



Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 23, 2025; 5:00PM in Person/Zoom

Next Meeting October 28, 2025

Mission – "Gathered faithfully to love and serve God and our neighbors"

Values – Mutual Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Service, Forgiveness, Commitment, Perseverance, Faithfulness, Compassion, Flexibility

In Attendance: Pastor Eric Olsen, Ann Greenwood-President, Joan Searles-Vice President, Lauren Wardach-Secretary, Anita Wooton – Treasurer (Zoom), Jane Sanks-Asst. Treasurer, Peggy Ragan, Jerry Cooper, Scott Rice, Julianne Geyser, and Quyen Dang.

- Call to Order: Ann Greenwood opened the meeting at 5:03 PM.
- A Quorum was established.
- Opening Prayer: Pastor Eric offered a prayer to begin the meeting.
- July Minutes Approval: A motion was made by Joan S. to accept the minutes of the Council meeting in July. Jane seconded the motion. In discussion Scott requested a minor change. All agreed and were in favor of approving the minutes. There was no August meeting.

Committee Reports:

- A consent agenda was motioned by Jerry C. and seconded by Jane S. to accept the minutes as written by the Property Committee. No discussion and all were in favor.
- Finance: Report offered by Anita W. See Finance Report for details. Some highlighted items were:
 - The Angel Patron Fund, dedicated to the FLC music program, has received a \$50,000 gift. A planning committee which will oversee distribution of the funds will be established. The Angel Patron Fund will have a separate investment account. Patty McKee will chair this committee.
 - Website maintenance has been brought in-house. Pastor Eric's friend reworked our website for a small fee; it now can be maintained by Carrie. This will save a monthly administrator fee.
 - Our insurance agent is pleased with the diligence we are showing in maintaining our building. Because of this we may be able to obtain wind damage insurance which was not an option previously. We will assess the cost for future premiums.
 - Pastor's discretionary fund now has a name. It will be a line item designated for Pastor's Humanitarian Benevolence Fund.
 - Pastors Larry and Marianne will both now serve as Assistants to the Pastor. A donation was given to cover this expense for the period of a year. Pastor Eric will have staff meetings regularly.
 - Our Property Committee learned of an old copper piping problem on the south side of the building. The lowest quote to repair the problem was \$13,550. The Finance Committee and the Executive Council approved the expense. It is a much-needed repair to avoid any further damage to any of the impacted areas. The funds were available within budget.
 - The Food Pantry fundraiser went well.

Old Business:

At the request of the congregation, we have opted to go back to one all-inclusive bulletin on Sunday mornings. Everyone seems to be very happy with this change.

New Business:

Christmas council gathering will be held on a weeknight in December. TBD

Pastor's Report:

- COAD Community Organizations Active in a Disaster – will be meeting at Faith Lutheran September 24, 2025. There will be 55 – 60 members and meet from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM.
- Property is working on a project to acquire a generator.
- Pastor Eric is actively participating in a program for firefighters and their families to cope with the stress of their work.
- Gulf Conference Florida Bahama Synod – October 25, 2025. The conference will be held at Village on the Isles. Ann and Jane will attend on behalf of Faith Lutheran Church as 2026 ELCA Florida Bahama Synod Assembly representatives.
- Lutheran Services has retained law professionals to aid in complex immigration matters. Their services will be available to our members if needed.
- Diversity Choir will be paying an equitable market rate going forward and only use the Sanctuary for their practices.
- Violin concert on Friday evening, September 26, 2025.

Executive Session: Jane S. motioned we would go into Executive Session. Peggy R. seconded.

Executive Session Conclusion: Ann moved that we leave the session and Jane S. seconded. A vote was held and all were in favor.

Mark Nelson has resigned from his position on council and will now be attending an ELCA church closer to his new home. We will discuss this at our October meeting. According to the constitution it is optional whether to fill the vacancy or possibly wait until the next election.

We closed with The Lord's Prayer.

The meeting ended at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Wardach Church Council Secretary