

Present: Moderator Kay Rowntree, Treasurer Jean Bocker, Secretary Joanne Himebauch, Pastor Mark Hensley, Brad Charles, Karla Pennington, Jamie Pennington, Rae-Ellen Preuss, Jennifer Schmitz

Absent: Moderator-Elect Ryan Venema

Call to Order by Kay Rowntree

Opening Prayer by Rae-Ellen Preuss

Investment of Parsonage Sale Proceeds - Jim Filicetti. Jim told us about the NACCC Congregational Investment Trust, which is secure & accessible. It has an 8 - 13% return. It would be local, safe, and small. Pastor Mark asked why we should think about a Trust instead of an Endowment. Jim responded that we could set it up either way. Jamie asked what is the difference between them? This is the investment house that the NA set up. It's just a name thing. \$2,500 is the minimum investment. Kay asked if there were fees. The fees are embedded within the investment trust and are netted from the performance. The fees are about 1.5%. Jean asked who is the manager? We need to get the application to find out this info, but it is with Mercer investments. Jim F. had requested a packet for us, but he didn't get it in time. Jim asked us to think about what our vision is for the funds? The fund has been in existence since around 2006. There are several more types of investment tools that we could use that Jim described to us, as well. Pastor Mark asked if we could pick our investments within the NACCC Investment fund. Then he asked what Jim Filicetti's role would be for us? He would help us with the initial application. Mark suggested that we wouldn't want to touch the principle.

Once we have the money from the sale of the parsonage, and the Council makes the decision to open an endowment, we would contact Jim F to get started with the application. Mark asked what Jim's fee was - It is \$1,000. We had already approved this several meetings ago. We asked Brad if he would be our contact with Jim, and he agreed. Pastor Mark asked if Brad could draft how to divide up the money we earn. 70% core ministry. 30% could be Capital Improvement. We need guidelines going into this, but the Council would review it each year. But we would be flexible each year. We would spend only the interest.

Joanne asked about the People's Church money. We wiped out the Reserve fund with the elevator. We could use the People's Church money to replace the Reserve fund.

Kay asked for 2 separate motions. Rae-Ellen moved and Jean seconded to table this discussion until next month so we can think about things. Motion carried. Pastor Mark will send out his notes.

Devotional time - Pastor Mark. God is Love. We say this a lot in church. What do we mean when we say this? What does our church reflect love? The way we model leadership matters. True love doesn't harm or control.

Approval of May 6, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes. Jamie moved and Brad seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Jean Bocker. The documents that Judi sends us are the snapshot of how the church is doing financially. We've gone over budget on church maintenance & repairs, delegate to the state conference, and parsonage utilities. But total basic costs are still okay. The check for \$7500 for the Carillon replacement (50% down) is going out in the mail. The last elevator payment went out, too.

Finance Director Report - Jamie Pennington

Maxwell St. Days - enough people are signed up. Joanne bought a new tent. It's difficult to have an on-line and a paper sign-up. We will stick to the paper one on the Communications table. The Scouts will get half of Sunday's proceeds.

Giving Sunday - working on it. September? Or early October.

Parsonage Sale update & call for a Special Congregational Meeting - Bob Brandemuehl.

The parsonage will be just shy of ½ acre in order to create enough green space for the church. The musty smell in the basement has been corrected. We had been ready to go with the Shorewest realtor, but we had a bad experience with her recently. We are looking at ReMax now. Our constitution is a three week process. Bob proposes that our

committee members and Kay can make the decisions of accepting, rejecting, or countering any offers. (See parsonage notes from June 4th).

The Parsonage Committee moved and Jamie seconded to approve the call of a special meeting. Motion carried. Rae-Ellen offered to announce it from the pulpit. Joanne will write the article in the What's Happening. We will call this on June 14 and June 21st. The meeting will be on June 28th after church.

First call of Meeting request: On Sunday, June 28, 2026 we are calling a Special Meeting of the Congregation.

First call request: We are asking for the congregation to give full authority to the Parsonage Committee, plus Moderator Kay Rowntree, to accept, reject, or counter any offer to buy the parsonage within 72 hours based on these contingencies:

- a. We will not accept an offer below \$400,000.
- b. There will be proof of funds for a cash offer from the buyer **or** a financing pre-approval letter from their financier.
- c. There could be a home inspection (if the buyers request it.)
- d. There could be a Radon Testing Contingency (if the buyers request it.)
- e. We, in turn, would give a status update to the congregation on a weekly basis, if needed.

Second call request: Jennifer moved and Brad seconded to add a 2nd call for the congregation to approve the Moderator Kay Rowntree and / or Treasurer Jean Bocker to sign any applicable sale documents.

Elevator installation update - Rae-Ellen Preuss. We have been paying \$40 per month to Spectrum for a dead phone line in the elevator. To pass inspection they hooked it up to the church office. We need a dedicated phone line for the elevator. The installation for a digital line will be \$1200. The maintenance fee will be \$50 per month. Rae-Ellen moved and Brad seconded to have the digital line installed and pay the \$50 per month to maintain it. Motion carried.

Judi had asked Spectrum if we could get a refund for the past 8 months. They denied us. Rae-Ellen suggested that we need to send a letter on a letterhead. Pastor Mark thinks that this is a gray area and not worth the effort. They offer a maintenance plan for \$60 per month. They will do maintenance 4 times per year, plus they will pay for the State inspection. Jamie asked if we had an old maintenance plan. We did. Rae-Ellen will get the paperwork and we can discuss this next month.

Any other business? Could we combine the church picnic with a dedication to the elevator? Or do a blessing of the elevator on June 28th. We also need to dedicate the Carillon and get an article into the Mukwonago Times.

Next Council meeting - July 8, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Himebauch
Council Secretary

June 2026 Directors' Reports

Congregational Care Report - Jennifer Schmitz

1. The Women's Agape Group (Jean Brocker, Chair) is still meeting the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in the lounge. We are still gathering information regarding a kitchen remodel for the church.
2. Fellowship (Joanne Himebauch):
For June, we will enjoy watching the Father's Day parade together on Sunday, June 21st. We will meet at the Himebauch's, 100 Oakland Ave after church. There will be a treats spread in the house.
July / August - we are looking at dates for a summer picnic.
Hospitality / Welcome (Joanne Himebauch) - nothing to report, other than I have to bake some cookies for the freezer!
3. Funeral Report: (Rae-Ellen Preuss) James Webber passed away on May 9, 2026. Pastor Mark held a service for his family to celebrate Jim's life on May 19th. There was no meal served afterwards. The family made other plans.
4. Visitation Report (Jennifer Schmitz) : Jennifer visited Carol and Dorothy at Linden on May 22. Kay and Joanne did a hymn sing at Linden on May 31st.

Missions & Growth - Brad Charles

Our current mission project is a donation drive to help the Hope Center in Waukesha by supplying them with small household appliances. This week I am dropping off a large SUV full of items such as mixers, a toaster oven, a baby bottle warmer, a blender, and a medium-sized microwave oven to name only a few. We will continue this drive for most of the summer.

The next donation drive will be toddler clothes and diapers for the Life Connection in Mukwonago. They said they have plenty of donations for newborns, but virtually nothing for older children.

In regard to the growth of our church, Mark and I have an idea to tap into the movement of the Generation Z kids coming back to the church. It's going to be a podcast that Mark and I will do addressing the major existential questions of life such as "Who am I", "Why am I here", and "Why do bad things happen to good people? Other churches have done something similar, especially Catholic churches, and have been drawing a significant number of these young people. We'll keep you updated on our progress!