

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council Minutes
November 25, 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
Amanda Bell- In person
Mark Teslik- In person
Pastor Jaime Benson- In person
Geoff Gilbert- In person
Don Bender- In person

1. Dwelling in the Word – Pr. Jaime
2. **Call to Order by Geoff Gilbert at 6:43 p.m.**
3. Prayer
4. Approval of the Agenda—**Motion made by Joe Jackowski to approve the proposed agenda, second by Amanda Bell. Motion carried.**
5. Approval of Last Month’s Minutes – **Motion by Don Bender, second by Lisa Cook to approve last month’s minutes as written.**
6. Pastor Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Approval of Committee Reports – **Motion by Kerry Melby, second by Lisa Cook to approve committee reports. Motion carried.**
9. Old Business
 - a. Hwy sign repair – Joe – see attachment - Joe checked and is comfortable with \$4000 covering the repair of the road sign in 2026. He will continue to look into finalizing the design and colors
 - b. Funding Forward – Kerry & Amanda - We met in Stoughton on November 19 at Covenant Lutheran and discussed how our church mission needs to drive our funding projects. Discussion of building a columbarium in 2026 was continued and Kerry will talk to Tim Kratz for further information.
 - c. Copy machine –
 - \$148.39 per month for 60 months no staple/fold feature
 - \$204.29 per month for 60 months with staple/fold feature
 - \$ 32.07 per month for the maintenance fee –includes service calls & toner. This is something we need.
 - \$311.75 per month for 60 months no staple/fold feature-Gordon Flesch
 - \$415.77 per month for 60 months with staple/folder Gordon FleschA motion was made by Amanda Bell to accept the offer from Rhymes for \$148.39 per month for 60 months no staple/fold feature , along with the \$32.07 per month for the maintenance fee. Second by Joe Jackowski. Motion carried
 - d. Organist - A motion was made by Amanda Bell to pay organists the pay rate of \$110 per service stating January 1, 2026. Second by Lisa Cook. Motion carried.
 - e. Air Handler Fundraising Initiative – Joe
 - f. Spaghetti Dinner – January 17th. Headed by Lisa/Brad Cook and Bonnie/Brian Franson with Joe Jackowski and Jeff/Kerry Melby helping
Tickets will be pre-sold along with buying on site. Congregation will be asked to donate desserts. Robin Kvalo is heading up the basket auction and someone is still needed to head up a talent show.
1. New Business
 - a. 2026 Budget - coming yet from Jerry Salaasa
 - b. Nominating committee has been contacted twice for names and no reply. -continue to seek out nominations to fill four council seats
 - c. Next step with financials-Clergy financial Resources will be up and running by early to mid December. Finance committee will be invited to the December 16 council meeting where the budget will be discussed first on the agenda.
 - d. January 5, 2026 reports are due for the Annual meeting. Liaisons, please remind committee heads.
 - e. Council meetings 3rd Tuesday of each month-making this change will allow council to meet before the Chimes goes out for the month. Motion for change made by Joe Jackowski. Second by Lisa Cook. Motion carried

1. Adjourn— **Don Bender made a motion to adjourn, Lisa Cook second, motion carried and meeting ended at 8:43 p.m.**
2. Lord's Prayer