

<p>July 27, 2016—Our Savior’s Lutheran Church Board of Directors Meeting Mission Statement: <i>Grounded in Faith, Gathered in Love, and Sent with a Purpose so that Others may gain the Kingdom.</i> MEMBERS PRESENT Voting: Shelly Hill, Joel Frost, John Laswell, Marci Gaertner, Gloria Guinee, Doug Smith Ex-Officio/ Visitors: Becky Maier, Corinne Colburn MEMBERS ABSENT: Pastor Dale Stiles</p>	<p>Time Called To Order: 7:02 pm Time Adjourned: 9:30 pm Location: Room 7/8- OSLC Meeting Lead: Shelly Hill Recording Secretary: Marci Gaertner</p>
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AGENDA	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ MOTIONS	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	
			Staff	Board

<p>Call to Order Shelly Hill 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Reading of Mission Statement, Reflections/Prayer/Devotion</p> <p>Approval of Meeting Agenda Approval of June 2016 Board Minutes, July 11 Closed Minutes</p>	<p>Shelly : “ Faith vs Certainty” from <i>Meditations for Meetings</i> by Edgar Stoesz</p> <p>John added quick facts from US census to end of agenda, approved. Doug motioned, John seconded –all approved June Minutes. Doug motion, Joel second—all approved Closed minutes.</p>		
<p>Visitor Presentation 7:10 PM</p>	<p>Corinne Colburn and Becky Maier Guatemala Partnership</p>	<p>Becky and Corinne shared their story from Guatemala—see attached. Request is that OSLC support this congregation financially and in body with volunteers from OSLC just as we currently support Jamaica and</p>		*FINAL

		<p>Tanzania. Would be a 3 yr commitment beginning 2017. Cost : \$500 if the Durango group shares in the commitment, \$1000 if they do not. Motion by Doug , seconded by Gloria to move forward with support. Discussion followed led by Doug that this be contingent on approval by mission and outreach and that we include the congregation in option. Noted financial amount is allotted in the mission budget. (Those opting to visit Guatemala from the congregation would be expected to pay for their travel, accommodations, etc.—approx \$1800 this yr) Motion amended by Joel that the board give preliminary approval to move forward provided Mission and Outreach in agreement and no negative input at educational forum by Corinne/Becky when presented to congregation; final approval to follow after that time. All approved. Becky has already contacted Ray Valley , Mission and Outreach Chair. Educational forum for congregation tentative for September.</p>		<p>APPROVAL – Guatemala partnership</p>
<p>Consent Agenda Items 7:25 PM</p>	<p>Pastor Dale Report</p>	<p>See attached.</p>		

	<p>Loft Update---Gloria Guinee</p>	<p>the church directly? Shelly will check with Art Fund Committee, report to Doug so that it can be clarified if needed with Brotherhood Mutual.</p> <p>Gloria reports that there has been no payment by the contractor. Options would be no followup vs re filing the claim. Costs would include approx. \$70 to refile as well as costs associated with mailing, filing forms, etc. Gloria feels it is worthwhile to pursue with the condition that Chad be present as contractor mentioned Chad specifically at the hearings. In addition all associated costs in addition to the total amount will be requested in payment this time. Motion by John , seconded by Joel we move forward as Gloria plans and she has permission to act in best interests of church. All approved. John also willing to assist and Gloria feels more than one person attending is beneficial</p>		<p>Gloria, Shelly, Marci --phone calls</p> <p>Shelly—talk with Pastor Dale</p>
	<p>Evangelism/Outreach Update—Gloria Guinee</p>	<p>Gloria has received from Kathy Newton the list of members who have transferred or listed as non-active. Plan is to contact this group and interview them as to why they left the church, etc. Gloria, Shelly, Marci will work on this.</p>		

	<p>Evangelism Committee Next Steps—Shelly Hill</p>	<p>Next steps for evangelism committee recommended at congregational meeting--- Shelly reports ELCA has reading resources. Feels we need to think outside the box as to who would be on the committee. Discussion and agreement that we would start with Pastor Dale as to how this should proceed, does he have a person(s) in mind who might be good to head up this committee and then let that person choose members of committee. Shelly will talk to Dale regarding this.</p>		<p>regarding Evangelism next steps</p>
<p>Finance Doug Smith & Joel Frost 7:50 PM</p>	<p>July 2016 Financial Statements—Doug Smith</p>	<p>Update by Doug; Overall no big surprises, operational reserves at approx. \$83,000. As the balance in General Checking was getting very low (not counting the Art Fund Safe Money Fund dollars in there that could be spent anytime by the Art Fund Committee), Doug moved \$20,000 from our Money Market Savings Account to the General Checking Account. Movement in checking acct from money market was to prepare for payment to sculpture artist. Hopefully this will</p>		

Budget Changes—Joel Frost

keep an adequate balance in General Checking for the rest of this year, but we will watch it and move more if we need to. The Building Fund nearly even between expenditure and giving. Profit and Loss charts reviewed. Doug moved we approve financial report, John seconded, approved by all.

Joel reports giving two weeks ago \$9700, last week \$4900. Joel spoke with Alicia, acct regarding budget changes. Options for change discussed but agreement by board that we just continue with current set up understanding there will be discrepancies. Doug emphasized watching “bottom line” between spending and giving and make changes in format going forward with 2017 budget . Weekly attendance and giving both general and to building fund to be reported in bulletin.

Discussion of severance pay to Kristi and Jane---Joel had directed Alicia to pay out based on 40 hrs to Kristi, 22 to Jane. Discussion on this as Kristi was only approved for 32 hours, Jane for 20. Board members felt we should pay out based on approved hours. John put this in motion, Shelly seconded, all approved. Joel will

Joel—contact Alicia regarding severance, ? letter of explanation if first check mailed.

**2016 Budget Preparation
Next Steps—Doug Smith**

contact Alicia to reset this---if first check has been mailed, will send letter explaining this will change with next paycheck.

Timeline outlined to begin 2017 budget:

September: Kathy to provide # for giving units.

September 30: deadline for staff to present respective budgets.

October 13: Board meeting to start budget review using new numbers.

November 10: Board finalizing preliminary Budget.

November 13: Preliminary budget meeting for congregation. (? Include proposal for bylaw change)

November 20: Commitment/Stewardship Sunday. (The Board suggests that Pastor Dale work with the Giving Committee to set Commitment/Stewardship Sunday to 11/20 instead of the next weekend...which is Thanksgiving weekend.)

December 8: Board meeting to apply result from Stewardship Sunday and concerns from congregational meeting. Finalize .

January 22, 2017: Annual meeting.

Doug proposing the congregation approve the budget before the annual meeting.

Shelly---check in to bylaw changes.

**Quick Facts on Census—
John Laswell**

Shelly pointed out that bylaws state the budget approval needs to happen at annual meeting. Suggestion we move meeting to earlier in January but this meeting date is also dictated by bylaws. We will consider changing this bylaw so that budget is approved closer to the time it takes effect. Shelly will check in to this and bring more info next meeting.

Doug voiced concern that, since both Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Sundays this year, we could see lower giving. Should we have a Christmas Day service? If we did something special on New Year's day, would people come? Either way, we need to plan for this. Discussion forthcoming with Pastor Dale regarding his thoughts on this.

John noted the stats from US census pointing out that 60% of the population is between the ages of 18 and 65. Point being made: we are feeling Children's and Youth Ministries are where we want to concentrate, which is valid, BUT we also need to consider the needs of the group having the larger census numbers. Joel pointed out that our older members often indicate that the

		worship experience itself is a key factor in their spiritual nourishment. We need a full package. Continue to consider.		
Adjourn 9:30 PM	Future Meeting Dates: Board Meeting August 22, 2016 7:00 pm Board Meeting September 8, 2016 7:00 pm	Gloria motioned, Doug seconded to adjourn. All approved.		Marci – devotions for August meeting.

Summary of mission trip to Guatemala June 9 – 16, 2016.

Corinne Colburn, Becky Maier and Kate Maier, with the blessing of Pastor Dale, traveled to Guatemala June 9 – 16 with the intention of exploring the possibility of starting a companionship between an ILAG (Iglesia Lutherana Augustina de Guatemala - the Augustinan Lutheran Church in Guatemala) congregation and Our Saviors. We traveled with 5 people from Christ the King Lutheran Church in Durango CO, including their lead pastor Tim, who were also exploring this possibility for their church.

We flew into Guatemala City on June 9th and stayed that first night at the Lutheran Center where ILAG is headquartered. The following day we traveled by bus with Pastor Karen, president of ILAG, her mother Pastor Esther and her assistant Brian, as well as the folks from Durango to the small village of Zaculeu where the ILAG church community of San Juan Bautista is located. We were welcomed by the church members with much enthusiasm as they had not had a visit from a US companion church in 3 years and were feeling a bit abandoned. We were their guests Saturday afternoon, all day Sunday, and Monday morning.

This church community of San Juan Bautista is quite small, 4 – 5 families, located in a farming village of about 30 families. The people in village are all refugees who were displaced during the Guatemalan civil war and subsequently relocated to Zaculeu. They speak 4 different Mayan Indigenous languages in their homes and speak Spanish outside of their homes and with each other. They are mostly subsistence farmers, although one member of the congregation is a teacher and one is a mason.

During our time there they cooked for us (maize tortillas, black beans, and chicken soup), taught us how to make tortillas and shared the Sunday worship service with us. They also shared their dreams for their community, including a new church building they are in the process of building and dreams of growing numbers in their community. With the guidance of Pastor Karen, we went to each of their homes where they shared a bit about their lives and gave us their prayer requests. In each home we laid hands on the husband and wife and prayed for them. It was spiritually moving to see how important simply having someone come to pray for them was to each of them.

Additionally, we played Frisbee and blew bubbles with the children, cooked hot dogs and s'mores, and took Polaroid pictures of the families and the children for them to have and keep. Becky and Corinne ran an adult coloring activity with the women while talking about the importance of taking time for themselves and time for prayer and meditation. It was during this activity that we gave the woman and teenage girls the women's care kits which were donated from our OSLC congregation. The women were very pleased to receive these.

During the Sunday worship service, Pastor Karen ran the service with Pastor Tim preaching. They sang songs in Spanish and Q'eqchi. At this time we presented to them a parament for their altar that was a gift from our Altar guild, and the Durango folks presented paraments for their pulpit/lectern. Many of the children of the congregation have not received

first communion and Pastor Karen intends to give classes during this year so that a year from now she can perform a set of first communions and baptisms. Their church is simple with a dirt floor and wooden benches. They had decorated the church for us with brightly colored plastic banners.

On Monday morning we visited their village school. The literacy rate in Guatemala is one of the lowest in the western hemisphere, with illiteracy rates up to more than 60% in the indigenous population. Zaculeu is fortunate to have a primary school located in their village where there are two classrooms: 1st – 3rd grade and 4 – 6th grade. School is compensatory only through 6th grade and parents need to buy all books and school supplies. Our delegation bought a set of school supplies for each of the primary school children on behalf of the Lutheran Church of San Juan Bautista, regardless of whether the children belonged to the Lutheran church or not. Beyond 6th grade, parents must pay school tuition as well as for supplies, books and transportation. Five boys in the church community attend secondary school and we provided each of them with a set of school supplies.

While sharing their dreams with us they expressed a great desire to have OSLC and Christ the King in Durango companion with them and are anxiously awaiting our reply. A commitment to companion with the community would involve a commitment to 1) pray for them weekly in our church and to send letters of encouragement, 2) a yearly monetary commitment of \$1000 3) a commitment to send a delegation to visit them about once per year. As a note, last year Mission and Outreach gave ILAG \$3000 for the purchase of a new truck and several years previously \$1000. If Christ the King decides to commit to the companionship, we would have a three-way companionship and would share responsibilities with the folks from Durango. Each of our financial contributions would then be \$500/year and we would work with Durango regarding the visits. Our commitment would be for three years and would start when the covenant is signed with the churches, possibly during a visit back there next summer. At the end of the three years it would be determined if a new 3 year covenant would be signed. Becky and Corinne are prepared to take the leadership with these requirements.

The people we traveled with from Durango were wonderful people. Pastor Tim seems very committed to learning about Guatemala (he had been practicing his Spanish and improved greatly while he was there) and Partnering with the congregation. While Tim was deciding about having his church embark on a mission project, he researched other possibilities. He found that the Saint Paul Area Synod's relationship with the Guatemalan Lutheran church was quite

impressive, which is why he chose Guatemala. Pastor Karen remarked that she was impressed with how well our two delegations came together to become one delegation. At times she has taken groups involving different churches together on visits where the two US churches do not work well together.

About the Saint Paul Area Synod's relationship with ILAG and some history:

ILAG was founded in 1991 by Padre Horacio Castillo and ministers to people from the margins of Guatemalan society, particularly the indigenous poor. The church has about 2000 members

in 17 congregations. ILAG also operates an elementary school in Guatemala City. The ILAG pastoral team is represented by several pastors, evangelists, and catechists who typically work with more than one congregation. Bishop Castillo retired in 2014, and Pastor Karen Castillo now serves as President. In 1991 Guatemala was suffering through a 36 year internal war. The war ended in 1996 with the signing of peace accords; Padre Horacio Castillo was part of the legal committee that wrote the peace accords. Padre Horacio had visited war refugees in camps in Mexico during the war and as these refugees began to return to Guatemala they made contact with him again. Through these contacts the ILAG grew in the rural areas of the country as well. The ILAG continues to grow each year by adding a few mission sites and churches as communities hear that the ILAG pastoral team walks with people, delivers the gospel freely to all people, and visits their communities regularly.

The ILAG's formal relationship with the ELCA began in 1998 with a visit to Guatemala by Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla, Executive Director of the ELCA Global Mission. He made a visit to the parishes in Guatemala City and to the rural areas. Upon seeing the need that existed in the ILAG, he decided to support the ILAG and made an offer of ELCA economic help to the ILAG for the development of the work of God. The Saint Paul Area Synod voted to form a Companion Synod Relationship with the ILAG in 2005. Members of the SPAS had been visiting Guatemala and the ILAG since 2001

Pastor Dale Monthly Report, July 25, 2016

- I'm better now. I've been overwhelmed with all of the administrative responsibilities that I have been needing to attend to regarding the budget analysis and reductions. I am extremely grateful for the energy, time and expertise that each of you Board members have also contributed to this work. We've done it together, and I recognize it takes its toll on each of us. On behalf of the congregation, Thank you. I look forward to moving forward with more positive information and outlook so we can focus our energy more on mission and vision that maintenance and crisis.
- I feel good about staff restructuring and am pleased to see how Darla has already made much progress in her additional duties/responsibilities (Jane's duties). She has already put together her Children's Ministry Committee! She will be fantastic in this role. Kathy, also has already begun absorbing the agreed upon additional responsibilities of Kristi's, without adding extra burden. She does so with a gracious and willing heart – and a smile ☺ Chad and I are meeting this Wednesday afternoon to talk about 7th graders and how best to meet their needs in our program. He too, will be fine taking back administrative duties that Kristi had been doing for him. He is excited to put together his youth committee to help in this area.
- I met with Becky & Katie Maier and Corrine Colburn to hear all about their trip to Guatemala. This was fascinating and I'm glad they will be with you at your meeting to share some of their experiences as well. I am fully in favor of entering into a partnership with a church in Guatemala and to share it with the church in Colorado they traveled with. A shared partnership will be beneficial and unique. It will lessen our annual required financial contribution by \$500 if we share the partnership. This should not be a financial burden on us, however, since Mission & Outreach has already been supporting the work of ILAG in recent years with \$1,500 in 2013, \$1,725 in 2014 and \$3,000 in 2015. The required contribution for partnership is \$1,000. Becky and Corrine will share more details, but the idea of this and the passion they have for this is wonderful, and I hope to see it flourish at OSLC as Mlafu and Jamaica has.
- Continuing to plan for fall with our Fit to Serve series beginning September 18 and our late-Fall stewardship series that will breakdown our Narrative Budget. How we proceed with and what this year's Narrative Budget will look like (broken down by categories) will affect the number of weeks and themes for each week. Right now I am basing it on last year's category breakdown of the NB.
- Holding New Member Orientations on August 21 and 31. New Member Reception will be at both services on Rally Sunday, September 11. There are interested families who have been worshiping with us regularly throughout this Summer who I expect will join. I'm excited about that and will know more in August. The continued interest in OSLC

for membership and baptisms (4 in the next two months) are signs of new life and growth, that are important for us to not overlook.

- Looking forward to time away and vacation in August following VBS. I have a retired guest pastor, Mick Dobbins, from Oakdale, filling in for me on August 14 and Chad Larson will fill in for me on August 28. Pastor Janel from St. Paul Lutheran in Stillwater will cover for any emergency pastoral care needs.
- Thinking ahead to Adult Education topics already for the Fall, that hopefully will include Bishop Lull as a presenter. We are working on schedules right now.
- Trying to provide solid, bold and compassionate pastoral care in midst of a communities/nation/world divided. This is important and tiring work/ministry, but critical for us as the Church, to address. It is a powerful time to be a powerful witness.
- That is all for now! House remodel is coming along and Joel is going to help me with computer wiring/networking very soon! Hopefully can move in sometime in September.

God bless you!

Dale