

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 22, 2025
Room 127 & Google Meet

Present: Linda Anderson, Marc Anderson, Finn Cox, Stephanie Cox, Megan Gerasch, Threase Harms, Jill Hyda, Pam Lundell, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Maren Steensen, John Swanson, Sally Watson, Barb Waymire, Donna Yeager

Absent: Quent Boyken, Bill Morris

Visitors: Zach Meyer

We Gather in God's Name

I. Call to Order

- Harms called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Linda Anderson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Yeager. Motion carried.

III. Secretary's Report

Hyda noted a correction regarding facility usage fees.

Marc Anderson moved to approve the corrected June 2025 minutes. Seconded by Swanson. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Waymire provided the report to Council. A fraudulent charge was noted and working on reversal from the bank. The June net income was negative, but benevolence and insurance premiums are paid this month. In early August, a Certificate of Deposit matures. The Finance Committee recommended renewing at 4.14%. Two other Certificates of Deposit will mature in the fall with Banker's Trust.

Yeager moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Linda Anderson. Motion carried.

V. For the Good of the Order

- Linda Anderson shared she provided a tour of the kitchen to a group with Plymouth Congregational Church. Linda recommended updating the facility usage fees sheet to state the current year.
- Prayers and thoughts are with the Boyken family as they deal with health concerns.
- Zach Meyer reported on Vacation Bible School held in July. Eighty-six students participated with 40 volunteers. Community students represented 38% of the total. There was about a 50/50 split between new students and returning students. Community engagement events included a visit from Griff II at Drake, Windsor

Heights Fire & Police Department with their dalmatian, Puppy Jake, DMARC Food Pantry donations, and monetary donations for snacks and food. Kelli Stroemer from Heartland Youth Choir volunteered to lead music during the week, and we appreciated her dedication of time and talent. Zach shared questions and recommendations to think about for next year. Zach thanked the Parish Education Committee for all their help in arranging and coordinating the week.

VI. Pastor Report

- Pastor Chris reported the ELCA churchwide assembly is next week with the election of a new presiding bishop as Bishop Eaton retires. Information and ideas on the season of creation were shared.
- Council discussed Chapter 4 focused on Prayer from *Being Christian* by Rowan Williams.

VII. Old Business

- Employee Retention Tax Credit
 - The third check from Q3 2021 was received today for around \$24,000. The credits are added to the capital appeal fund.
- Reconciling in Christ
 - Lundell shared a movie and pizza night will be held Saturday, August 9th after worship. A team will be working on a survey and statement.
- Maintenance/Property Issues
 - Parking lot repainting
 - Boyken is obtaining a quote from Central Iowa Striping.
 - Sanctuary Westside Painting & Exterior Wood Trim
 - Jerry Jenkins will complete work this summer or fall.
 - Window Cleaning
 - Larry's Window Service will complete in early August.
 - Interior Painting
 - Yeager and Watson will help prioritize the items noted during the walkaround.
 - Drive-up Overhang Damage
 - The Executive Committee recommends no action at this time.
 - Commercial Floor Cleaning
 - Heidi has requested a quote from the Merritt Company.
 - 66th Street Sidewalk
 - Quotes have been received from AJ Concrete, I-80 Concrete, and Outdoors by JK. Executive Committee provided a recommendation to Council.

Stephanie Cox moved to approve the I-80 Concrete quote to replace the south portion of the sidewalk and remove the north portion at \$4,939.77. Seconded by Gerasch. Marc Anderson opposed. Motion carried.

- Meals from the Heartland Ministry Team
 - Gerasch shared information gathered for a possible service event. Meals assembled are provided locally and internationally. Plans will look towards a fall event.
- Heartland Youth Choir
 - Boyken and Pastor Chris will visit with HYC in early August.
- Central Iowa Shelter and Services
 - Watson followed up on the amount in the permanent fund and asked Council to think about engagement for 2026. Waymire will have a communication regarding designated offering options with Simply Giving.

VIII. New Business

- Season of Creation Ministry Team
 - The outing at Brenton Arboretum will be held on September 20. Steensen has confirmed the date is available with the Arboretum. If anyone is interested in a certain activity during the season of creation, please let Pastor Chris know.
- Windsor Heights Fall Festival Ministry Team
 - The festival is on October 3-4. The event has grown over the past couple of years. Pastor Chris will talk with Zach about WHLC's possible participation. The topic will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- New Maintenance/Property Issues
 - Tuckpointing on south & west sides of Parish Hall
 - A quote was received from Atlas Masonry and Chimney for \$1,480.

Watson moved to approve the quote from Atlas Masonry and Chimney for \$1,480 to be funded from Repairs & Maintenance. Seconded by Marc Anderson. Motion carried.

- Recent Water Damage
 - Leaks were discovered in the storage closet by the Nursery & damage to a North entry ceiling tile. The leaks have been fixed. These issues may possibly fall under the roof warranty.
 - During recent heavy rains, the hallway by Heartland Youth Choir & Youth Rooms had water damage from an unknown origin.
 - Pastor Chris cleaned the gutters nearby to see if this alleviates the issue.
- Other
 - Pastor Chris fixed the key card entry near the southeast doors.

IX. Announcements

- Council Meeting – Tuesday, August 25, 2025, 6:30 PM

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

X. Reflections & Closing Prayer
Pastor Chris closed the group with the prayer of the day.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Minutes taken by Jill Hyda
July 22, 2025