

Church Council Minutes – 1/15/2026

Present: Doug Houser, Dave White, Lindsay Gustafson, Sarah Seigfried, Rose Arrasmith, and Cindi Zimmerman, Ed Fulk

Absent: Pastor Nat Bothwell, Brenda Neville

Doug called the meeting to order at 5:04 and led devotions/prayer. Lindsay moved to approve the agenda, Cindi seconded.

Decision items:

- a. Looked at minutes - Lindsay moved to approve, Rose seconded.
- b. Looked at financial report. Discussed ideas for reducing spending or increasing giving. Dave moved to approve, Cindi seconded.
- c. Dave read Brenda's reports:
 - i. Kitchen remodel—They've talked with Dave Helland and will be meeting with him again next Monday to get a new updated cost estimate.
 - ii. Food pantry—They're hoping to get the Prairie Meadows grant in 2026
 - iii. Banqueting table—will serve meals during Lent, not over spring break, and not Maundy Thursday
 - iv. Since we don't have updated numbers for the Kitchen remodel, we can't bring a number to the congregational meeting
- d. South entry doors - discussion about what we'll request at the annual meeting
 - i. We're getting 3 quotes (Midwest Construction, Moehl Miller, and Bryan Exeriors). The only dollar amount we have so far is \$22,000 from Moehl Miller; We're waiting to hear from the others
 - ii. Proposal for request for congregational meeting:
 1. Looking for approval from congregation to spend up to \$22,000 on front doors
 2. \$15,000 from restricted funds; \$7,000 (or less, depending on final quote) to be raised through fundraising
 3. Dave moved, Rose seconded
- e. Congregational Meeting Agenda - Ed moved to approve, Cindi seconded
- f. March 11 Lenten meal - Rose moved that the council serve tator tot casserole at Banqueting table, Lindsay seconded. Council will discuss who does what once the new council is installed.

Committee Reports:

- a. Doug has copy of quit deed for Bethany cemetery that has been looked at by a lawyer, notarized, and signed. Everything looks good, so we'll give it to Bethany Lutheran church to take care of it.
- b. Doug read the Pastor's report. Ann White and Pastor found 90 names of inactive members who can be archived in the church database. This will save money on things like mailings that

we send. Confirmation will be the second Sunday after Easter (4/12). We are encouraged to keep doing the good work of sharing what we do in council with the congregation.

- c. Ceiling fans and choir lights - the electrician suggested switching to an LED bulb with a dimmer so the light is more evenly spread, rather than straight down (with our current bulb)

Lindsay is council member in service this month.

Next month:

- Devotions - Cindi (2/19)
- Council member in service - Ed (2/22)

Ed moved to adjourn, Cindi seconded, meeting ended at 6:16.