ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday June 16, 2026, 6:30pm

Voting Members Present: Mark Johnson, DJ Klema, Melinda Olson, Paul Phillips, Pastor Teri Sutherlin, and Gaylon Walter
Voting members Absent: Lee Keffer, Amber Ruggels, Afton Brown, Hadlee Brown nonvoting member and Heather Pohlman
Others Present: Brenda Yoder

INVOCATION/CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Gaylyn Walter called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Pastor Teri Sutherlin led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT

It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the May minutes. It was also moved, seconded and passed to approve the May treasurer's report as presented.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Building use agreement was added to New Business

COMMUNICATIONS

n/a

REPORTS

EDUCATION – Afton Brown reported things are mostly quiet as Sunday School is not in session. She will be preparing for the upcoming Sunday School year soon. Kristy is working on the acolyte schedule for the upcoming school year. She is thankful for the collaboration and help.

EVANGELISM/PARISH FELLOWSHIP/SOCIAL MINISTRY – no report

PROPERTY – Have been working on getting bids for work needing to be done and will review in Unfinished and New Business.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE – The Balance Sheet on General Funds was submitted.

TECHNOLOGY – Pastor Teri Sutherlin reported that the Microsoft subscription had expired and needed to be renewed. She renewed it under the Family plan for $129.99.

WORSHIP & MUSIC – Melinda Olson shared feedback from the first two weeks of using the new worship bulletin. The Saturday evening service did not favor it, while some at the 8:15 service are trying it but suggested using the green hymnal. The 10:30 service appears to be more accepting of it at this point. It was suggested that psalms be printed in the bulletin, and this was done last week already. The question was asked about how much time is needed to produce the bulletin this way and the answer was around 3 hours whereas the bulletin the other way was around half an hour. The council discussed feedback and observations so far. Members were encouraged to share additional thoughts and ideas with the Worship and Music Committee.

YOUTH – no report

CEMETERY – no report

PASTOR - Pastor Teri Sutherlin submitted a written report and reviewed the key highlights with the council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Assoc. Bishop -Chad Langdon – He will be in contact with Lee Keffer to review possible dates to come meet with the Council.

b) Council Member Search – Afton Brown shared in her notes that no one she reached out to was interested in the position. Brenda Yoder is thinking about the position and attended the meeting tonight.
c) Mutual Ministry – This was covered in Pastor Teri's report.
d) Brick work on the building – Gaylon Walter reviewed the bid for the project. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the bid.
e) Pastoral Evaluation Member (Sherri Stoppel) – It was discussed if we need to vote on Her and it was decided that since she is a member of the church that did not need to happen.
f) Custodian – Gaylon Walter reported that only one application had been submitted but attempts to contact the applicant for an interview were unsuccessful. The council discussed the need to think creatively about filling the position and whether it must be filled immediately. They will wait to hear whether Lee Keffer had any success contacting the people he planned to reach out to.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Plumbing work at the parsonage – Gaylon Walter reviewed the three bids with the Property Committee and recommended Budget Plumbing for $4,561.25. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept this bid. An additional city charge of approximately $2,500 to $3,000 is expected for street repairs after the work is completed.
b) Building use agreement – Kim Stopple requested use of the building on September 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., for a reception honoring Juanita Flegler's 85th birthday. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the agreement. The council then discussed waiving the $150 fee, and a motion was made, seconded, and approved to do so.

DISCUSSION

n/a

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT AND LORD'S PRAYER

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 5:30 pm.
Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 6:30 pm.