

## OSLC Governing Board 4th Quarter Meeting Summary to Congregation

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On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, OSLC's Governing Board had their 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Meeting. At the meeting, the financial reports for the church and capital campaign were reviewed and approved.

The list of Nominations for 2016 OSLC Board of Elders and Governing Board was approved through consent agenda. See below:

### Governing Board and Board of Elders Nominees 2016

#### Governing Board:

(These people are not up for reelection until 2017: Chad Thompson, Pat Donovan, and Dennis Krueger)

Currently serving and now up for reelection: Paul Klug has declined to serve again in this capacity but will continue on the Building Committee.

Dave Niess and Merle Zander have agreed to run again.

Additional nominees to add to the ballot: Stephanie Schoenrock, Regan Graham, Craig Eraas [Craig has, since the meeting, declined the nomination]

#### Board of Elders:

Currently serving and willing to run again: Michael Deplazes, Paul Dockter, Jonathon Dodd, Nick Dryer and Wayne Johnson

Additional nominees to add to the ballot: Lyn Nord, Steven Carbno and John Walker

The Personal Covenant of Governing Board Members was approved through consent agenda. See below:

### The Personal Covenant of Governing Board Members

1. With the help of the Holy Spirit I will whole-heartedly be a person of prayer and spend time in prayer each month for our Church Family, our Church Leadership, our Staff Members and our Ministry Teams.
2. With the help of the Holy Spirit, I will whole-heartedly reflect the person and character of Christ in my conduct as a member of the Governing Board and make it my personal goal to be an example to God's people of one who is growing in Christ-like maturity.
3. With the help of God's Spirit I will remember that the important thing is to keep the important thing the important thing. In our Governing Board meetings, that is to, respect, reflect, and discuss with a focus on something greater than "myself", namely the people of God within the congregation and the mission of Christ into the hearts and lives of people beyond our doors.
4. As a member of the Governing Board I will whole-heartedly commit myself to supporting the congregation's Guiding Principles, along with the congregation's Core Values and Statement of Identity as motivational and guiding statements for all policy actions.
5. I commit myself to the understanding that "Having my say is more important than having my way."
6. When there is a difference between my opinion and the Governing Board's decision, once a decision is made I will uphold, support and defend that decision as if it were my own in all my conversations.
7. I will recognize that a majority vote is a strong indication of God's will for us at this time.

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8. I will recognize that every dissenting vote or opinion symbolizes a possible word of caution from the Lord.
9. I agree that I will not keep silent in a meeting on an issue that won't be kept silent when I get into the parking lot or return home.
10. With the help of the Holy Spirit I agree that I can still love, respect and reflect the spirit of Christ to those who disagree or even reject my individual ideas.
11. I commit myself to creating a strong leadership team as a member of the Governing Board where spontaneity is preserved, while at the same time self-sacrifice is volunteered.
12. I recognize that anyone can tear down, however as a leader I am called to build up and prepare the way for God's people, and at times to remove obstructions from people's way.
13. In this we are each called to a variety of tasks and gifted for a purpose, even as St. Paul says, *"And Christ's gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers (some Governing Board members) for the equipping of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the building up of the Body of Christ."* - Ephesians 4:11

The Governing Board Visitors Policy was approved through consent agenda. See below:

### Governing Board Visitors Policy

Regarding: Guests at Governing Board Meetings

Guests are welcome to attend any of Our Savior Lutheran Church's Governing Board's meetings, with the exception of confidential matters. The Governing Board Chair decides what is defined as confidential and may ask the guests to leave at any given time. Guests may speak to an item under discussion, but the floor belongs to the Governing Board. In respect for the procedures, each guest will be allowed a single opportunity to voice their concerns or opinions regarding agenda items according to the direction of the Governing Board Chair. If, at any time, the Governing Board Chair feels that the guest is out of line in respects to this policy, he may ask the guest to remove him/herself from the meeting.

OSLC has moved to a new relationship with Trinity Lutheran Church in Tolley in that Trinity Lutheran and OSLC are a dual parish. See specifics below:

1. As of November 16<sup>th</sup> the vacancy with Tolley will have been roughly a year. After a year's time with a congregation NOT calling a pastor of their own, the District President has to take an official action to determine the status of the congregation.
2. In this case the official action is to realign Trinity Lutheran with OSLC as a dual parish.
3. The change from serving a vacancy to becoming a dual parish presents its own series of questions, which include
  - Representation at District Conventions
  - Calling of Pastors
  - Ongoing service into the future
  - A greater responsibility for the membership/ministry of the second congregation.
4. Pastor Dan will be working these items through with the Tolley congregation and

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will help OSLC look at potential changes it may bring.

5. These are brothers and sisters in Christ to whom pastoral care is vital and important just as it is for our membership so it is important to be careful in the steps we take as we move ahead.
6. For all practical purposes very little changes with this new relationship. We will still continue to serve as we are currently doing. The realignment does however mean that we want to look at the situation with renewed eyes.
7. And, as the District President says, we still retain the right to NOT serve the Tolley congregation and ask them to look elsewhere for realignment.

In addition, prices from an alternative company for the replacement of the large outdoor sign were discussed. No action was taken.

The Accountable Leadership Model, from the “Winning on Purpose” summary was reviewed with the roles of the 4 Key players, the Governing Board, the Senior Pastor, the Staff and the Congregation highlighted. The discussion centered around each of these 4 key players focusing on sharpening and playing their roles well in 2016.

**Action Item:** After generous discussion, the Governing Board adopted the 2016 OSLC Ministry Milestones as presented. See below.

## 2016 OSLC Ministry Milestones

### 1. Organizational Clarity and Accountability

The mission and ministry of the congregation, both inside our doors and outside our doors is hampered when the functions and the structures of an organization are unclear.

**Organizational Milestone:** Develop and maintain a clear organizational structure to support each OSLC ministry area. This will include clearly defined 2016 WIN’s for each ministry area along with built in accountability factors to track progress throughout the year.

### 2. Worship

The worship services of God’s house serve both as a life-giving connecting point for the believer and their Savior, and as an entry point for those who are yet to discover a life-giving relationship with Christ.

**Worship Milestone:** Average attendance has plateaued over the last five years. A Worship Milestone in 2016 will be to increase the average worship attendance for the year by 8%

### 3. Discipleship

The Guiding Principles recognize a desire that each OSLC member would grow to become an “Everyday Missionary.”

**Discipleship Milestone:** To intentionality test and grow the discipleship process, “myLife”, which moves OSLC members through the four phases of Discipleship Growth.

- A **WIN** in this objective will be completing the discipleship cycle two times.
- A second **WIN** will occur when OSLC members who have completed the

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discipleship cycle bring others to the beginning of the next “myLife” cycle.

### 4. Finances

Each believer is a steward of blessings from God. As a congregation we are called to use God’s financial gifts wisely and honor him with our use of financial blessings.

**Finance Milestone:** A WIN for OSLC financially in 2016 will be to meet the “Uufunded Giving” portion of the 2016 Budget. By doing so, the OSLC General Fund will have the ability to repay other “internal accounts” from which money has been “borrowed” in order to meet General Fund needs in 2015.

### 5. Communication

Our Savior Lutheran Church is a family of believers who are bound together for support in time of need; encouragement in personal faithfulness; and a common commitment to the mission of Christ in this place. Each of these vital components in our life-together is hampered when communication is handled poorly.

**Communication Milestone:** To intentionally improve timely and effective communication of essential information to our church family through a variety of means.

- A **WIN** in this area will be to demonstrate growth in the effectiveness of each current communication venue.
- A second **WIN** will be to demonstrate growth in the effectiveness of OSLC social media.
- A third **WIN** will be the development and successful implementation of an Our Savior Lutheran Church App for mobile devices which includes both a communication portal and a giving portal.

**Action Item:** The proposed procedure, “Developing Ministry Milestones: The Process” was approved for action in 2016 for developing OSLC’s 2017 Milestones. See below.

#### Developing Ministry Milestones: The Process

In order to develop meaningful Ministry Milestones for an upcoming year an adequate investment in time for evaluation, prayer and seeking God’s will for our church’s future is recommended. Therefore the following process is proposed that will allow a more thorough evaluation of ministry needs and opportunities to be addressed with yearly Ministry Milestones.

**Proposed:** Select a group representing a cross section of the congregation and congregational leaders (which may or may not include Governing Board members) who will meet for a series of round-table discussions on key issues related to the church’s current and future ministry opportunities. This group will wrestle and pray through issues and opportunities necessary to form the congregation’s Ministry Milestones. In September this group will present a proposed set of Ministry Milestones for the Governing Board to consider for adoption for the upcoming year.

#### **Timeline**

April	Begin the selection process for the Milestone Team
May	Finalize the team and identify topics for discussions and presenters

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June - August	Begin and hold discussions
September	Present proposed Ministry Milestones to the Governing Board
October	Governing Board Adopts Ministry Milestones
November	Ministry Milestones communicated at the Semi-Annual meeting

No action was taken on the Immediate Facilities needs. Bids for flooring and air conditioning in the fellowship hall, along with replacement doors did not arrive.

The first draft of the document, “Our Savior Lutheran Church: Our Identity” was reviewed and presented for discussion. The board members strongly identified with the need to record in writing the distinct features of Our Savior Lutheran Church that have been central to the growth and effectiveness of our ministry for over 30 years. Strong, favorable discussion on the document’s points followed. **Action item:** By consent this document is to be completed, reviewed by the GB, and adopted prior to the November 8<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual meeting.

The upcoming, November 8<sup>th</sup>, Semi-Annual Meeting was discussed. In addition to Dakota Hope Clinic and Community Action, two more “Congregational Mission Choices” are to be added to the ballot. The wisdom of having the Nominations and Elections committee tabulate ballots and run the election process was recommended as an added level of protection and accountability for the congregation’s balloting process.

The timeline for 2016 Governing Board was reviewed and its basic outline was agreed upon for implementation.

The Governing Board, including newly elected members, will meet for a New Member Welcome and Training Meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Pastor Krueger’s home with supper at 6:00 PM followed by discussion.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Governing Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9-11:30a.m.