2026 Special Congregational Meeting – Consideration of Property Purchase
Frequently Asked Questions – Short Version

Summary

To make the most expansive vision for property stewardship possible, the Council is calling a Special Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, August 9, 2026,** immediately following worship to consider purchasing the home at 1934 E. Mabel Street, adjacent to church property. We have reached an agreed upon $578,000 price with the seller, contingent on the congregation's vote. The financing proposal for the purchase uses available funds and would not require a mortgage.

- Creating a clear property and land stewardship vision and action plan is a priority for the Council and the congregation, and this specific discussion is part of that larger work.
- Over the years, Our Saviour's has chosen to purchase homes adjacent to our worship spaces to be used in a variety of ways for our mission and ministry. Our Saviour's currently stewards eight other homes and one apartment in the blocks just north and south of Helen Street. These homes are rented and used for a range of purposes and generate income for the congregation's mission.
- 1934 E. Mabel Street, a four-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath home adjacent to our north parking lot, is the last privately owned parcel on the block where Our Saviour's sanctuary and main buildings are located.
- Because of the time-sensitive reality of a property purchase, the Council formed a working group to negotiate a contingent offer so that we would have time for the Congregation to decide. The purchase cannot move forward without an affirmative vote. The listing price was $599,000. We have negotiated a price of $578,000. We have completed all inspections with no major findings. We have confirmed that we could add this home to our existing insurance.
- The proposed financing plan uses a combination of endowment funds (as an investment), general bequest funds, and new gifts from current members and friends. With this plan, the congregation would not need to borrow any funds for the purchase.

Financing Details

Here is the proposed plan; slight modifications are possible based on final numbers.

Source	Amount	Note
Existing Endowment CD	400,000	Endowment Decision
Non-designated bequest funds	75,000	Council Decision
Olsrud Gift	25,000	Council Decision
Special Campaign	80,000	Gifts from Individuals
Total	580,000	

Timeline

- March 2026, house listed. Council Executive Committee discusses, declines to explore further.
- June 16, June Council Meeting: Members meet with Council regarding purchase, Council decides to hold a listening session
- June 28: Council holds Listening Session about property stewardship
- June 30: Background Working Group formed to learn more about property (Patty Sirls, Meg Hughes, Fred Hudson, Sheila Bustamante, Pam Hardman, Kent Pflibsen, Mary Lou Forier, Jack Wahls).
- July 18: Background Working Group meets, prepares informational report
- July 20, July Council Meeting: Council votes to schedule Special Meeting of the congregation and authorizes an Offer Working Group to work with a realtor to prepare an offer contingent on congregation's vote. The Endowment Committee gives verbal support for use of funds.
- July 23: Offer Working Group tours home and meets to discuss offer (Patty Sirls, Meg Hughes, Eric Howard, Joanna Keyl, Pam Hardman, Sheila Bustamante).
- July 27: Council holds Special Meeting via Zoom to authorize Patricia Sirls to sign paperwork related to the offer.
- July 30: Contingent offer of $578,000 with closing date of Sept. 4 accepted
- August 2: FAQ distributed in worship and available by request
- August 3 - 6: Inspections Completed
- August 5: Endowment Committee Meeting – Voted to recommend investment
- August 9: Special Congregation Meeting to vote on purchase and next steps