



Special Committee

Faith Luther Church, Reno, NV

Status **Completed** ▾

Timing **Mar 29, 2026** to **Jul 6, 2026**

Members Ben P, Judi H, Amanda O, Debbie H, Connie A, DavyAnn S, Theresa W, Jean C, Sharon S., Sonja D, Cheryl V.

Overview

The council approved for this special committee to meet and explore the congregation's questions and concerns about joining with Kindred Church to have a joint fellowship and children's time and share our facilities on Sundays.

Objectives

- Discuss questions and concerns and gather information
- Brainstorm possible plans for collaborative use of our space
- Connect with Kindred Church
- Make a recommendation to the council

Our approach

Meetings

- Our committee met 6 times, once in person and the rest by zoom
 - 3/29/26 in person to plan for future meetings
 - 4/6/26 on zoom to discuss concerns and determine strategies of addressing them

- 4/13/26 on zoom, continuing the discussion
- 5/18/26 on zoom, after 3 members visited Kindred Church to debrief and come to consensus on recommendations
- 6/23/36 on zoom, with Pastor Rob, to connect and ask any further questions
- 7/6/26 on zoom, to finalize the report and recommendations

Questions/Concerns addressed

- Sunday morning timelines for services and fellowship
- Logistics of shared facilities (noise level, access to the kitchen,, etc.), resources, consumables, etc.
- Scheduling of special events, church meetings, etc.
- Financial considerations
- Shared children’s faith formation, what that would look like and how it would work
- Understanding more about Kindred Church itself

Action Steps

- Discussed the biggest concerns and categorized them
- Members shared sample timelines for services, shared ideas on logistics and how to partner together
- Members of Kindred Church visited Faith to walk through the building with Pastor Shaun, Amanda, and Sharon to discuss ideas and logistics
- Ben, Amanda and Sharon visited Kindred Church on May 10
- The committee met with Pastor Rob via zoom on June 23
- A brief was created to summarize our work and our recommendations to the council, signed by the committee’s members with any dissension noted.

Key Points

Concern	Information and Recommendations/Proposals
Kindred Church	<p>Their mission: To be an authentic, loving community that fosters spiritual exploration and contributes goodness to the world.</p> <p>They believe in a triune God, the Apostle’s Creed, and want to live the teachings of Jesus. They are looking for a better space to hold their services. They are currently meeting at a theater where they have to haul in and out their equipment every Sunday. They average approximately 40-50 adults along with approximately 12-15 children every Sunday. They</p>

Concern

Information and Recommendations/Proposals

	currently meet at 10 am on Sundays, and are willing to start at a later time (not to exceed 11am) for this partnership.
Timeline	Faith will not change the start time of the service, but will end by 10:40 am. Kindred Church service will start at 11:00 am. See Sample Schedule below.
Kitchen Access	The passage will be through the fireside room and a divider/temporary wall will be used to create a working area for moving from the fireside room to the kitchen while services are being held in the sanctuary space.
Resources	Kindred will pay a monthly fee for their use of water, electricity, and consumables, etc. (\$300 was discussed)
Scheduling	<p>Faith and Kindred will work together to ensure appropriate scheduling for any special events, holidays, and congregational meetings. Kindred does not hold a traditional service on the last Sunday of the month and instead hosts family dinners. These Sundays would be optimal dates for Faith Lutheran to conduct special meetings or events as there would be no use needed after 10:40am.</p> <p>Each congregation's special events/holidays will be addressed by the joint committee during their monthly meetings.</p>
Children's Time	The children's time for both Faith and Kindred churches will overlap, and both children's ministry members will work together to provide Bible lessons/stories/fun/connection, as well as options for crafts and activities. Faith's children will start at approximately 10:50am, as they currently do, and Kindred's children will join in around 11:10 am after they participate in the music at the beginning of their service. Kindred's children will leave to join communion at the end of their service. Faith's "Kids' Place" time then remains the same as it is now: 10:50am-11:50am. Both churches are committed to building a strong Christian community for our children and youth through collaboration, thoughtful connection, and hospitality.
Fellowship	<p>Fellowship Coffee Hour and Snacks will take place in the fellowship hall. Faith will begin their fellowship time at the conclusion of their service and can remain in the fellowship hall as long as they choose if they are not participating in the adult forum (which begins at 11am). Kindred will enter the building through the back and will start in the fellowship hall as Faith finishes their service. This time overlaps providing a small window for shared coffee hour. Kindred also has some fellowship/snack time after their service as well.</p> <p>The churches will work together to determine logistics. One proposal is that Faith makes coffee and sets up the fellowship space and that Kindred will clean it up.</p>

Concern	Information and Recommendations/Proposals
	<p>Both churches feel that to build a stronger cross-church connection, members of both congregations are invited and welcomed at special events or family dinners hosted by either church.</p> <p>Some are concerned that having fellowship in the fellowship room would create logistical issues with moving the food/coffee/etc from the kitchen to the fellowship room and could impact volunteers.</p>
Communication	<p>This committee (or a separate smaller one) will meet monthly with Kindred leadership to address any concerns that arise, plan for future events, etc. Both churches are committed to a collaborative partnership addressing needs that arise with patience and grace.</p>
Contract	<p>The council will negotiate the final contract with specifics. Kindred has asked for the contract be made for at least one year, as they are not renewing their current space and would need time to prepare in the future if they needed to find another space.</p> <p>The committee wants to be sure that the decisions being made are financially sound. There are concerns about making modifications to our facilities and how that will impact our budget and finances. The committee also wants to make sure that we follow fire/safety code for room/space capacity. The committee recommends that the council take this into consideration when writing the contract.</p>

Proposed Sunday Schedule:

9:30-10:40	Faith's Worship service
10:40-11:00 and	Fellowship Coffee Hour/Snacks in the fellowship hall for both Faith and early arriving Kindred folks Kindred sets up for their service during this window too.
11:00- 12:00	Faith's Adult forum - in the fireside room Kindred's church service (could go longer) Faith's children's time (10:50 -11:50ish) Kindred's children join Faith's around 11:10-11:45ish)
12:00-12:30	Kindred's service is finishing Have donuts and sweets for kids after service

Committee Recommendation:

At this time, the special committee recommends that this be brought to the congregation for a vote for Faith Lutheran Church enter into contract with Kindred Church to share Faith’s facilities and have joint fellowship coffee hour and children’s time with the documented concerns being addressed. This partnership can be beneficial, expanding our relationship with the wider Christian church, and providing our children friends and relational connections with like-minded peers and families. The committee recommends that the congregational vote be a closed ballot.

Committee Members:

Agreement

Signature

Concerns

Signature