

Faith Lutheran Church - Council Minutes

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

President Jon Kamrath	x	Vice President Scott Glaser		Treasurer Al Liepold	x	Secretary Niki Pokornowski	x
Kim Pearson	x	Tanja Glaser	x	Cheryl Buboltz	x	Lola Bradford	x
Sharon Jenkins		Monica Schiller	x	Lori Swift	x	Richard Settergren	x
		Dave Skaar	x				
Pastor Scott	x	Pastor Dave	x	Pastor Paulus	x	Pastor Paul	x
Wendy Magruder	x	Marsha Schmit	x	Sara Wegner	x	Jeff Amundson	
Austin Willhite	x	Laura Stowman	x	Kristen Durst	x		

Call to order by President, Jon Kamrath @ 7:43 p.m.
Devotion by Lola Bradford

Secretary's Report: M/S/C to approve November 2025 meeting minutes as presented

Treasurer's Report:

- General Fund balance has been reduced by \$130,600 since the beginning of the year. We have used \$34,000 from the \$50,000 reserve balance to cover expenses.
- Special designated funds expense includes a payment to Youthworks for the 2026 mission trip and poinsettia payment prior to deposits being made.
- Building and Repair paid for Ansgar garage doors, Plunkett's annual service and the fall payment for geo-thermal system monitoring, which reduced the balance about \$2,900.
- The Leap of Faith capital campaign received approximately \$70,900 in donations and interest earned. A new CD will be opened in December.
- November reflects a net loss of \$6,900. Ministry for Benevolence includes disbursements approved at last month's council meeting from the Special Projects lines for both local and global. Ministry for Mission Gifts include payments to our ministry partners designated in the Thanksgiving Hunger Appeal. The remaining deposits were received and also distributed in December.
- Giving through Nov. was higher than last year by \$31,704, which is a 4.36% increase.
- M/S/C to approve the Treasurer's report for November 2025

Pastor/Staff Reports: Presented in writing.

Ministry Team Reports:

Congregational Life (Tanja Glaser and Monica Schiller)

- We had 50 tags for the Giving Tree in partnership with Chap Ministries' Adopt a Senior program.
- Discussed the cookie and cocoa fellowship being held on Dec 17 after the Advent service.
- The team is taking over the meal that will be served before the annual meeting on January 25.

Discipleship (Cheryl Buboltz and Lori Swift)

- The team will host a Bibleopoly celebration during the education hour on January 4.
- The free-will offering received from the soup and chili supper will be given to Common Cup.
- The team delivered caps and bags to Common Cup Ministries.
- Discussing a possible "Shower for Jesus" in 2026 to collect baby basic needs and diapers

Management (Exec Committee)

- A new CD was opened at CenBank in Hutchinson for \$250,000 with Leap of Faith campaign funds.

- The dishwasher may just need a part to be replaced. More to come after some evaluation.

Worship (Dave Skaar)

- New sound equipment will be installed in Foundation starting in January.
- Discussion on how to raise funds needed to complete the equipment project.

Children, Youth and Family (Lola Bradford and Richard Settergren)

- Reviewed the Happy Birthday Jesus party that was held on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9:00-11:00. It had a Snoopy theme and was well attended. Talking about adding a half-hour next year for some music time.
- The mission trip coffee fundraiser that was held on Sunday, Dec. 14, and made \$1,159.87.
- Team discussed activities for 2026; pool party, senior brunch, fall kickoff and Happy Birthday Jesus party.

Church in the World (Kim Pearson and Sharon Jenkins)

- Discussed where to disburse mission funds in 2026. They will know in January the total funds available.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee Update—The team is still working hard and has only 4 positions still open.

Year-end-giving goals

- Faith typically receives 25% of her annual offerings in November and December.
- At this point, the church still needs a little more than \$100K by the end of the year.
- A Joy to the World offering appeal will be sent out to the congregation.

2026 Budget Review

- Sara went over budget line changes; she moved some lines around and combined some.
- Due to a 27th pay date in 2026, the personnel budget line will increase by 6.55%.
- Overall, there is a proposed 5.24% increase in the 2026 budget.
- The final recommendation for the budget will be made at the January council meeting.

Annual Reports Due—January church council meeting on the 6th /Annual Meeting will be on January 25.

New Business:

Advent/Christmas Preview (FLIP Sunday)

- Pre-K–1st grade Sunday School Christmas program will be on Sunday, Dec. 21, during the 10:10 Foundation Service. That will necessitate “Flip Sunday,” when the Foundation and Sanctuary services change spaces.
- No Sunday School on 12/28/25 or 1/4/26.
- 5 Christmas Eve Services and 1 service on Christmas Day.
- On Sunday, Dec. 28, the 10:10 service will be a combined service in the sanctuary.

Approve Pastor’s Housing Allowance

- Scott \$50,000, Dave \$38,000, and Paulus up to 50% of income—M/S/C to approve these allowances.

Communion Helper Schedule:

December 24 (Christmas Eve)	11:00 p.m.	Niki	
December 25 (Christmas Day)	10:00 a.m.	Lori	
January 4	8:00 a.m.	Richard and Al	10:10 a.m. Connie and Niki
January 14	8:00 a.m.	Scott and Monica	10:10 a.m. Lori and Al

If you cannot serve at an assigned service, please find someone to switch with you and then let Wendy know.

Correspondence this month from various organizations to thank us for our support

The next regular church council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 6, starting at 6 p.m.

Devotion for January – Scott Glaser

Closing Prayer by Pastor Dave

Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 p.m.