

Minutes of Congregation Council Meeting

August 19, 2025

7:00 pm

I. Call to Order 7:00pm

- a. Attendance: Katie Bashus, Faye Casciano, Mike Epperly, Kristin Ervin, John Osenbach, Hannah Schmoyer, Pastor Tami Reichley, Courtney Keiser, Tom Bradley, Bob Mueller, Pastor Cindy Camp, Bob Bolen, Rob Sandoval, Kyle David, Mike Berkheimer
- b. Excused: Pastor Shari Duminy
- c. Devotions: Mike Epperly

II. Discussion

- a. Resource listing: progress made
- b. How to implement core values: adult faith formation presentation, communication, promotion by council members, announcements, personal outreach
- c. Dean Black will retire on September 30, 2025
 - a. Honoring his work: staff lunch, church worship announcement, gift card
 - b. Plan to fill Faith Community Nurse position: multi-faceted role
- d. Inactive status membership review ongoing
- e. Sunday Night Live (pilot program)
 - a. Support for gathering congregation
 - b. Communication concern: not all staff and council knew about event before invite went out
 - c. Concerns about showing a sermon from outside our church
 - d. Initial invite went to select members, with no direct open invitation to whole congregation. Desire feedback from these select members. Hope to expand if successful.

III. Approve July 2025 Meeting Minutes. **APPROVED.**

IV. Approve Endowment Team's recommendation to grant \$800 to Karin Kahler to cover higher-than-expected Vacation Bible School expenses. **APPROVED.**

V. Authorize a \$2,500 distribution from the Wotring Endowment, consisting of \$800 for the Vacation Bible School request (above) and \$1,700 for Sunday School and New Baby Ministry expenses already included in the 2025 budget. **APPROVED.**

VI. Reaffirm and expand LCHS's commitment to be open to calling LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC (Black, Brown, Indigenous, People of Color) Rostered Leaders to serve as clergy or deacons within the congregation. **APPROVED.**

VII. Approve the use of sanctuary and community spaces for LGBTQIA+ weddings and blessings in which LCHS Clergy may officiate. **APPROVED.**

VIII. Approve moving specified members to inactive status, as they have not worshipped or given since December 2023. **DEFERRED.**

IX. The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit Financial Summary, July 2025

JULY OPERATING INCOME

\$67,438 - \$2,936 ABOVE budget (4.55%)

- Operating pledged income (\$59,987) was 6.44% ABOVE budget.
- Operating unpledged income (\$5,446) was 18.6% UNDER budget.
- Mission Investment Fund interest was \$839.

JULY NET INCOME

(\$27,365) (July deficit was LOWER than budgeted operating cash balance deficit of \$37,434)

JULY OPERATING EXPENSES

\$ 94,802 - Expenses UNDER budget by \$7,132 (7 %)

- Technology expenses were under budget.
- Office supplies, service contracts and kitchen supplies were over budget.
- People expenses down due to no sexton salary/benefits; however, this is offset by cleaning services under service contracts.

JULY OPERATING CASH BALANCE

\$195,921

- This is a DECREASE of \$27,365 since the previous month of June.
- This DECREASE was actually \$10,070 LESS than the budgeted amount.

BUILDING FUND

\$7,527.44 – Balance as of July 31, 2025

- Deposits -\$465
- No expenditures during July

MORTGAGE UPDATE

\$350,636.92 – Balance as of July 31, 2025

X. Open discussion

- a. Proposal to create a “wants” and “needs” list so that we can more easily see where money should be spent
- b. Looking into outside support for tech
- c. Youth ministry planning in the works based on feedback
- d. Pictorial church directory is on hold; no current volunteers to lead
- e. New designated missionary for global missions in Tanzania

XI. Tuesday, September 16, 2025 Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM

XII. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm