All Saints Lutheran Church

421 SW 19th Street

Blue Springs, MO 64015

Council Meeting June 18, 2025

Betsy Reese Heather Antes

Pastor Sarah Pierce Katie Dustin

Flavia Via (absent) Carla Girkin

Paul Blixrud Janet Cooper

Guests: None.

Betsy called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm.

a. Officers selected: The Council discussed the officers for the next year and Betsy agreed to serve again as President, Janet agreed to serve again as Vice President, and Paul agreed to serve again as secretary. Pastor Sarah so moved to approve Betsy, Janet, and Paul to serve in their respective offices. Heather seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b. Devotion: Katie said one of her favorite and meaningful hymns is “Dona nobis pacem” which is a Latin phrase meaning “give us peace” and is found on page 753 of our church hymnal. It is often used in the Agnes Dei section of the Catholic Mass and whose melody is typically attributed to Mozart. It is based off of John’s Gospel, chapter 1 verse 29. Janet will do the July devotion.

c. Minutes from May 21, 2025: After discussion Pastor Sarah moved to approve the May minutes with corrections and Janet seconded the motion. The motion carried.

d. Treasurer’s Report for June 2025:

* Carla noted a $1,000.00 grant deposit will be reflected in June.
* Carla noted a $15.62 Amazon Prime membership fee which Jean has now canceled.
* Carla said our Amazon Business account is tax exempt. Pastor Sarah said in some instances it may be beneficial to order something through a church member’s account and pay the tax in lieu of paying a delivery fee. Carla will talk with Jean about guidelines.
* Vanco’s non-compliance fees.
* Bank signers and the Safe Deposit Box.
* Auto pay is now set up for Evergy (electric), Blue Springs Water, GFL Trash Service, and Spire (natural gas).
* Carla notified the liability insurance carrier that we will renew our policy.
* Carla will sent a refund check to the Blue Springs Theater Group for the returned Paschal candle.

Pastor Sarah made a motion to file the report for audit and Janet seconded the motion. The motion carried.

* Carla and Betsy will meet at the bank to check the key for the safe deposit box and it’s contents. Pastor Sarah made a motion to have Carla and Betsy decide whether to have the bank drill out the lock if the key does not work. Janet seconded the motion. The motion carried.
* Carla said the 2023 and 2024 audit needs some prep work.
* Contracts for Jean and Pastor Sarah are still in the works.

OLD BUSINESS:

None discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Future Church council meetings are as follows: July 16th, August 13th, September 14th (which is a Sunday with lunch).

b. Installation of the Church Council will be on July 13th.

c. Topics for discussion with Coffee with Council on June 22nd will include:

* Continued discussion with creation awareness.
* Spiritual gifts.
* Report on Festival of Homiletics.
* Vanco.
* Pastor Sarah discussed being contacted by Daniel Tucker for “Stand Up KC” regarding Proposition A (paid sick time, etc). The Council agreed that Pastor Sarah invite Mr. Tucker to a future Coffee with Council meeting.

d. Earth Charter Initiative: Janet discussed a handout explaining a grant for $250.00 from Earth Charter Grants. Within this synod projects have included a pollinator garden, expansion of a food pantry, development of a church garden to supplement feeding the local community, planting an orchard and re-purposing church property to feed birds and bees.

e. 2025 Examiner City Guides: Betsy handed out a copy of the ad in the Examiner from 2024 and the Council agreed to replacing Facebook with You Tube regarding contact information. Heather will contact Gary to make this change. Betsy will set up the guidelines.

f. Ice cream social on July 13th. The Council will furnish the ice cream and toppings.

g. Building requests for the Blue Springs Theater: They will have a Bingo night on August 9th from 1-3 pm; and possible monthly paint party fundraisers to include the paint and an instructor. After discussion, Heather made a motion to have a written agreement for use of the building with the Blue Springs Theater group and Pastor Sarah seconded the motion. The motion carried.

h. New Church Council member: After discussion Janet made a motion to nominate Rebecca Morris to serve on the Church Council. Heather seconded the motion. The motion carried.

i. Vanco Replacement: Katie provided a spreadsheet of several companies to consider for on-line offering/giving. After discussion the Council decided to have Tithe.ly provide a demo for Pastor Sarah, Betsy, Janet, Jean, and Paul on July 2nd.

REPORTS:

a. Pastor Report: Written report. Not confirmed yet but October 4th may be the date for blessing the animals (pets).

b. Presidents Report: Written report.

* Gary will add Jean’s profile to the website.
* “God’s work, our hands” will be on upcoming agenda and Betsy asked everyone to think about what the Church should do.

c. Worship and Music: No report.

d. Property: Paul said he still needs to address the issue with the sanctuary ceiling and Phil Gross and Heather are addressing the stone monument sign by the street with regards to the old (wrong) website engraved in the stone.

e. Learning and Youth: Heather reported all went well with service on Mother’s Day Sunday which was lead by the youth.

f. Stewardship: Janet said we should begin buying school supplies in July to be ready before school starts. Janet will check on the exact amount collected from “God’s Global Barnyard”; it is either $245 or $270. Janet will decide what to purchase with this money.

g. Community: No report due to Flavia’s absence.

h. Witness/Marketing/Outreach: No report.

Janet said she would like to plan another trip to the KC Zoo soon.

Betsy adjourned the meeting at 8:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Blixrud, Church member secretary