

**Church Council Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 14, 2017 - 6:30 pm**

<b>Meeting Location:</b>		
OSLC		

***OUR MISSION: Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith, prayer, fellowship and service through Jesus Christ.***

1. The meeting was called to order by Rocky Millis. Members present were Rocky Millis, Kyle Vavruska, Rod Custer, Andy Fett, Pastor Stephan Sandness, Laura Campbell, Wendy Soulek, Tammi Martin, and Eric Hunt
2. Devotions were shared by Rod Custer. Rod compared Christian values and cultural values. Some values are shared, but often times they do not align. We are challenged to live out our Christian values in a culture that doesn't always value things in the same way.
3. The agenda was approved with a motion by Rod Custer and a second by Tammi Martin. The motion carried.
4. January Council Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion by Kyle Vavruska and a second by Tammi Martin.
5. Tammi Martin shared the January Treasurer's Report. Income less Expense for the month resulted in a surplus of \$6,449.96. Two other items of note were snow removal and utility bills. Both were a bit higher than what was budgeted, due to low temperatures and above average snowfall.
6. Ministerial Staff Reports –

Laura – has been leading women's bible study on Galatians. Laura also attended an ELCA Region 3 Hunger Retreat in Alexandria, MN. There are many churches connecting with world hunger projects. Laura noted a project that she learned about that is happening in Aleppo, Syria. ELCA World Hunger helped locals set up a bakery that provides for those in need. Laura meets with the Faith and Care committee to discuss plans once a year. There are no plans as of yet to change the process for recruiting ushers, communion servers, etc. Laura recently took some vacation time with her dad and brother.

Pastor Stephan – Stephan noted that there have been many baptisms and funerals already this year. Pastor has been leading an "adult confirmation" class on Sunday mornings. These sessions have been well attended. Lent planning has begun. 2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lutheran reformation. This will be tied into the Lent services in some fashion. The Listen, God is Calling Campaign was well received. There was a great response from church members. Pastor has also been planning a high school youth trip for the summer. The youth will be returning to Sky Ranch.

7. Committee Updates –
  - a. Senior Ministry – Having a pizza party on 2/23
  - b. Education – 25 youth are registered for camp. Camp families will be hosting an Ash Wednesday soup supper as a fundraiser.
  - c. Mission – Guatemala/Sharing the Dream Group returned home on 2/13.
  - d. Property – Roof gutters have some leaks. Ice damming has also been an issue at some of the eaves. The committee may investigate the possibility of installing heat tape.
  - e. Nomination Committee – will be meeting soon to nominate new council members
8. Technology / Communications – Pastor Stephan would like to assemble a team to investigate the possibility of a new website and/or mobile phone application. There is a trend toward digital communication and giving. More and more people, particularly younger generations receive communication and obtain information from websites and mobile phone applications. This may be a way to reach more people and communicate more effectively with current church members.
9. Laura Campbell's deacon commissioning will take place on Sunday, February 26 at the 8:30 service. Bishop Dave Zellmer will attend.
10. Snow Removal Update – Eric and Troy have been doing a great job with all of the snow this winter.
11. Pastor Stephan briefly discussed the Epiphany lesson for Sunday, February 19. Jesus calls us to be "Perfect, as your Father is perfect." This is a difficult command to live up to. However, Pastor explained that in this context, perfect means "completed." Jesus calls us to live up to our identity, to be how God has made us to be.
12. Kyle Vavruska motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rocky seconded. Council closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

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<b>Next Council Meeting:</b> <a href="#">March 14, 2016, 6:30 p.m.</a>
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