

Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

Fireside Room

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

Members Present:

Gary Rudolf (President), Jennifer Svien (Treasurer), Barbie Roessler (Vice President), Pastor Melanie, Pastor Brittany, Marlin Spangrud, Kathy Kachelmyer, Karen Moritz, Dan Rickbeil, Kaia Austin, Brent Sandhurst

Special Guests: John Kind – Capital Campaign, Liz Aruba - RIC

Members Absent: Brennan Enstad (Secretary), Jessica Ehrich (Past President), Heather Krause Quiram

1. G Rudolf called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM

2. Devotions – Barbie Roessler

3. Approval of Agenda – Motion by J Svien, Second by D Rickbeil – with the Addition of Feasibility Study update from John Kind as Item #4, and RIC Update from Liz Zaruba as Item #5.

4. Feasibility Study Update – John provided a recap of the Feasibility Study and the report provided to those surveyed and at the May 18 Faith and Fellowship review that Steve Olson provided. Steve recommends that we set a foundational goal of \$1.2M, which includes the roof, parking lot, completing other repairs around the church, and the removal and reinstallation of the solar panels.

Payments on the roof – Gary approached Tim Meisner about carrying us over a period of time. He is proposing we provide three payments over three years, interest-free. This must be a congregational vote, which will be held on August 3.

The second tier, which is an additional \$300,000 to \$1.5M, would include the enhanced fellowship space.

Anything over the \$1.5M (aspirational goal of \$2M) – Use funds towards spending down the mortgage.

The Annual Meeting – We'll need the congregation to approve these projects and what they are willing to support.

5. RIC Update – Liz updated that the task force has increased their committee members. They are going to do a poll vote after they have completed their "Welcome Statement." This is slated for August.

6. Approval of April Council Minutes – Motion by K Moritz, Second by K Austin - Motion passed.

7. Discussion and Approval of Treasurer's Report – Motion by M Spangrud, Second by B Sandhurst - Motion passed.

Operating cash (in bank accounts) net of restricted funds equals \$ 165,177 on 4/30/2025 (77 days of expenses).

The regular offering was below the monthly budget by \$16,965, and YTD was better than the budget by \$41,496.

There was a one-time gift of \$25,000 that will be put into the general operating fund. April giving was a little less even though we had Easter services. Some discussion about continuing to promote additional ways to contribute (Venmo, PayPal, Apple Pay, etc.) to increase giving.

Monthly operational income was below the monthly budget by \$17,714 and YTD better than budget by \$34,579.

Monthly expenses were over budget by \$1,249 and YTD under budget by \$34,114.

Our mortgage principal payment was \$4,745.

8. Budget Discussion Jen presented two proposed expense budgets. One for July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025, and another for January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026. Jen reached out to each of the boards to get their input and feedback on the proposed budgets. Increasing budget to 4.5% of total offerings to ELCA SE MN Synod Benevolence. Jen took us through each of the line items of the proposed six-month budget, including some one-time expenses. We also need to pay Olson Advancement \$34,500, and that amount has been placed in the operational budget. The amount is due before December 31, 2025. It was approved to have the \$34,500 taken out of the Capital Campaign funds versus

the general operational budget. It was also decided to lower the Synod giving to match this current year's giving. Jen stated she would go through the budget to see if there were other places to trim any expenses, if possible.

9. Budget Forum – June 8 (council attendance) Everyone is encouraged to attend.

10. Roof Repair Update

Gary had a discussion with one of the contractors we've previously engaged with about project timing, cost, and a potential payment schedule, as was discussed with Item #4 for a payment plan.

11. Annual Meeting August 3 (discussion and proposed agenda)

Vote on New Council Members.

Vote on New Treasurer

Vote to move forward on the Capital Campaign

Vote to hire Steve Olson

Vote on Roof Repair and enter into the contract with Meisner.

Vote on Annual Budget

There will need to be a report by the Auditing Committee along with other committee reports at the annual meeting.

New Officers are elected after the Annual Meeting but NOT at the Congregational Meeting. It happens with the new Council.

NO Vote needed on nominating and approving John Kind as the Capital Campaign Committee.

Marlin and Jim Armbruster have created a template for each board that should be reviewed and completed. The council liaisons are responsible for getting their boards' reports completed.

12. Computer Tech Update

We have entered into a contract with Mankato Computer Technology. The official onboarding will take place on Wednesday, May 28.

13. Building Security Discussion

Need for a crisis management plan. The first step is to contact the local police. Talked about changing locks.

14. YWCA Tenant Update – No discussion

15. Other Items, Board and Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee - Bringing a recommendation to the Congregational Council to purchase a shed for the courtyard for those who work in that area. Since the committee already has enough money in its budget, it was recommended by the council that the Building and Grounds Committee just purchase it.

Nominating Committee - We have three people on the Nominating Committee. Most boards and committees have already found their replacements. Four members need to be replaced on the Congregational Council. There was discussion regarding the need for kitchen items as provided from the Building and Grounds Committee. There is a list of items that was discussed. Barbie made a motion to table this conversation until next meeting. Dan Rickbeil second.

16. Pastor Melanie's Report Presented as provided in the packet.

17. Closing Prayer

18. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn by B Sandhurst. Second by K Austin. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

● Next Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 @ 5:30

● Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 24, 2025 @ 5:30