

Congregational Council Minutes  
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
Sunday, March 1st  
Upper Lakeside Room

**Congregational Council Members Present:** Anna Quanbeck, Melissa Bergman, Craig Bursch, Bob “Big Thumb” Franseen, Lara Ahrens, Spenser Miller, Pastor Lisa Buchanan, and Leah Moore

1. Call to Order (Anna)
  - Anna called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m
2. Approve Minutes from February 2026
  - Craig made a motion to approve the minutes from February 4. Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor. No further discussion.
3. Pastor’s Report
  - No pastoral report
4. Treasurer’s Report
  - Total revenues of \$47,541.75. This amount was made up of two main sources: pledged receipts, which totaled \$38,795.50, and unpledged receipts, which amounted to \$7,150.00. Compared to the same period last year, revenues increased by \$5,403.64, suggesting an improvement in income generation and a positive trend.
  - Total expenses for January came to \$38,827.00. The Building & Property category saw higher costs than last year, largely because of a snow removal expense of \$3,900.00, which covered services provided from November 30th through January 1st.
  - Despite this specific increase, overall expense management appears to be effective and within expectations, indicating that financial oversight remains strong.
  - The financial position year-to-date shows a positive increase of \$7,714.75. This figure, calculated as the difference between budgeted revenues and expenses so far, reflects careful attention to budgeting and financial stewardship.
  - Although it is still early in the year, the financial results from January are encouraging for LCGS. The organization will need to continue monitoring its financial performance over the coming months to ensure that these positive results persist and that budget expectations are consistently met.
  - Anna mentioned getting up in front of the congregation once in a while to update them on where we are. This will help inform where your money is going and is there a need for more giving. The Council suggested that a quarterly update would be the proper interval and Anna agreed.
  - Craig made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report. Lara seconded the report. All were in favor.
5. Old Business
  - Treasurer position

- Joe has agreed to be in this position on an interim basis but has served beyond his initial year long commitment. Anna will speak at the 3/29 service and will give an update of budget and ask for a permanent treasurer with an accounting background. The Council noted that there was no shortcoming in Joe's efforts however.
- Joe has agreed to continue on an interim basis until a more permanent replacement is found.
- Review Project Timeline and add By-Law Project
  - Council will review the bylaws and be ready to discuss at the next meeting.
  - Council will create a task force to look into all the groups within the bylaws. Which ones of these are productive, and which ones could be consolidated.
  - Pastor Lisa's contract ends at the end of May. We need to be thinking of what the next steps would be if we do not have a pastor by then.

## 6. New Business

- Frank Wanner has excused self from council while on call committee. Anna has agreed to contact Frank on behalf of Council to indicate that Frank is encouraged by Council unanimously to return to Council when the Call Committee work is complete.
- Treasurer meeting attendance
  - Melissa will make sure that Joe is included in the next meeting invitation and possibly move forward to finding a replacement as he has gone above and beyond.
- Formation of a Worship Task Force
  - Gets the pulse of the congregation of what's going really well and what could be left behind.
  - This could be really beneficial before or as we are transitioning into a new pastor.
  - This taskforce could lead into a worship committee (as the Experiencing God committee does not meet as often)
- Elect 2 council members to Endowment Board
  - Craig (at-large) and Spenser (ex-officio) will be these two members.
- Sketch Out Organizational Structure on White Board
- Signage quote from Duluth Signs
  - These signs would include signs to show where different locations are within the building.
  - Right now our signs blend in with the brick walls.
  - A question was brought up what the 48" x 48" informational/wayfinding sign downstairs would be for and why it is so big.
  - Pastor Lisa will get details on this, send information to the council, and the council will make a vote through email.
  - Small committee to form to make sure that all signs are where they should be going, is everything spelled right, and what all do we want labeled and what do we label it. (Christine, Pastor Lisa, and Amiee?)
- Linda Turpening performance
  - Cooperative and collaborative performance between Linda and Elias Mokole to do a performance for music ministry.

- Possibly using this as a fundraiser for the music ministry.
7. Schedule next meeting
    - Next meeting will be Monday, March 23 at 6:00 PM in the Upper Lakewide Room.  
Craig will do devotions.
  8. Closing Prayer & Close Meeting- Spenser made a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Melissa seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30

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