

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
**August 26, 2025**  
**6:30 pm**

*“God’s family working together to welcome all.”*

Attendance:

Kerry Melby- In person  
Jaimie Rudolph- Absent with notification  
Lisa Cook- In person  
Joe Jackowski- In person  
Don Bender- In person  
Amanda Bell- Absent with notification  
Mark Teslik- In person  
Pastor Jaime Benson- In person  
Geoff Gilbert- In person

1. Dwelling in the Word – Pr. Jaime
2. **Call to Order by Geoff Gilbert at 6:50p.m.**
3. Prayer
4. Approval of the Agenda—**Motion made by Don Bender to approve the proposed agenda, second by Lisa Cook Motion carried.**
5. Approval of Last Month’s Minutes – **Motion by Don Bender, second by Joe Jackowski to approve last month’s minutes as written.**
6. Pastor Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Approval of Committee Reports – **Motion by Lisa Cook, second by Joe Jackowski to approve committee reports. Motion carried.**
9. Old Business
  - a. BLC Cohort Team Update- waiting to hear on dates from synod, Kerry Melby, Amanda Bell, And Diana Shebel will be attending
  - b. Funding Forward-4 assets area report - additions were made to the the areas of our church’s assets
  - c. Taste of Portage results-85 pies were sold and \$2,163.84 was made
  - d. Vaccination Clinic scheduled for Oct. 29<sup>a</sup> 3 pm – 7 pm
10. New Business
  - a. JoAnne Boggs – Trans America – free personal Financial Class-Pastor Jaime

\*Will do an interest survey to find if there is interest.
  - b. Move December Council meeting from Dec. 23<sup>a</sup> to Dec. 16<sup>a</sup>. **Mark Teslik made a motion to change the date and Joe Jackowski second. Motion carried.**
  - b. Set Annual Congregational meeting for January 25<sup>a</sup> at 10:00 am, February 1<sup>a</sup> if inclement weather. **Lisa Cook made the motion to set the meeting date and Pastor Jaime second.**
  - b. Access to the text message system for board members: In case of emergency and Pastor isn’t available, who can send out text messages to the congregation? Discussion will be continued as to Pastor being away and emergency contact information. Also clarification on what to do if the Pastor is suddenly pulled away. This discussion will continue next month.
  - b. Riverhaven – see attachment: We will share that River Haven is looking for members on their steering committee for their quest of building a new building.

- b. Door Monitors – see attachment - decision to follow suggestion to make personal invites for door monitors and separate them from usher duty. Also, a sign will be placed on the door stating when the church doors will be closed.
  - b. Council Terms (haven't heard from nominating committee)
  - i. Geoff Gilbert – 2<sup>nd</sup> term up 2026
  - ii. Vacancy from Kory Anderson
  - iii. Mark Teslik – 1<sup>st</sup> term up 2026
  - iv. Don Bender – finishing Brian Conner vacancy, ends 2026
11. Adjourn— **Kerry Melby made a motion to adjourn, Don Bender second, motion carried and meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.**
12. Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Kerry Melby