ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday May 19, 2026, 6:30pm

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

INVOCATION/CALL TO ORDER

President Lee Keffer called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Pastor Teri Sutherlin led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT

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

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

n/a

COMMUNICATIONS

n/a

REPORTS

EDUCATION –The Vacation Church school was a success. There were 90 May-Day baskets made and delivered to nursing homes and Sunday School is over until the next school year starts back up.

EVANGELISM/PARISH FELLOWSHIP/SOCIAL MINISTRY – no report

PROPERTY – A bid has been received for the parsonage drains, and we are seeking another bid for the repairs. A bid has also been received for the brickwork at the church, and we are trying to obtain at least one more.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE – We have $4014.68 for the backpack fund.

TECHNOLOGY – no report

WORSHIP & MUSIC – The committee has met twice, and the pastor prepared a bulletin for the church council to consider approving for summer use through August. At that time, the council will review whether to continue using this format with congregational input. Approximately twenty large-print bulletins will still be available for those who need them. A prayer request was also made for Jared Bender.

YOUTH – The last gathering was this past Wednesday, and they went to Hays to play Put-Put golf and had dinner out. They will not start back up until the beginning of the next school year.

CEMETERY – no report

PASTOR - A written report was submitted by Pastor Teri Sutherlin.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Custodial Position – We have one application and are looking to interview this coming week.
b) History Display – The items have been moved to 425 youth room.
c) Executive Committee duties – There was a motion to accept, it was seconded and passed to accept the Executive Committee duties as written.
d) Pastor Evaluation Committee – No one responded to the request for a volunteer so we decided to reach out and ask if Garret Stoppel would agree to help in the evaluation.

e) Vacant Council Position – Again no one responded to the request for a volunteer so we are going to reach out to Nathan Ryan to see if he would be willing to fill the open position for the rest of the year.
f) Lent Donation and Lift High the Cross Money $70.00 – there was no breakdown of the amount received from the Wednesday night services. It was decided to donate $1100 to the selected group and add the $70 from Lift High the Cross to the amount. A motion was made to donate $1170 to the Food Pantry, it was seconded and passed.
g) Associate Bishop Contact – A motion was made to go into Executive Session for 15 minutes starting at 7:10 pm and was seconded and passed. At 7:26 a motion was made, seconded and passed to go again into Executive Session for 10 minutes. At 7:37 a motion was again made to go into Executive Session for 10 minutes that was seconded and passed. We broke out at 7:43. The decision was made to Contact Rev. Chad Langdon.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Church Attendance - Decision was made about adding our online worshipers so everyone can see the totals.
b) Contacting Pastor – was discussed in Executive Session.
c) Synod Assembly viewing, setup and tech host - It was decided to leave it open to anyone wanting to attend.
d) Conference Gathering – Bethlehem at Wakeeney / Assaria at Salina – The information was reviewed.
e) Worship and Music- Bulletin / Hymnals – This was discussed under Worship and Music Committee. It was added that the bulletins would start the first week of June. It was moved, seconded and passed to go forward with the abbreviated bulletin experiment and use of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnals.
f) Pastor Frerich's 65th Anniversary of Ordained Ministry will be celebrated at the June 6, 2026, Synod Assembly. A card was passed around for the Council to sign.
g) Parsonage plumbing bid – covered in Property in Reports
h) Brick work on Church bid – covered in Property in Reports

DISCUSSION

a) Memorials – 3 new (currently) – John Schwien, $3310 more has come in with more expected, Nadene Albrecht's to the Cemetery Fund, and Gladys Standley's memorial has given to the 425 Youth Group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT AND LORD'S PRAYER

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 9th, 2026, at 5:30 pm.
Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 16th, 2026, at 6:30 pm.