

Shepherd of the Valley Council Minutes

July 22, 2025 met in person

Present: Steve Larsen, Phil Smalley, Pastor Leslie, Carolyn Ciaccio, Pearl Fortman, Kevin Nitz, LaVon Downing, and Barbara Pearson.

Absent: Janette Erickson, Shelley Pierson

The meeting was called to order by Steve at 7:00 pm.

- Pastor Leslie opened the meeting with prayer.
 - Reviewed Junes joint council meeting minutes. Motion by Phil to approve them, 2nd by Kevin. Motion carried.
 - Reviewed Julys agenda. Motion to approve by LaVon, 2nd by Kevin. Motion carried.
 - Pastor report – A copy of her report is posted on the kiosk in the front hall. Pastor will be out of the office for the Synods' Conference on 9/15/25 thru 9/17/25.
 - Old business:
 - Only business on which a vote is needed will be discussed. None needed.
 - New business: Important dates to remember:
 1. Ordination for Pastor Elect Leslie Aska on Sunday August 10th @ 3:00pm at First Lutheran Church. We need a supply pastor for that day. Phil to arrange that.
 2. Joint Council Meeting with First Lutheran Monday September 22nd @ 6:00pm at SOTV.
 3. First Joint Congregation Sunday Service Sunday September 28th @ 10:00am at SOTV.
 4. Finding Vitality in Scrappy, Small Congregations Workshop August 22nd and 23rd. We wish to send three individuals to attend. LaVon has volunteered.
 5. Do we want to change the council meeting time from 7:00pm to 6:30pm? We will be discussing this with the members that were not in attendance tonight.
 - Committee reports:
 - Outreach: a.)** Ruthie's kitchen on 8/30/25. Check with Carolyn if wishing to be of service. Money is being donated to fund the food purchases needed.
 - b.)** Northern Illinois Synod WELCA, Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are having their 36th Annual Convention on Saturday, 9/20/25. The theme is Rescue, Redeem, Restore. Topic being Anti-Human Trafficking. The speaker is Heidi Provo-Remedies from Rockford. Location is First Lutheran Church, 225 South 3rd Street Rockford.
- Finance:** questions about the mortgage was explained by Phil. Full report is posted.

Property: a.) Weeds in the parking lot were taken care of with the generosity from our Muslim neighbors. They had the maintenance crew they hire to treat the weeds and clean it up. We are sending a thank you card.
b.) Harvest Time School floors have been redone. And they are very happy with the results.

Worship and Music: Preparing for the Seasons of Creation, beginning in September. They are looking for volunteers to sing or read the Kyrie, and other things to help make a meaningful service. Discussions being made, internally, about having a joint choir with First Lutheran at some of the joint services once a month.

Fellowship: No update.

Motion to adjourn by Barbara, 2nd by LaVon. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be in person on: August 19th at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Pearson