandwiches, bundlet cakes, drinks.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. FOURTH OF JULY PARADE: Council asked if we could have something, which starts at SEAS at 7:00 and goes past our yard, ending at golf course. We discussed having sign that says, "FREE WATER" and have about 200 bottles of water available. We'd need table and receptacle for recycle. Someone will need to purchase the water, ice, bring coolers. Glenda, Patty and Al, Pam and Kent would be around. Camille will put something in newsletter and sign up for kiosk.
2. WEBSITE UPDATE: We submitted a revised paragraph highlighting our mission and a few activities we do.
3. PRESCHOOL ACKNOWLEDGMENT: In appreciation for all they do under difficult circumstances for many years, and as a wonderful outreach in the community, we decided to purchase thank you gifts and cards for the Preschool staff. Camille bought 4 plants, cards and \$25 gift cards for Cub and Kwik Trip for a total of \$154.

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4. **NEW MEMBERS RECEPTION IN SUMMER:** Glenda said they have a few families that would probably be ready to join, so she and Pastor will set up a date sometime in summer. She'll let us know so we can help with treats for reception.
5. **WORSHIP CENTER:** Brenda generously volunteered to monitor and review once a month for any supplies needed. She'll let Camille know so order request form can be submitted. Camille will change donut holes order to 4 doz. for summer.
6. **GRADUATE SUNDAY?** Camille will ask Lydia if she has donuts or other treats for that Sunday, we'll see about cancelling donut holes.
7. **SUMMER HIATUS:** We won't meet in June and July. We'll keep connected with emails when necessary.

STEWARDSHIP

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

The Stewardship Ministry Team remains on pause until August. Monthly articles done by a team member show up in each newsletter. Note that Krystal Ebel wrote for May, Sam Willis will write for June on the theme "Rooted in Gratitude, Growing in Faith."

HR REPORT

NATALIE CARDA

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Assisted Dawn Owen, as needed, with administrative responsibilities.

Posted Director of Children's Choir in weekly bulletin.

WORSHIP MINISTRY REPORT

MARIA GATHJE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Service Debrief: Services have been going well with consistent attendance. They seem to be upbeat with much enthusiasm. Several visitors have been present. Praise worship is going well with some experimenting of format. Haven did a nice job singing. There are other youth members with musical talents that would be welcome to participate in worship. There was a request to have a time for silent prayer. Pastor requested that musical pieces during worship be timed so that he could better plan for reasonable length of service. It was also suggested that the number of verses in hymns could be cut if necessary.

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Council: There was discussion about advertisement for special services. In the future, W&M can notify CMT of such requests in a timely manner and have them get the information on the corner sign and on the web site, etc.

Music planning:

- May 17: Unity
- May 24: song leader: Maria Gathje (Memorial Day weekend)
- May 31: song leader: Jan Kochendorfer
- June 7: Praise Band
- June 14: Double Down Daredevils (Outdoor worship)
- June 21: Unity (New hymn to introduce)
- June 28: Song leader: Jan Kochendorfer

Easter Flowers: Altar guild will be purchasing toile fabric to use for future flower arrangements. It will not be used for Christmas, as they are all poinsettias.

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.

LEARNING MINISTRIES REPORT

JEN KLOS

PRESCHOOL

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

- Next year's spots filled (capacity for spots is 32 per day)
M/W/F 17
T/Th 6
- Rachel will not be returning next school year. We are definitely sad to be losing her but at this point with the numbers we have for next year we will not be looking to hire anyone for the fall and will run as a staff of three.
- We had our annual licensing visit in April everything went well.
- We went to Carpenters Nature center on May 7th.
- End of year program on May 21/22
- While the program will be losing some money this year we are still financial doing ok to remain open for next year. (taking it one year at a time) We work hard to be as financial

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responsible as possible, fundraise, get most snacks donated by families, and hope for higher in enrollment in the future to help as well.

- Our plan is to communicate over the summer with our team via email and meet later in the summer when classrooms and staffing decisions need to be made.

FAITH FORMATION

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

- Middle/high school RSVP will be added. We need this for planning/purchasing.
- Middle/high school family surveys
 - Events attended
 - Likes/dislikes/ what are you looking for
 - What would you be willing to help with
- Middle bonfire and pickle ball for high school for June
- Children ministry event outdoor playground and games after outdoor service June 14th
- VBS security policy was discussed and planned
- Will discuss with rest of team to decide on meeting in the summer and a new possible date for fall.

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Budget

For 2026, assume \$600 budget

\$100 for Krishona Martinson, Krishona declined honorarium

\$100 for Jim Dontje & Laura Lindell, [paid]

Others?

Newsletter: Next submission will be done by August 15 for September.

Mics: How to handle, storage, charging? Currently, Chuck has been bringing home and charging for the next Sunday. Doug will check with John Diischer about storing and charging at the sound (AV) center in the sanctuary

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Bulletins: The committee wishes to have two Adult Forum events in each Sunday's bulletin; this week and next Sunday's program. Pastor Geier will visit with Dawn about this.

Funerals & Memorial Services: Pastor Geier will look into having a pdf of St. Philip's Handbook on the church's website. Based on the interest of Starkson's presentation, should brochures be added to the forarys wall display? The committee will think about this.

Recommendation that a funeral / memorial service presentation be done annually

May

5/3 Caryn Josephson from Bega Kwa Bega, Doug to take the lead

5/10 No program

5/17 No program

5/24 Memorial Day weekend

Summer programs

Campfire teachings—Pastor Geier will handle, be in charge, submit information to Newsletter and Bulletin. Title: Sabbath-God's gift to the people. Monthly programs, total of three

Next meeting June 22, 2026 at 6:00 pm via Zoom. [Skipping a May meeting]

COMMUNICATION, MARKETING, AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT

JOHN NYE

NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

Discussion was held about cmt being responsible for changing the signage lettering out at the street sign. We went out to look at the sign and at the next meeting we are going to bring stuff to clean the sign and then will change the lettering to the request that had been presented.

We have worked with HCTV for the last two-ish years during the parade so whatever's needed we can help. I think in the past they have given us a shout out during the broadcast or in the description. Maybe they could give us a shout out and give info of service times and such.

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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.
- Visited with two potential new members as well as several pastoral care conversations.
- I attended the Hastings Ministerial Association on April 22nd at New Life EV Free.
- I lead worship at Park Ridge and at Oak Ridge on March 25th
- Preschool Chapel on April 22nd and 23rd and May 5th and 6th.
- Council & Leadership Retreat on April 26th (See attached evaluations)
- Attended SPLC Preschool Culver's Night on April 28th.
- I led worship at Oak Ridge on April 29th
- 30 youth and adults participated in our Confirmation/Family FMSC event in Eagan on May 6th.
- 5th grade orchestra, 6th grade orchestra, 7th grade orchestra, and 8th grade orchestra concerts on May 12th
- I provided transportation to and from a clinic appointment for a member
- On Friday May 15th and Saturday May 16th Dan Strehlow, Katy Lindberg, Kathy Luedke and myself attended our synod assembly and elected a new bishop.
- I will be out of the office May 19-23, and 28-31.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel.

Your Servant in Christ,

Gregory A. Geier, Pastor

LEADERSHIP RETREAT CLOSING EVALUATION

April 26, 2026

What did you enjoy most?

- Discussion on a SPLC level, personal and global level.
- Hearing and discussing the views of others.
- One on one connections.
- Nice to talk with others about how we can better serve our congregation.
- Sharing life experiences or thoughts.
- Visiting with other members.
- Open discussion with judgement, opportunity to participate.

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- Open thought and opinion sharing.
- Discussions on leaders.
- Characteristics of Servant Leaders.

From what did you feel you gained the most benefit?

- Time for personal connection in guided conversation as well as free time.
- Connection with other church leaders I don't normally see or work with.
- Connecting biblical teachings with our role as church leaders.
- Connection to Bible passages.
- Being with fellow leaders.
- Biblical discussions.
- Perspective, motivation to do more or act differently, basic knowledge of peers, getting to know each other on a different level.
- More perspective on the topics discussed.
- Honestly the fellowship with those at my table because it is hard sometimes to connect at church after service.
- Need to do more.

What would you like us to keep from this retreat for next year's retreat?

- Thought provoking conversation.
- Getting to know others personally. Discussing leadership equalities and actions.
- All good!
- Structure is good.
- Great baked potato lunch.
- Focus on leaders specifically for St. Philip's.
- Snacks-great options, thank you! Intentional/purposeful breaks, not planned, but think about this.
- Ice breaker, food, location.
- Please keep the devotionals at break time. And the chocolates 😊.
- Pray breaks.

What would you like to see changed for next year, and how?

- How this retreat is "advertised" to the congregation to encourage more attendance.
- More ice breakers and opportunities to discuss topics in smaller groups.
- Mix up the tales to get to know more people.
- Any way to get more to participate.

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- Shorten the agenda by an hour.
- Earlier in year, maybe shorter time frame.
- Introductions at start, to know people's roles in council/committees, etc. Suggested resources or take aways. Walking discussion-great trails/location, take advantage.
- More work-shopping or the opinions and experiences of others.
- More members to attend.

Discussed during meeting: Try and make sure congregation knows it's open to all - advertise differently than a "Leadership Retreat" and instead a "Spiritual Retreat for Members Interested in Service and Leadership."

OLD BUSINESS

PARKING LOT REPAIR

Scheduled for Aug 9, just under \$1600 estimate.

COMPUTER REPLACEMENTS AND ADDING BACKUP/STORAGE

No need to replace - all are working as needed.

JULY 4TH EVENT

Water bottle purchase and distribution given to Fellowship Committee to spearhead, they can reach out to Council if budgetary adjustments are necessary. Authorized to purchase 200 water bottles. (Amended to a budgetary amount rather than water bottle amount, below.)

Jen Klos made a motion to approve \$100 budget for water bottle purchase.

Judy Hansen seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries

Banner: Try to find old banner, or purchase new?

Dolores Pemble moves we order a new banner up to \$300

Jen Klos seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

John Nye will order the banner on behalf of CMT.

NEW BUSINESS

HCTV ACCESS TO POWER DURING 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Dolores will reach out to HCTV to initiate the discussion and find out if they would still like access this year.

Jen Klos moves to allow HCTV to use our power during the parade.

Judy Hansen seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries.

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ADJOURNMENT

John Nye made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Tricia Bremer seconded the motion.

All in favor, the motion carries and the meeting is adjourned at 6:43 PM.

CLOSING PRAYER

PASTOR GEIER LED THE GROUP IN CLOSING PRAYER

SUBMITTED BY SAMMI WARNECKE, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY