

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

September 18, 2025 – 6:30 PM

Conference Room

Members present: Matt McMerty (President), Colleen Peterson, Mitch Becker, Lucas Teigen, Effie Carr, Bob Baumann, Denise Wetzel, Julie Leer, and Pastor Mark Narum

Members absent: Phil Murdoff, Dean Natwick, Barb Pfeifer, and Pastor Martha HarriSon

President McMerty called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Devotions were given by Matt McMerty.

Approval of Agenda: Request was made to add an item under New Business: Sabbaticals.

It was moved by Colleen Peterson and seconded by Effie Carr to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Acceptance of Consent Agenda: It was moved by Lucas Teigen and seconded by Denise Wetzel to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Denise Wetzel presented the Financial Report. See Attachment A. It was moved by Julie Leer and seconded by Colleen Peterson to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried.

Dwelling in the World: Council members discussed Trinity's role in the state of the current political violence and polarization. At the end of the discussion we were left with this thought:

"Pray to God in the morning so God gets in your head before you do."

Old Business:

Personnel Policy Taskforce:

The policy manual is under continued revision.

Lighting:

The final project from the capital campaign is the lighting. Materials and supplies still have not shipped. We are awaiting additional information to potentially explore other options.

App update:

The search continues.

Worship Experiment/Tech table recruiting:

In addition to continuing to produce the bulletins, Trinity staff will also prepare the slides for worship. The "tech table talent" search continues.

Altar railing:

Refinishing the railing prior to re-installing it is a work in progress.

New Business:

Trust Grants:

The following trust grant requests were discussed:

Request for ~\$2850 to rent a ramp to replace lighting in the sanctuary.

Request for \$2800 to fund the *Ground Up Grace* devotional

It was moved by Julie Leer and seconded by Lucas Teigen to recommend the grant to Trust. Motion carried.

Sabbaticals:

The Sabbatical guidelines for Pastors were discussed and approved for use for Trinity Pastors.

Portico:

The health insurance under Portico has increased by approximately \$6000/year. This represents a 4% increase. It was moved by Mitch Becker and seconded by Colleen Peterson to accept the new plan which provided benefits closest to the current plan. Motion carried.

Stewardship Committee:

Please complete your giving intent cards and return them to the Finance Director. There is also an online option for completing the cards. Anonymous cards are happily accepted. It is helpful to know the anticipated giving for budgeting purposes, but we don't need to know who gave for budgeting purposes. If congregational members do not want to be identified, that's perfectly fine.

Other Business:

Steve Schilling's artwork is on Exhibition at Gallery 522 (Corner of Broadway and 3rd). Check it out!

Pastor Mark confirmed the last service for Grace Lutheran Church in Driscoll will be held on November 2, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. Please keep the Grace Lutheran congregation in your prayers.

Next meeting is Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions for October: Bob Baumann

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted,
Julie Leer, Secretary