

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes for May 20th, 2025

Joyce Thode called the meeting to order on May 20th, 2025 at 7:01pm

Present: David Berg (v), Dave Shogren (v), Rev. Tor Berg (p), Kae Peterson (v), Noah Berg (v), Emily Curcio (v), Kendahl Adjorlolo (p), Kristi Pyne (p), Christy Freriks (p), Jacky Schnarre (p), Joyce Thode (p), Ho Brown (v), Paul Flatness (p), Rob Baker (v)

Absent: Sandy Flying Cloud

Quorum was met.

Guests: Andrew Phelps (v), Rachael Jackman (v)

Devotion

Pastor Tor gave devotions from Galatians 4:4-7, describing grace, falling back on familiar tropes, and knowing we are, by the word of God, children of God. Noting the Church is reflecting on our identity as a Church and that, as stated in Genesis, all are made in the image of God. Instead we define people as “us” and “them”, wanting to protect “us” from “them” when we are all together.

Pastor Tor provided the opening prayer.

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Adopt minutes from the April 22nd, 2025 council meeting

- 1 Kendahl and Ho noted a typographical error, resulting in the incorrect use of “personal” where “personnel” should be used.
- 2 Kendahl noted the date was incorrect, stating April 23rd where April 22nd should be.
- 3 “RST” should be changed to “RIC”
- 4 Attendee list should reflect those in attendance.
- 5 The previous meeting minutes were approved with the noted changes.

Adopt minutes from January 26th, 2025 Special Council meeting

- 1 The meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Continuing Resolution Review (Andrew Phelps)

- 1 Document references C12 of the constitution, noting the Council may form committees.
- 2 Ho noted mission and social statements should now be added to all CRs. Pastor Tor will add the updated content to the document.
- 3 For reference Andrew view access all other CRs.
- 4 The resolution was approved by unanimous consent.

Pastor Berg’s Report

- 1 Membership
 - 1.1 New members (Swaggart family, Christensen family, Wayne Larman and sons, Rev. Al Harness, Gabe Hernandez)
 - 1.2 Paul Wang to receive a membership certificate.
 - 1.3 Summer worship planning is done.
 - 1.4 Roger busy, planning VBS and teen Summer trip.
 - 1.5 Van drivers needed.
 - 1.6 Gary and Derek are moving.
 - 1.7 Vicky Shanks to become an online greeter.
 - 1.8 Noting others are exhibiting a welcoming attitude to visitors.
- 2 Synod Assembly Recap
 - 2.1 Noah Berg, Jean Peterson, Kae Peterson, and Jeff Cozman also in attendance.
 - 2.2 Bishop Shelly Bryan Wee remains in position, continuing to serve as Bishop in the Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA.

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- 2.3 Pastor resolutions passed (Gaza, Supporting Global Refuge)
- 2.4 Support for sister synod in European Russia, recommitting to continue our support and prayers.

Committee Business

- 1 Social Ministries: Rapid Response (Joyce Thode)
 - 1.1 Rapid Response meeting is scheduled for June 22nd, 2:00pm-5:00pm.
 - 1.2 Publicity is not recommended or desired. Word of mouth is preferred.
 - 1.3 A QR code will be shared in trust, not broadly.
 - 1.4 Requests occur for more information presented on social media. A request with lead time is required.
 - 1.5 Christy Freriks will contact Stephanie to determine interest in managing FLC social media presence.
- 2 Creation Care Committee (Christy Freriks)
 - 2.1 Meeting regularly since 2021, adding Kendahl and Tammy over the years.
 - 2.2 Small budget under Social Ministries, but does not meet with Social Ministries.
 - 2.3 Minutes are created and available upon request.
 - 2.4 Moving away from producing only newsletters to include activities.
 - 2.4.1 Applied to be included in Bothell's 2025 Sustainamania.
 - 2.4.2 Educational and composting conversations with information on the breakdown of plastics.
 - 2.4.3 Information may be placed on the new website.
 - 2.5 Burlington Lutheran Church, awarded a PSE grant for solar on their roof. A review to determine if a similar program may be done at FLC.

Old Business

- 1 Audit Committee (Kendahl)
 - 1.1 Confirming with Jean Peterson, pending a followup discussion.

New Business

- 1 Paul Yang, new member.
- 2 Council Meeting, publish Zoom link
 - 2.1 Concerns expressed about unwanted participants.
 - 2.2 Sharing for transparency, yes, but caution expressed in sharing the link too broadly.
- 3 Drivers for Shut-Ins
 - 3.1 Resurgence of people that require transportation.
 - 3.2 Route anticipated to be Riverside East, Woodland Terrace, Chateau, and SHAG.
 - 3.3 Six drivers recommended.
 - 3.3.1 Three accepted, Mark, Carson, and Gabe.
 - 3.3.2 Background checks are required.
 - 3.3.3 Driver training provided, no special license required.
 - 3.3.4 Passengers must be able-bodied to enter and exit the bus.
 - 3.4 Zip or other ridesharing program are not regular or easy to obtain.
- 4 Vacation Bible School
 - 4.1 Applying a fee creates a sense of commitment with all parties.
- 5 Pastor Evaluation
 - 5.1 Pastor Tor and non-Council members left the meeting.
 - 5.2 Joyce requested David Berg manage this portion of the meeting.
 - 5.3 The council discussed the topic, but decided to table further discussion until the June Council meeting as not all Council members had a complete summary of information from the Personnel Committee.

Action Items

- 1 Kristi Pyne will contact Stephanie to determine interest in managing FLC social media presence.
- 2 Pastor Tor will add mission and social statements to the IT CR document.

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In Closing

- 1 No additional action items, adjourned at 8:57PM.
- 2 The next council meeting is scheduled for June 17th, 2025 at 7:00PM.