

## VISION COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA & MINUTES

Meeting Date: **May 8, 2025** 6:00-8:00 p.m.

### In Attendance:

- Pastor Dianne Loufman
- President Susanna Ojakangas
- Past President Mark Boyce
- Vice President Diana Ream
- Secretary Amy Merchant
- Treasurer Bob Boman
- Kirsten Bich - Worship & Music
- Julie Samuelson - Stewardship
- Stephanie Lundorff - Evangelism & Welcome
- Jodi Grebinoski - Lifelong Learning
- (TBA) -Local & Global

**Preparation for meeting:** Please read through the [last meeting's minutes](#), this agenda, and the assigned devotion pages.

Agenda Topic	Discussion Notes/Minutes	Follow-Up Actions
<b>Devotions &amp; Prayer</b> Prayer led by Steph Lundorff Devotion led by Pastor Dianne (10 min)	<i>Baptized We Live - Living Lutheran</i> - pages 14 & 15	<b><i>This month's leader will write the Vision Council Corner paragraph and submit it to the office by this Wednesday.</i></b>
<b>Adoption of Agenda</b> (1 min)	Diana Ream motions to adopt the agenda Susanna Ojakangas seconds Unanimous Approval	<b><i>Once adopted, attendees agree that no additional topics will be addressed.</i></b>
<b>Approval of last month's minutes</b> (5 min)	Stephanie Lundorff motions to approve last months minutes Bob Boman seconds Unanimous Approval	
<b>Pastor's Report</b> (10 min)	Sankofa Volume 2 is out Caring Ministries team has two new people. Simon Bore the cross went well.	

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	<p>People have come to church because of the Pride Flag on the sign. Man was going to the grocery store on Easter Morning, came to FLC and experienced joyous worship.</p> <p>Homegrown earplug connection came to church on Easter when he heard we were blessing the ear plugs.</p> <p>Jemar Tisby Foundation Speaker Event was great– he was an incredibly engaging speaker and gave people challenge and hope.</p>	
<p><b>Visioning Topic 1:</b> visioning session on leadership (20 min)</p>	<p>Updates made on Stephanie Lunderoff's spreadsheet to gather ideas.</p> <p>How can we help group leaders to be more intentionally invitational?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Create and provide a brief “orientation” for leaders of groups. Also potential of creating a document??</li> <li>● Group Liaisons help to organize this</li> <li>● Hold a group leaders meeting. How can we make sure everyone is being invitational?</li> <li>● Every group has an invitational piece. Relationship piece is key</li> </ul> <p>How can we “organize ourselves”/ add structure that will connect people to one another in general?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Invite people who have recently joined at new</li> </ul>	

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	<p>member lunches. Have vision group leaders there as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue the process of new members helping out at new member lunches. Potentially name it the “Sourdough Society” as it regenerates!</li> <li>● Create a team of visitors who will visit guests</li> <li>● Make new member lunch longer so people are able to introduce people to each other</li>   <li>● Time and talent sheet. Do we help people fill this out?</li> <li>● Follow up and connection is biggest piece</li> <li>● At inquirers' lunch, highlight 5 things that might be interesting to them. Email them and invite them. Look at the time and talent sheet, see if it is simple or not.</li>   <li>● Speed friending between services</li> <li>● Vision council attend new member lunch</li> <li>● Reiterate that Community meal is for everybody</li> <li>● Ideas of “Coffee for 6” and “Happy Hours for 8”</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Visioning Topic 2:</b> ministry teams updates  (10 min)</p>		

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<p><b>Treasurer's Report - Bob Boman</b></p> <p>(5-7 min)</p>	<p>March total income \$80,652.15 Expenses: \$42,189.85</p> <p>April total income \$71,661.66 Expenses: \$39,916.20</p> <p>Easter offerings were lower than expected, but Good Friday was more than 2024.</p>	
<p><b>Ministry Teams Update - Evangelism</b></p>	<p>Gender Affirming Resource Fair-May 10th New members/Inquirers' lunch- May 18th Banana bread baking - May 17th</p> <p>Grandma's Marathon cheering on June 21st</p>	
<p><b>Ministry Teams Update - Lifelong Learning</b></p>	<p>Communion class for 3rd graders and above starting May 14th Last day for Sunday school, middle school and confirmation May 18th Sunday School leading worship on June 1st Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry (VLM) Partnership Day Camp-July 21 to 24</p>	
<p><b>Ministry Teams Update - Local &amp; Global</b></p>	<p>Rhubarb Festival Saturday June 28th, preparations beginning now Racial Justice team will lead us in volunteering again with NAACP Juneteenth event- June 19th</p>	
<p><b>Ministry Teams Update - Stewardship</b></p>	<p>Care of relationships: High school and College graduate recognition- June 8th creation care-- update on community garden?</p>	
<p><b>Ministry Teams Update - Worship</b></p>	<p>Pentecost, sanctuary into the round starting May 25th one service 10am worship in the park is on starting July 6th</p>	

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	<p>Mike Fuchs is putting together a community worship and service for Saturday June 14th. Community members are invited to remember Clayton, Jackson, and McGhie.</p> <p>Juneteenth celebration Sunday, June 15th</p> <p>Pride Sunday June 29th</p>	
<p><b>Old Business Topic 1:</b> Nominating committee update (2 min)</p>	<p>Positions we need to fill: Vice President Councilor-at-large (x4)</p> <p>Pastor Dianne met with the nominating committee. Came up with ideas of people to ask</p>	
<p><b>Old Business Topic 2:</b> Call committee update (5 min)</p>	<p>Deacon Susan Williams responsible for the call process for the synod is not available until May 19th</p> <p>Need all people on the call committee by then</p> <p>Rachel Nelson. Tim LaMaster. Mark Boyce. Walter Karlson. Amy Merchant is the committee so far</p> <p>United Seminary will post our job</p>	
<p><b>Old Business Topic 3:</b> synod assembly update - Diana Ream (5 min)</p>	<p>3 Workshops</p> <p>Hunger Simulation: gave case study. Can a person make it through the month?</p> <p>Minnesota Demographer shared the demographics of our ministry region</p> <p>Emmaus Fund Gala. Microgrants. Kickoff. Started with \$0. Brought in over \$35,000. Goal was \$10,000</p> <p>4 Plenary Sessions</p>	

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	<p>Synod became a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Synod</p> <p>NE Minnesota Bishops Election next year.</p> <p>National Bishop Election in August 2025</p>	
<p><b>Old Business Topic 5:</b> Elevator update (3 min)</p>	<p>State inspector gave the church an elevator permit.</p> <p>Verifying that elevator servicing has been completed</p>	
<p><b>New Business Topic 1:</b> planning for June meeting  (12 min)</p>	<p>June congregational meeting is Sunday June 8th. Pentecost. Karen would like the Vision Council to hold the meeting after worship because choir will practice before service.</p> <p>Meeting will be at 11AM Strawberry Shortcake</p>	
<p><b>New Business Topic 2:</b> camp scholarships (5 min)</p>	<p>\$4710.73 in youth fund \$350 available for camp scholarships from FLC Make people aware that camps will offer camperships. Apply to campership, and also church scholarship. Diana Ream motions to approve Amy Merchant seconds</p>	
<p><b>Open Forum</b></p>	<p>n/a</p>	
<p><b>Next meeting: date, writer for prayers &amp; Council Corner</b></p>	<p>Next meeting is June 5th at 6pm</p> <p>Meeting adjourns at 7:51</p> <p>Susanna Ojakangas ends the meeting in prayer</p>	<p>Prayers, Devotion Leader, and Council Corner writer for June:  Pastor Dianne</p>