

First Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 14, 2026. Call to order at 9:00 AM

Welcome and Opening Prayer - Diana Ream

Adoption of Agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda by Stephanie Lundorff
- Second- Susanna Ojakangas
- Unanimous Approval by Oral Vote

Reception of Minutes of February 8, 2026 Congregational Meeting

- Motion to approve the minutes by Susanne Rauvola
- Second- Sam Weston
- Unanimous Approval by Oral Vote

Lead Pastor's Report - Pastor Dianne Loufman

- We are grateful to all the leaders in the congregation, especially Susanna Ojakangas, Amy Merchant and Stephanie Lundorff as they finish their Vision Council service.
- The outgoing members were presented with the gift of thyme from the congregation.

Associate Pastor's Report - Pastor Andrea Bonneville DeNaples

- The community garden has a variety of plants growing.
- This summer we will have a Beloved Child Task Force to focus on helping our children grow and thrive.

Finance Report- Bob Boman

- Our income is at 41% of the Mission Plan which is right on track for this time of the year.
- The total expenses are at 37.6% of the Mission Plan which leaves us in the black at this point.
- The property expenses are higher than planned because of the heating repairs that needed to be done. Communications and Marketing is also up because of the increased cost of advertising.

Pledge Update - Carolyn Karsell

- Consistent giving is important to the ongoing mission of the church. Consider giving through the website or by scheduled giving during the summer months when you are not attending service.

Updates on the Chiropractor Building:

- Building/Finance Taskforce - Kris Karsell
 - The concentration of this committee is on the building condition at this point.
 - Dr. Fisher, the seller, has been very accommodating about allowing First Lutheran Church to conduct inspections without a purchase agreement. June 17

a small team will convene at the building for inspections. Members of this group include: Master Electrician Floyd Cochran (electrical service), Gary OHehir (heating and AC service), Kris Karsell (roof age and condition).

- Institute for Environmental Assessment Inc has been hired to test for the presence of lead paint and asbestos.
- The building seems to be in solid, presentable, serviceable condition. The only access to the building is Superior St.
- Lead paint/asbestos mitigation may need to be done and sprinkles might need to be added.
- Dr. Fisher would like a purchase agreement and the task force told him we would have more information in two weeks as to whether or not we intend to pursue one.
- Partnership/Grants Taskforce - Pastor Dianne Loufman
 - One Roof is off the table because they need a basement.
 - Day Care options are being explored.
 - The Synod contract is up at the end of the year. We need to be proactive about how we will respond if they do not want to renew their lease.
 - Dr. Allen has shown interest.
 - Mosaic Mental health is interested in part of the building.
 - We are looking at making a decision in the next couple of weeks.

NE MN Synod Assembly Report - Sam Weston

- The assembly voted to allow each congregation to send one youth representative to the convention.
- Tayrn Montgomery is the Bishop Elect.

Nominating Committee Report-Betty Preus

- The committee brought forward the following candidates: Steve Cvek-Vice President, Rachel Johnson-Secretary, Bob Boman - Treasurer, Jacob Brooks - Counselor at Large (Stewardship), Shelly Smart - Counselor at Large (Evangelism)
- Motion to accept the nominations by Tom Boman
- 2nd by Tom Nelson
- Approved by unanimous vote.

FLC Foundation - Steve Samuelson

- The Foundation supports the mission of First Lutheran Church and its members.
- \$27,000 awarded in the past year
- Examples of grants include pastoral move and training, the organ anniversary and Sleep in Heavenly Peace event.
- The Foundation also hosted a speaker series.

Public Comment

- Rhubarb Fest update by Susanna Rauvola
- Maintenance fund question by Lavonne Anderson

- She wonders where the funds will come from for fixing an aging building. Pastor Dianne Loufman shared that there is a line item in the budget and the needs are prioritized. We need to consider these needs as we look at taking on another aging building. Kelley Cossey shared that the maintenance budget is under the property line.
- Shirley Wuchter asked for an update on what happened with the breakout groups we had at the February Meeting.
 - Pastor Dianne shared that adult Sunday School will hopefully start in the fall.
 - We have someone to take over as the lead of the Community Meal and there will be a list of needs available. Susanna O shared that the meal has been serving about 75 meals a month. Volunteers are always welcome. Don't feel like volunteering once is a lifetime commitment. Sign ups are online.
 - Jeff Karlgaard shared that the Costa Rica trip is not happening because of differing beliefs with the organizers.
 - Pastor Andrea Bonneille DeNaples shared that Adulting 101 will need to be postponed at this point because of the amount of programming already happening at First Lutheran.
 - Stephanie Lundorff shared that we are looking at what is possible to do with the feedback we received from the communications small group. Pastor Dianne Loufman asked if anyone is willing to help keep the website updated. Becky Kilgore requested that people send in pictures and written blurbs for the FLC Annual Stories. Kelley Cossey encouraged people to read First News, bulletin announcements, and the Mustard Seed. The deadline is 2:00 on Wednesdays. Stephanie spoke to our responsibility to engage with the information that is provided. Pastor Dianne Loufman spoke to the need to be compassionate and understanding when things are not updated immediately.
- Closing Prayer - Beth Ann Johnson
- Motion to adjourn by Sam Weston
- 2nd by Kris Karsell
- Motion unanimously approved by oral vote
- Meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM