

Special Meeting of the Congregation

June 1, 2025

A special meeting was held at 9:30 on June 1 with the purpose of voting on the following motion. The council of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Grove City, moves that up to \$1,750,000 be approved for repairs and renovation of the items identified by the renovation team. Funds for this work will come from the special bequests that were specified by the donors to be used renovation/repair work necessary to assure the long term physical integrity of the St. John's facility.

Written vote ballots were distributed. Several questions were answered by President Aaron Clark and Dan Yeater on behalf of the renovation team. The written ballots were collected and counted by the officers and later confirmed by the secretary of council to be 74 yes-votes and zero no-votes. These results were shared with those present. Paul Wittenberg motioned to adjourn the meeting. Wilma Philips seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

St. John's Congregational Council Meeting

June 16, 2025 Room 103/104

Members present: Aaron Clark, David Clark, Cindy Gonsowski, Abby Johnston, Rachel Katterhenrich, Doug Knisely, Kathy Myers, Bonnie Swanson, Amy Wanner, Paul Wittenberg, Pastor Seth Jersild, Pastor Patti Morlock

Members Absent: Phil Pennington

Opening prayer: Seth Jersild started our time together with prayer.

Call meeting to order: President Aaron Clark called the Council Meeting to order at 6:39pm.

Recognition of Approval of May minutes: Secretary Rachel Katterhenrich confirmed that the May minutes have been approved by a majority of council members.

Senior Pastor's Report: Pastor Seth reported on the following items:

- The Construction team has two meetings scheduled in the upcoming month, including meeting with McKnight.
- The membership class was well attended.
- Pastor Seth has already had many 'lasts' as he approaches his retirement date at the end of the month, with Bible study, Promise Keepers and others. He reported that Promise Keepers has asked Pastor Don to take on leadership of the group and he has agreed.

Associate Pastor's Report: Pastor Patti reported on the following:

- Our incoming intern Billie and her husband Bob will arrive in Grove City this week and begin settling into the home they've found. Her start date at the church is July 14. There will likely be a reception for them in late July.
- The 3rd session of Women's Bible study concludes this week and there is one session remaining
- Pastor Patti met with a small team to discuss starting life-to-life discipleship groups in the fall.
- A meal train has been set up for a member in need.
- On June 21-22, a group will stay overnight at the church on their way from Michigan to North Carolina to help with relief efforts.

Financial report: Treasurer Kathy Myers reports that the finance report has been sent to council members and filed.

- Treasurer Kathy Myers made a motion to pull \$26,000 from the endowment unrealized appreciation fund. Congregation already approved money from this fund for 2025 for the intern but to cover the appropriate distributions in the other endowment available accounts the amount needs to be \$26,000 for withdraw. President Aaron Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Treasurer Kathy Myers made a motion to spend up to \$800 from the memorial unrestricted fund for Pastor Seth's retirement send-off. Pastor Patti seconded. The motion passed.

Executive Team Report: Aaron Clark reported that the executive team did not meet this month, but they were able to conduct an exit interview with Pastor Seth.

Membership Report: There were no changes to report.

Unfinished business:

- Call Team formation:** Council members had submitted names of people they thought would be good candidates for the call team ahead of the meeting. We took several minutes to review the list silently and with prayer. Discussion followed and council made a list of potential nominees. Members are calling the nominees to ask them to prayerfully consider serving on the team.
- Council vacancy:** Council discussed again whether to fill the vacancy left when Gary Smith resigned. It was decided to leave the spot vacant for now, with only a few months left until the term would be up.

New Business:

- Update on grant applications:** Amy Wanner reported that 3 applications have been received for the \$10,000 grant that we are offering as part of the accessibility

project. She gave an overview of the churches and needs that were described. The subteam will review the applications in detail.

b) Congregational concerns:

None were reported.

Prayer requests: Members shared life updates and personal prayer requests.

The meeting was adjourned following the Lord's Prayer together.

ACTION ITEMS:

Review the minutes and respond to Secretary Rachel Katterhenrich within 48 hours with approval/additions/corrections (All council members)

Abby Johnston, Kathy Myers, Pastor Patti, and Rachel Katterhenrich will each call a portion of the call team nominee list.

Next meeting: Monday, August 18, 2025 at 6:30 pm in room 103/104 (NO meeting in July)