

**Christ the King Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2026 @ 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*), Heather Krause (*Vice President*), Brennan Enstad (*Secretary*), Jennifer Svien (*Treasurer*), Gary Rudolf (*Past President*), Marlin Spangrud, Karen Moritz, Caylin Steinberg, Michel Haugh, , Dan Rickbeil, Kathy Kachelmyer, Pastor Melanie

Members Absent: Hailey Bouldin, Pastor Brittany

1. B Roessler called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

2. Devotions – Barbie

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve an amended agenda was made by D. Rickbeil and seconded by H. Krause. The motion carried.

4. Approval of December Council Minutes

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

5. Discussion and Approval of Treasurer’s Report

Jen reported that December income totaled \$138,115. Income for the six-month short year reached roughly \$473,000, compared to the budgeted amount of \$459,443, placing income above budget for the period. December expenses were \$79,593, slightly higher than the budgeted \$76,000. For the six-month period, total expenses were \$440,694, which is roughly \$20,000 under the budgeted amount of about \$460,000. Jen concluded by stating that the month of December closed with a net income of roughly \$58,000.

Jen mentioned the great success of the capital campaign as well as general giving.

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made by G. Rudolf, seconded by D. Rickbeil. Motion carried.

6. Pastor’s Reports

Pastor Melanie shared housing allowance requests for both Pastor Melanie and Pastor Brittany.

- Brittany \$13,658.10
- Melanie \$41,200

Motion by D. Rickbeil to approve the housing allowance for Pastor Melanie and Brittany. Seconded by G. Rudolf. Motion carried. Jen will communicate the details with Eide Bailey.

The Worship and Music Board is looking at an overall safety plan. Pastor Melanie and a few others attended a “large gathering” safety seminar in Mankato. Additionally, some Ring cameras have been ordered to place outside a couple of the entrances.

7. Board Reports

Adult Education (Marlin)

The last meeting was on January 7th. Faith Continuum has started. They are currently going through the book of Acts. The schedule is set for the entire season through Fall. This is the fifth year of Faith Continuum. The Congregation Council will be asked back to Faith Continuum again sometime in May.

Building & Grounds (Dan)

No update

Children, Youth, and Family (Michel)

This month the board discussed the Super Bowl fundraising dips. March will include Kids Night Out and skating events.

Congregational Life (Caylin)

Events through May are planned. Bingo was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

February’s event is Puzzles & Pie which is scheduled for February 21st at 6:30. March is the Hotdish competition and April is tentatively Paint & Sip. A Senior Recognition Dinner is scheduled for May 13th.

Justice & Peace (Hailey) – absent

Servant Outreach (Karen)

Lunch for a Buck and Connections Shelter events were both successful. The next Connections Shelter opportunity is in March. The dates are already in our weekly bulletins.

Stewardship & Finance (Jen)

The last meeting included discussions on potential areas where we can trim the budget. Annual pledges have reached \$516,995. Capital Campaign pledges are currently at around \$1.335M.

Worship & Music (Kathy)

A Shrove Tuesday event is scheduled again this year for Tuesday, February 17th.

8. Budget Forum Discussion

Jen shared a document which showed a comparison of 1/1/25 – 12/31/25 Budget, 1/1/25 – 12/31/25 Actuals, and the proposed 1/1/26 – 12/31/26 budget.

Total Expenses budgeted at \$933,900 which is balanced with expected Total Income of the same amount. This equates to a 6.69% increase over 2025 actual and 7.36% increase over 2025 budget.

Jen took the council through an itemized view of the proposed budget which will be reviewed at tomorrow night's budget forum.

9. Annual Meeting – February 1, 2026, after 10:00 AM service

Discussion on the election ballot for the annual meeting.

The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) task force will conduct a straw poll via written ballot to gauge the interest of the congregation.

10. Closing Prayer

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by G Rudolf. Second by H Krause. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 @ 4:30

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 @ 5:30