

**Christ the King Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2025 @ 5:30 PM
Fireside Room**

*Christ the King Lutheran Church is a caring community to empower all to
know Christ and make Christ known.*

Members Present:

Barbie Roessler (*President*), Gary Rudolf (*Past President*), Heather Krause (*Vice President*), Brennan Enstad (*Secretary*), Marlin Spangrud, Caylin Steinberg, Kathy Kachelmyer, Michel Haugh, Dan Rickbeil, Pastor Melanie, Pastor Brittany

Members Absent: Karen Moritz, Hailey Bouldin, Jennifer Svien (*Treasurer*)

1. B Roessler called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

2. Devotions – Brennan

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by G Rudolf and seconded by K Kachelmyer. Motion passed.

4. Approval of August Council Minutes

A motion to approve the August minutes was made by B. Roessler and seconded by G. Rudolf. Motion passed.

5. Nominate Vice President of Council

Motion by G Rudolf to nominate Heather Krause to serve as Vice President on the Congregation Council.

President Roessler asked two times if there were any additional nominations. After no new nominations, motion by M. Spangrud to close nominations. Second by K Kachelmyer. Motion carried.

Vote to approve Heather as Council Vice President unanimously approved by all members in attendance.

6. Discussion and Approval of Treasurer's Report

Operating Cash Position:

As of August 31, 2025, operating cash (net of restricted funds) totaled **\$131,733.27**, representing approximately **56 days of operating expenses**.

Income & Expense Summary:

Regular Offering: Fell short of the monthly budget by **\$19,898**.

Operational Income: Was **\$20,997** below budget.

Monthly Expenses: Came in **\$1,588 under budget**.

Net Income: Reflected a **loss of \$16,792** for the month.

Mortgage Interest: This month's expenses include interest payments for both **July and August**.

Cash Usage Concern: The Finance and Stewardship Board met earlier today and expressed concern over the need to use cash reserves to cover budget shortfalls. Last month, the cash position covered 60+ days of expenses, indicating a downward trend.

Ongoing Deficit Trend: We're currently trending at a monthly loss of approximately \$20,000, which may signal the need for closer financial monitoring and potential corrective actions.

Motion by M Spangrud to approve the Treasurer's report. Second by G Rudolf. Motion carried.

7. Board Terms Updates

The Council discussed the need to install both the Church Council and associated boards in accordance with the constitution. It was agreed to aim for the 10:00 AM service on October 5th for the installation of Church Council members, aligning with the Council's scheduled participation in the Faith Continuum on that date.

8. RIC Task Force Welcome Statement Options

The RIC Task Force expressed interest in conducting a straw poll to gauge congregational preference among three proposed Welcome Statements. Due to the upcoming capital campaign, the Council discussed the possibility of postponing the poll until December to ensure it receives adequate attention and is not overshadowed. This timeline would still allow the Task Force sufficient opportunity to gather feedback ahead of the annual meeting.

9. Roof Update

The roof project is nearly complete. The solar panels have been installed, and the remaining work includes attaching the metal siding to the walls and connecting the solar panels. Completion is expected by the end of the month.

10. Loan Update

Barbie has been in communication with MIF regarding financing options. While a bridge loan was initially considered, the analyst has now recommended pursuing a line of credit, citing the same interest rate and a more streamlined process. Barbie is aiming to finalize the arrangement within the next few days.

11. Capital Campaign Update

A campaign planning meeting was held on Monday, September 22, with approximately 25 attendees. John Kind and David Krause, serving as co-chairs, are in the process of assigning team members to support the campaign. The overall tone of the meeting was very positive, marked by a strong 'can-do' spirit. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for October. Temple Talks are planned for all worship services from October 1 through November 23. Notably, a gift has already been received in support of the campaign.

12. Other Items, Board and Committee Reports

Worship and Music Safety Plan: Worship and Music is currently working on updating the existing safety plan, which has a foundational structure in place.

Council Minutes Posting: Concerns were raised regarding the timeliness of posting Council minutes to the church website. Members would like minutes to be posted promptly upon submission to the church office. A disclaimer will accompany the minutes indicating they are unapproved drafts.

Council Liaison Reports: It was requested that Council liaisons provide brief highlight summaries from their respective boards, rather than referring to full board minutes. This would allow only the Council minutes to be posted on the website, rather than the entire Council packet.

Agenda Format Update: Marlin proposed a change to the Congregation Council meeting agenda format. Going forward, the agenda will follow this order: Pastor's Reports, Board Reports, and Committee Reports.

CYF Highlights:

- Youth Group for grades 7–12 will meet on October 5, with future gatherings planned for the third Sunday of each month. Friends are encouraged to attend.
- **Kids Night In** is scheduled for November 8.
- **Christmas Cookies & Caroling** will take place on December 6 from 3:00–5:00 PM, with caroling during the 5:30 PM service.
- **Christmas Musical** performances are scheduled for December 17 and December 21.

13. Pastor Melanie's Report

Endowment Committee - Motion by D Rickbiel, seconded by Marlin Spangrud, to appoint Randy Thompson to the Endowment Committee. Motion carries.

14. Pastor Brittany's Report

The Confirmation program is progressing well, with approximately 40 students currently participating. A retreat for sophomore students is scheduled for October 5.

15. Closing Prayer

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by G Rudolf. Second by D Rickbeil. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 @ 4:30

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 @ 5:30