

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 15, 2025

Commenced: 6:59 p.m. Adjourned: 9:12 p.m.

Members present: Steve Grossmann, Missy Keller, Chris Lundberg, Erica Paffel, Lori Sampson, Katie Schmidt (phone), Michael Weiss, Pastor Brian King, Melissa Rambow, Anthony Weber

Staff member present: Stephanie Wendel, Church Accountant

Call to order: President Lori Sampson called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

Opening scripture/prayer: Prayer and devotions reflecting on Psalm 34:8 and how food brings us together was led by Pastor Brian King.

Approval of agenda: Chris Lundberg moved to approve; Steve Grossmann seconded; motion passed.

Capital Campaign update: Dale Fredell, the Capital Campaign Chair, gave the update. There are multiple phases planned, starting with reviewing the project list and creating committees and education groups. We need cost estimates, a final recommendation report submitted to council, and campaigning to individual and group meetings. There is congregational feedback from one cottage meeting, two meetings with outside consultants, and another smaller cottage meeting planned for May 12th. Printed materials, videos, and in-person tours were suggested to cultivate more support.

Communion/offering schedule: Lori Sampson discussed needing 5 stations for Easter communion, and Pastor Brian King mentioned needing 4 more people for washing of the feet on Maundy Thursday. The schedule was circulated.

Approval of March 18, 2025 council minutes: Michael Weiss moved to approve as corrected; Steve Grossmann seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Stephanie Wendel provided the report. March had a net excess of \$4362.00 and YTD a net deficit of (\$10,791). We are doing better than last year by \$11,669.00, but we have an insurance payment due next month. Melissa Rambow moved to approve; Anthony Weber seconded; motion passed.

President's report: Lori Sampson reported that she is quickly gaining experience participating in the Capital Campaign Task Force, and the 3M and cottage meetings.

Pastor's report: Pastor Brian King discussed that our attendance continues to grow, with >150 people on Sundays for the last several weeks. Palm Sunday had approximately 100 more attendees than last year, and our Holden Evening Prayer Services had between 100-120 people each Wednesday, with a lot of new families.

Committee reports:

- **Children, Youth & Family:** Missy Keller provided the report. The pop machine is breaking even financially. The 8th graders had their retreat to write their faith statements and make stolls. Confirmation is May 4th. 5 youth are signed up for Klein Ranch and 6 for the Milwaukee mission trip this summer. The Palm Sunday breakfast was successful but we will not know total earnings until next week.
- **Finance:** Chris Lundberg updated that the amount of the general fund \$25,000.00 CD that matured was actually renewed for a \$27,000.00 CD, due to additional funds in our cash account. Bev Sandgren is checking on giving statements being distributed electronically. This year is the 3 year bidding cycle for our insurance. A \$5,500.00 annual discount in premium is available if we install a fire suppression system, and an automatic water shut off device makes for a favorable renewal. We are checking on these upgrades.
- **Historical:** Anthony Weber and Lori Sampson provided the report. The tour group with Doug Ohman was on April 8th, with 2 more scheduled for May 15th and September 25th. We will host ASI male chorus concert on May 18th.
- **Memorial, Mission & Ministry (3M):** Stephanie Wendel reported donations totaling \$2,100.00, with disbursements to Center City Fire Department, Karl Oscar Days, Harmony in the Park, and Gaza Disaster Relief totaling (\$1,010.00).
- **Outreach:** Lori Sampson provided the report. Many community events are in the planning stages, including floats in the parades for Karl Oskar Days, Wannigan Days, and Center City Days. Decorating luminary bags for Relay For Life and setting up a booth at Harmony in the Park are also planned, with the possibility of the FIKA Event as well.
- **Property:** Steve Grossmann provided the report. The projects recently completed include replacing the stones by the park bench, repainting the handicap plating, door 5 knob repaired, and pest control sprayed at the church and parsonage. There is current interest in a fire suppression sprinkler system, security cameras, west side lightening cable, south fascia repair, under croft hall repair, brick monumental

sign repair, and eliminating restroom sewer gas smell. Steve Grossmann moved to approve consideration of the Lake Area Roofing fascia repair bid of \$4,460.00; Chris Lundberg seconded; motion passed. Steve Grossman moved to approve researching additional security cameras for increased visibility; Michael Weiss seconded; motion passed. Chris Lundberg made an amendment to add a maximum budget of \$8,000.00; Pastor Brian King seconded; motion passed.

- **Worship & Music:** Michael Weiss reported the choir and chime choir are looking for new members. The choir is working on a benediction that is sung at the end of the service.

Old business:

1. **Cottage Meeting on March 30, 2025:** Chris Lundberg reported that in her small group discussion the 2 areas people focused on were security and health. The fire suppression system was lower on the original list of priorities due to cost, but people wished it to be higher, and purifying the air in the lower level was another major concern. Pastor Brian King made a motion to use Recycle Day, May 3rd, as an opportunity to dispose of some contaminated items in the lower level; Anthony Weber seconded; motion passed.
2. **Behavioral Covenant:** Anthony Weber and Melissa Rambow signed the Behavior Covenant of Leadership and Conduct. The rest of the council members had previously signed it.

New business:

1. **Building Use Request:** Bonnie Anderson is requesting use of the fellowship hall on August 17, 2025 for a family reunion. Pastor Brian King moved to approve; Missy Keller seconded; motion passed.
2. **Building Use Request:** Unexpected Company - Vagota Men's Choir Korgassarna is requesting use of the church for a 5:00 pm potluck followed by a 7:00 pm concert on September 17, 2025. Pastor Brian King moved to approve; Chris Lundberg seconded; motion passed.
3. **Building Use Request:** Belles & Whistles, LLC is requesting use of our ball field on May 3-4, 2025 for canine training activities. We need a signed facility use agreement including supporting documents. We will not charge them for use. Chris Lundberg moved to approve; Pastor Brian King seconded; motion passed.
4. **Clean Up Day:** Clean up day will be May 3, 2025 and will be led by the property committee. There will be a notice in the bulletin requesting volunteers.
5. **Internal Audit Review:** Dave Johnson performed the annual internal audit review. He concluded that the books and records of CLLC appear to be

materially accurate in all respects. Testing performed found that the controls governing the financial operations process appear to be in place and operating as intended. The council is very grateful to Dave for his time and effort towards this endeavor.

- 6. National Volunteer Week on April 20-26, 2025:** Pastor Brian King reported that there will be a thankful message in the bulletin for all volunteers. Chris Lundberg is planning to have a basket near the entrance of the sanctuary with thank you gifts, such as candy bars with a customized wrapper, for volunteers.

Mike Weiss made a motion to extend the length of our meeting; Steve Grossmann seconded; motion passed.

- 7. Potential Grants:** Chris Lundberg reported that she is researching grant options. Some, such as Sacred Places, require that the church pay for the project ahead of time and then receive the awarded funds after completion. Since CLLC is classified as a historical building, there is a grant through the Minnesota Historical Society we could use for our door expenses, with a July 18, 2025 application deadline. Chris Lundberg will continue to look into grant opportunities.
- 8. Canopy Purchase:** Lori Sampson discussed the possibility of buying a canopy for our outdoor community events, including outdoor services, the pig roast, VBS, etc. Currently we borrow a canopy. Chris Lundberg will check on storage space and pricing.

Adjournment & closing prayer:

Steve Grossmann moved to adjourn; Mike Weiss seconded; motion passed.

The next meeting will be held May 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Paffel, Council Secretary