



1515 N Cascade Ave
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

**May 20, 2025 FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Present

Yoshiko Anspach, Larry Bagley, Brenda Bocek, Bill Busovsky, Julie Furstenau, Terry Hjelkrem, Joan Kuehn, Kiersten Lehmkuhl, Pastor Travis Norton, Chris White

Absent

Jason Fox

Opening

The regular meeting of the First Lutheran Church council was called to order by Terry Hjelkrem at 7:09 pm.

Devotions (Kiersten Lehmkuhl)

Kiersten shared “WYE” – or “Wish You Enough”, a story found in one of the “Chicken Soup for the Soul” books that talked about wishing a person to “have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them” and wished everyone at the meeting “enough”.

Approval of Minutes

Chris pointed out one typo in the April minutes, which will be corrected and resubmitted.

COUNCIL APPROVED THE AMENDED APRIL MINUTES

Finance Committee Report (Brenda Bocek)

- April’s income was under budget, which contributed to a net loss in income for the month. There were also some unexpected expenses during the month, such as the removal of the squirrels in the carriage house attic. There are several maintenance items (roof repair, cleanup of squirrel feces) that will need to be addressed in the coming months.
- YTD income is still above budget, however.

COUNCIL APPROVED THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Senior Pastor Report

- Pastor Travis discussed Marshall Jones’ resignation, and what the music ministry will be looking for in a new person. Eric has divided the job into four parts: handbells (7 hrs./week), choir accompanist (7 hrs./week), music administration (10+ hrs./week) and tech support (5+ hrs./week), so that expectations are clearer in the next hiring process. This also opens up the possibility for part-time positions depending on the candidates that apply for the job. Eric will be holding listening sessions with both the handbell choirs and the choir before the hiring process begins.
- The renovation plan was discussed, with a tentative timeline of presenting it to the congregation in June.

- Pastor Travis will be attending the Synod Assembly this week, as will Pastor Carrie and two members from the congregation. Pastor Travis is the chair of the Congregational Ministry Committee and will be presenting a new curriculum that they have developed during the assembly.
- Pastor Travis also discussed the meeting that the mayor had with several of the city's pastors to look at ways to address the issue of homelessness.
- Several other upcoming staff issues were discussed.

Old Business

- The transportation committee (Joan, Bill, Larry) gave a written summary of all of their findings and made the recommendation to sell the trailer and purchase a new cargo van. Eric has supplied a list of recommended features for a new cargo van. Kiersten will supply Eric and the transportation committee with a web link for the company that she works with so that they can look at an inventory of used vans to see if one will be a good fit for our ministry. Yoshiko stated that the \$350,000 CD will mature on June 12, so there will be money available at that point to move ahead with the van purchase.

New Business

- It's time to start thinking about members of the congregation that could be considered for running for church council this fall. Outgoing members of council (Terry, Larry & Jason) will be the nominating committee.

Reminders

- The next meeting will be on June 17 at 7:00pm. Bill Buskovsky will have the devotion.

"Last Chance" Updates

- Yoshiko stated that our worker's comp insurance will be increasing and shared some of the places where she is looking to save some money in office expenses.

Adjournment with Prayer - Pastor Travis at 8:19 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Furstenau

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Secretary