

**Salem Lutheran Church Council  
May 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Fred Blom, Cory Olson, Robin Schwaegerl, David Johnson, Carman Mills, Dori Bechtle, Duane Eull, Colleen Kahler, Tom Ellingboe, Pastor Sam  
**Others:** Jackie Lindvall  
**Call to Order** at 7:00pm by President Fred Blom  
**Opening Prayer** by Pastor Sam

**Secretary's Report** for April

Motion: Approve the Secretary's Minutes of the April 15, 2025 meeting  
Motion made by Carman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cory Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** Given by Jackie L

Motion: Approve the April 2025 Treasurer's Report.

Motion made by Cory 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Motion carried.

After discussion on the upcoming Synod Assembly it was decided to send an offering with Pastor Sam. A motion was made by Robin to send \$300 as an offering to the Synod Assembly. Second by Dave Motion carried

**Additions to Agenda--**

- **Salem Scholarship representative attended event and presented to six applicants who qualified.**
- **General conversation about "safety" and "accessibility" during events.** Do we need to consider additional training/awareness or safety measures for when guests are seeking spiritual guidance based on availability of office and pastor availability?  
We will have further discussions with groups and volunteers who are using the church.

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor Sam reported on his recent retreat in Nebraska.

**Committee Reports**

**\*Fellowship/Outreach/ Social Ministry and Evangelism** – The committee will be serving coffee on Senior Recognition Sunday for our 6 Seniors.

**\*Stewardship** – No report

**\*Property** – No report

**\*Worship and Music** – The combined choir will sing a blessing for the Seniors on Sunday. Maddie Van Binsbergen will be playing for more services this summer. June 8<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday, worshipers are asked to wear orange, yellow or red.

**\*Christian Education/Youth** – Vacation Bible School will have a Pool Party theme this summer. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class has begun meeting with the Youth Group

**\*Endowment** – They have met and have no requests at this time.

**Old Business**

- **11 Ft. - O. Ray Swanson Memorial Cross (location, backlighting, other).** Status on decision(s) by property committee?  
Motion made by Robin Approve the placement of the cross in the flower garden. With the guidance of the Property Committee to implement the project with funds from the property fund. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dori Motion carried
- **Dave Eekhof idea for a congregational social dinner event** It is suggested that the dinner take place around Valentines Day. This will be an adult event. Status update from social committee meeting with Dave? Table until further information is gathered.
- **Green Lake Lutheran Ministries' "At the Water's Edge Capital Campaign" request.** Remains open for further discussion from April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Table until the fall
- **Kids in the Community Day** – Pastor Sam update. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking a tour of the Food Shelf and then putting together hygiene packages for the Food Shelf. The students will also be raking and cleaning up around the church.

**New Business**

- **Organist is seeking an estimate to repair the organ.** The organ is in need of cleaning and repairs. The estimated cost of this is around \$900. Dave made a motion to make the needed repairs to the organ. Requesting the congregation to make donations for the cost of the repairs. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carman Motion carried.
- **How do we (as a congregation) stay more connected to the Lac Qui Parle Conference and SW MN Synod?** A written report will be put in the newsletter and bulletin after the Synod Assembly.
- **Financial Audit for 2024. If required, did it occur?** Yes, the audit was done.
- **Green Lake Capital Fund raising.** No action taken
- **Are the cameras outside the Strombeck room with the office monitor working?** Fred will check with other churches to see how they handle security. The council will also check into options for improving our present system.