

VISION COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA & MINUTES

Meeting Date: **Mar 5, 2026** 6:00-8:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

- ☒ Pastor Dianne Loufman
- ☒ Pastor Andrea Bonneville DeNaples
- ☒ President Diana Ream
- ☒ Vice President Beth Ann Johnson
- ☒ Past President Susanna Ojakangas
- ☒ Secretary Rachel Johnson
- ☒ Treasurer Bob Boman
- ☒ Amy Merchant
- ☐ Stephanie Lundorff
- ☒ Miranda Oliphant
- ☒ Jeff Karlgaard
- ☒ Tim Climis

Preparation for meeting: Please read through the last meeting's minutes (links sent in email) and this agenda. We will not take time during the meeting to read these documents. Click the Comments icon if you have suggestions while reading them.

Agenda Topic	Discussion Notes/Minutes	Follow-Up Actions
Devotions & Prayer	Tim Climis provided devotions.	
Adoption of Agenda	Motion to accept the agenda by Jeff Karlgaard and second by Tim Climis. Motion passed.	<i>Once adopted, attendees agree that no additional topics will be addressed.</i>
Approval of last month's minutes	Motion to accept February minutes by Jeff Karlgaard and second by Tim Climis. Motion passed.	<i>Once approved, the secretary will make a pdf of the minutes and add it to the permanent church record.</i>
Pastor's Report	Kelly Cossey withdrew her resignation. First Lutheran will need her to increase her hours to 4 days a week. The elevator is still not fixed due to negligence on the part of Schindler. Mark Knutson is helping in the role of the church's lawyer to get the process moving.	

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	A lot of needles were cleaned up around the Peace Garden last year. The homeless liaison advised First Lutheran not to let people set up tents on church property in the future. Pastor Dianne, Pastor Andrea, Amy Merchant and Sam Weston went to the Lake Superior Conference. There are 4 nominees for bishop: Pastors Andy Berry, David Carlson, Kathryn Tiede and Taryn Montgomery. Their bios can be found on the NEMN Synod website.	
Associate Pastor Report	The young adult group is going strong. We have a possible partnership with Paws and People, a pop up vet clinic. There has been a positive reaction to the care bags. We need more adults to support the youth in order to continue the program.	
Visioning Topic 1: Teams update from Annual Meeting	Adulting - People are energized with ideas. We need to put things into action. We could create a skills based inventory to discover topics that people want to learn and what skills are available to share. Pastor Andrea spoke about how this would be a community effort to assess the needs both there and in our congregation. Community Meal - 8 people signed up to help and would like to be on the e-mail list. Info fair - Susanne Ojakangas went around with a sign that said "Ask me about the community meal" and got 10 more volunteers.	Pastor Andrea and Amy Merchant will meet to formulate a phase one plan for Adulting. Each goal committee should meet to discuss and craft a specific goal.

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	Adult Confirmation: There was a small group meeting about this at the Annual Meeting, but there is interest. Pastor Dianne may take her community education time to work on planning this program. Costa Rica: 8-10 people were curious about the topic. Hopefully John and Jill Hutchins will come and visit the congregation to answer questions. Communication: Updating and improving the website was a major theme. The office staff job descriptions need to be looked at. There is a possibility to create a website position or look for a volunteer who could help with it. Pastor Andrea spoke about the need for face to face communication and the opportunities for growth.	
Approval of the Annual Meeting Minutes	Motion to accept the annual report minutes by Miranda Oliphant 2nd by Susanna Ojakangas Motion passed	
Treasurer's Report - Bob Boman	The finance committee has not met since the last Vision Council meeting. Kelly Cossey said the giving has been good in January and February.	
Old Business Topic 1: SHP Project-Grant Request	Susanna Ravoula asked for a grant to support the Sleep in Heavenly Peace project in the amount of \$6000. They will build 20 wooden bed frames. All adults are eligible to participate in the building event. Motion to approve grant by Susanna Ojakangas 2nd by Tim Climis Motion passed	
Old Business Topic 2: Information Fair update	The information fair went well, maybe in the future the tables should not be	

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	so spread out.	
Old Business Topic 3: Global Refuge Fund Raising Update	The event will be on May 3rd from 4-6 pm in the Parish Hall. The Rural Hunger and Justice Team has been working with First Lutheran. Wilmar Roballo's art will be on display. There will be a food truck, and possibly wine tasting. Pastor Dianne is going to take "Angel Gabriel" to the Synod Assembly to display. Wilmar is donating one sculpture. They hope to have a real auctioneer. All the proceeds from that sculpture will go to Global Refuge. Other pieces will be on display. If any of those pieces sell, 10% of those proceeds will also go to Global Refuge. There will also be music.	
Old Business Topic 4: Child Safety (Beloved Child Task Force) update	The timeline will need to be extended. The hope is to have this in place by next school year. The committee is almost formed. The members include a person with a social work background, nursing, child care and building care. Ashley Begley is happy with the way things are going. The team will hopefully get together after April.	
Old Business Topic 5: Isaiah Palm Sunday Path update	First Lutheran will host the Palm Sunday Path from 3-5pm. The goal is to e block off London Road. We will hopefully host a meal and a worship service. This event aims to develop a connection between faith communities that want to be a beacon of hope. Paul Robinson, the puppet creator, is making creation story puppets with middle school/confirmation the next two Sundays. On March 22 other churches are invited to come and make big palm branches.	

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Old Business Topic 6: Juneberry Table update	The joint Lenten meal and Juneberry Table is going well. The Juneberry leadership is feeling positive about it as well. We might need to have a conversation about the shared use of the kitchen and pantry to ensure the areas are organized. They are really into food rescue. They rescued the eggs and broccoli for last week's meal. We want to encourage composting.	
New Business Topic 1: Ministry Team Update	Ashley Begley has asked for a copy of the budget.	Miranda Oliphant will follow up with Kelly Cossey.
New Business Topic 2:		
New Business Topic 3:		
New Business Topic 4:		
New Business Topic 5:		
Open Forum		
Next meeting: date, writer for prayers & Council Corner	April 9, 2026 Miranda Oliphant has devotions on <u>Serviceberry</u> p. 85-105.	
Reminders:		

