

**Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting**

November 20, 2025 – 6:30 PM

Conference Room

**Members present:** Matt McMerty (President), Colleen Peterson, Mitch Becker, Phil Murdoff, Dean Natwick, Lucas Teigen, Bob Baumann, Denise Wetzel, Julie Leer, Pastor Mark Narum, and Pastor Martha HarriSon

**Members absent:** Barb Pfeifer and Effie Carr

President McMerty called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Devotions were given by Lucas Teigen.

Thank-you cards were identified.

**Approval of Agenda:** A request was made to amend the agenda.

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

**Acceptance of Consent Agenda:** It was moved by Julie Leer and seconded by Denise Wetzel to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Denise Wetzel presented the Financial Report. See Attachment A. (**NOTE:** I copied the report into a Word document prior to attaching it because the .pdf was saving as an extremely large file and couldn't be submitted electronically with the minutes.) It was moved by Phil Murdoff and seconded by Colleen Peterson to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried.

**Dwelling in the World:** Council members discussed Trinity's budget for the coming year.

**Old Business:**

*Personnel Policy Taskforce:*

The policy manual is under continued revision.

*App update:*

The search continues.

*Celebration of Capital Campaign Completion and 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence Day:*

Discussion tabled.

*Lighting:*

The lighting project is underway. The contractor is working on addressing the switch to turn the lights all the way off (vs. just having them dimmed as low as they can go).

*Christmas Special Offering:*

Council discussed potential recipients of the Christmas Special Offering. It was moved by Dean Natwick and seconded by Mitch Becker to designate Youthworks as the recipient of the 2025 Christmas Special Offering. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

*New Waste Hauling Contract:*

The Contract with Waste Management ends at the end of November. Due to fee increases with Waste Management, staff identified a different vendor to serve Trinity.

*Unexpected Gifts Policy:*

Council discussed the need to create a policy that will guide Trinity in handling unexpected large financial gifts Trinity receives. Council will be having further discussions at future meetings.

*Designation of Local Benevolence:*

It was moved by Dean Natwick and seconded by Mitch Becker to designate the Ronald McDonald House as the recipient of the Local Benevolence for 2025.

*Trust Grants:*

The following trust grant requests were discussed:

- Request for \$1500 for the one-time licensing fee that will allow Trinity to access and use the resources of Rejoicing Spirit as a means to providing a regular worship service at Trinity for people with special needs (such as developmental disabilities) are invited to worship.
- Request for \$1000 to support the Good Samaritan Fund which is available to support congregation members during a time of need. This was particularly important during the recent shutdown of the Federal government.
- Request for \$2800 to pay for 48 Faith Chests.
- Request for payment of repairs to the organ.

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

*New Mixer Board for the Sound System:*

Plans are underway to replace the mixer board for the sound system. Trinity received a quote for \$5840 that will cover the installation and training on the use of the mixer board. Memorial funds given in memory of Jan Baumann exist which will cover the quoted cost. It was moved by Bob Baumann and seconded by Colleen Peterson to proceed with the plans at the quoted cost to begin after Christmas.

Next meeting is Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions for December: Pastor Mark will cover for Dean Natwick who will be absent.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:07 p.m.

Submitted,  
Julie Leer, Secretary