



Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 28, 2026; 5:00PM in Person/Zoom

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: **ZOOM** - Anita Wooton -Treasurer, Ann Greenwood- Vice President, **In Person** – Pastor Eric Olsen, Jane Sanks-President, Peggy Ragan, Quyen Dang, Linda Burton, Wayne Head, Scott Rice-Secretary, Peggy Ragan, Jerry Cooper, Julianne Geyser, **Excused** - Nancy Flanagan,

- **Call to Order:** Jane Sanks opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.
- **Quorum:** Yes
- **Opening Prayer:** Pastor Eric
- **Minutes Approval:**

A motion was made by Jerry to accept the minutes from the June 23 council meeting. Anita seconded the motion. No discussion. Unanimous approval.

- **Consent Agenda:**

Peggy motioned that committee reports be approved by consent, except for Property. Jerry seconded. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

- **Treasurer Report: Anita**

June giving was a little light compared to budget and prior year. Ministry Expense continues to run higher due to increased need. Other Expenses are in line with budget. See Financial Report for details.

The audit review is complete, and the report has been issued. We have again received a clean opinion, with only two minor adjustments. Pastor noted what a great job our financial team is doing. This is evidenced by our remarkably clean audit opinion. The financial team led by Anita is to be commended.

Our new financial services provider, LMCU, continues to perform well. We are now doing "positive pay", which is a very robust system to guard against fraud.

- **Old Business**

Sarasota Music Conservatory has concluded using Faith as a teaching site. It was too far south for their clients.

Pastor's dental insurance has been arranged.

- **New Business**

The property committee is negotiating for well drilling and to bring in a gas line. Both of these projects require a **site survey, at a cost of \$6000. Jerry motions, Wayne 2nd, no discussion, unanimous approval.**

- **Pastor's Report**

Our air conditioner units continue to fail. In general, air conditioner technology has changed and is more sensitive to power fluctuations which are common in Florida. As we replace units, we are cognizant of the implications of this and are upgrading our systems accordingly.

We had good candidates for our Office Administrator position. We have made an offer and are waiting to hear back. Janet, Lisa, Anita and Wayne conducted a thorough and professional hiring process.

Should background checks be required for council members and/or finance committee members and others who work with finances? We already background check people who work with children and youth. More research and discussion is required, and we need to better understand the parameter options.

Finance Committee proposed and Executive Committee approved a constitutional wording change for non-budgeted emergency expenditures. This is required to enable flexibility when addressing large, unexpected infrastructure expenses which are becoming more frequent as our facilities age. **The maximum aggregate unbudgeted expense under this policy change will be 5% of our annual Revenue budget and must still be approved by council. Motion: Peggy, 2nd:Julianne, no discussion, approved unanimously.**

Up to now, we have been operating using the Synod's recommended policy for Abuse and Molestation Prevention. However, to continue our insurance coverage of this risk, due to a change in insurance requirements, we now need our own separate policy. **Jane has drafted a policy with the help of our insurance agent (policy attached). Motion: Wayne, 2nd:Quyen, no discussion, unanimous approval.** This policy will tighten our procedures for adults working with children in particular.

Jim Winemiller will be a Chair for Faith's 60th Anniversary Celebration. This will be a year-long occasion (fall 2026-fall 2027). We are looking for creative ideas to commemorate this milestone. It will also provide an opportunity to get Faith's name out into the community. Part of this event will be the launching of an Infrastructure Fund. This Fund will allow us to configure and maintain our assets to allow effective ministry into the future. A generous Faith family has pledged a \$3 million dollar for dollar match of contributions. The Infrastructure Fund will be funded over a 5 year period.

- The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted by Scott Rice, secretary