

Faith Lutheran Church - Council Minutes Tuesday, January 6, 2026

President Jon Kamrath	x	Vice President Scott Glaser	x	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		Pastor Paulus	x	Pastor Paul	x
Wendy Magruder	x	Marsha Schmit	x	Sara Wegner	x	Jeff Amundson	x
Austin Willhite	x	Laura Stowman	x	Kristen Durst	x		

Call to order by President, Jon Kamrath @ 7:39 p.m. Devotions led by Scott Glaser.

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

Treasurer's Report:

- The end-of-year balance shows revenue over expenses by \$16,600. General Fund reserve balance was replenished to the full \$50,000.
- Special funds deposits include flowers, mission trip support and 2026 deposits, and FLY coffee funds.
- Building and Repair deposits, less a few minor repairs increased the balance approximately \$2,200.
- Leap of Faith capital campaign received approximately \$300,200 in donations and interest earned. Sara will open a new CD in January for a total of \$1 million in CD's plus a savings balance of \$68,400.
- December shows a net gain of \$146,966 and a year-end gain of \$16,593. Ministry for Personnel line includes two health insurance payments due to a delay in November invoicing. The Mission Gifts lines (Revenue and Expense) have been moved to the "Other Income/Expense" section. All gifts received in revenue are sent out to the missions designated: Thanksgiving/ Hunger, Christmas Child boxes, Sunday school, and confirmation service offering. These lines are not reflected in income or expense for the general budget lines, so are set up in a different section.
- Dec. offerings comprised 25% of this year's giving, which was 6.22% more than 2024 or \$58,020.
- M/S/C to approve the Treasurer's report for December 2025

Pastor/Staff Reports:

No reports for the month since the meeting was two weeks earlier than usual.

Ministry Team Reports:

Church in the World (Kim Pearson and Sharon Jenkins)

- The team started to discuss how they will distribute funds .
- A new mission project they will support is the Valetine's Day Widow Project

Congregational Life (Tanja Glaser and Monica Schiller)

- Cookies and cocoa after the med-week Advent service was a success.
- The team will handle the lunch before the annual meeting, serving Domino's Pizza.

Discipleship (Cheryl Buboltz and Lori Swift)

- The team spent time recapping their year.
- The Bibleopoly boards had 1300 dots for the year. There were 1900 dots the last time we did it.
- The team will continue to make May baskets for shut-ins
- Noted that Augustana District will hold a men's retreat at Christ the King in Hutchinson on April 18.

Management (Exec Committee)

- Discussed financial reports for December.
- Reviewed budget items for 2026.
- We will open another \$250,000 CD with Leap of Faith funds.

Worship (Dave Skaar)

- No update on the organ. Austin is waiting to hear back from the technician.
- There is a plan to start installing the new-to-us sound equipment in Foundation
- The team is discussing worship beautification, a way we can dress up gathering areas.

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

- Pool Day is scheduled for Sunday, February 22, from 2-4 p.m.
- The team is brainstorming names for potential new Faith Seeds leaders.

Old Business:

Christmas Review—6 services with over 1,000 attending. The 2:00 service this year had over 300 people.

Annual Meeting, the only constitutionally required meeting of the church, is on January 25, 2026.

- Church council members are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Final review and recommendation for 2026 Budget

- Church in the World ministry team will distribute 11% of 2025's General Fund offerings to be sent in 2026. The team will determine each line item to use the \$108,986 in benevolence funds.
- Combined lines for Welcome Refreshments and Food & Fellowship, and Befrienders and Pastoral Care. Children's ministry has a few lines to move and/or combine for school release, B23, FFF, etc.
- Youth Mission Trip line increased based on previous church council approval.
- Music and Worship line increased for planned replacement of any modules/equipment/instruments.
- Increased cost for Library Square rental during the summer.
- Personnel reflects 27 paydays in 2026, plus MN Paid Leave premiums, increased health and dental premiums, and a modest salary increase. After minor adjustments, total has an 6.55% increase and an overall budget increase of 5.48%.
- M/S/C to recommend the revised budget to the congregation at the annual meeting for approval.

New Business:

Discussion about laity administering Holy Communion. M/S/C to authorize Casey Nornes to administer Holy Communion in Foundation on Sundays when one of pastor is absent.

Year-end-giving was STRONG! \$530,000 was given in Dec. to the General Fund and Leap of Faith.

Annual meeting preview reports available for review on Sunday

Presidential Farewell: Jon Kamrath gave some remarks and was thanked for leading the church council.

Communion Helper Schedule:

January 11	8:00 a.m.	Scott and Tanya	10:10 a.m.	Lori and Al
February 1	8:00 a.m.	Niki and Lola	10:10 a.m.	Jon and Al
February 8	8:00 a.m.	Monica and Jon	10:10 a.m.	Richard and Connie

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

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

The annual meeting is on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 12 noon.

The next regular church council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17, at 6 p.m.

Devotions for February: Niki Pokornowski

Closing Prayer by Pastor Scott

Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 pm