

**Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes**

September 4, 2025 | 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Attendance: **Present:** Breanna Dauphinee; Jim Hartmann; Andy Mitchell; Laurie Simonson; Mark Sutliff; Sheri Treadwell; Amy Trichanh; Paul Williams; Lisa Klima

Absent: Jeff Gerstenberger

Devotions and Prayer: **Leader:** Andy Mitchell
Themes: The theme for tonight was New Beginnings. Council was asked their preference on beginnings, middles, and ends.

Agenda Review: • Nothing to add.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: 7/24/25 – Jim made a motion to approve; Mark provided a second vote. Council accepted and approved as is.

Financial Reports: **July 2025 Reports:**

- More money than we needed came in.

August 2025 Reports:

- We spent a few thousand more than expected. Makes sense in the context of attendance for the month.

Ministry Team Reports: **Stewardship:**

- Report was sent early in the afternoon on 9/4/25. It includes what has happened throughout the year, and the goals for 2026.
- This year's theme is "Our Treasures" as a church building, as a church community, and as ourselves (Families/ pets).
- 10/3/25 will be a blessing of our treasured pets.
- Looking to 2026, the team is looking at the theme of "Taking Care". Topics include mental health professional conversations, revamping blood pressure checks, and having a spiritual care team. Grief Group and Ripples of Wellness are being considered.
- October 19 will kick off the 2026 theme.
- Time and Talent forms will be returning this year.

Celebration of Financial Gifts to Messiah:

- Stewardship team is open to do this.
- There was a discussion on a possible special announcement, a cake, or a special coffee hour.
- Could we celebrate what happened in 2024 as a lead up to Commitment Sunday.
- Stewardship team thinks that Jeff should be around and DO a temple talk. Council is needed to help.
- What if each Council brought a treat, and then each ministry team shares a fun story about how funding impacts our ministry.

Meeting Minutes Submitted By: Breanna Dauphinee

Date: 05/04/2025 **Time:** 08:13 p.m.

Property:

- The boulder foundation will be dug by Van Putte at 8 AM on Monday 9/2/25.
- Light Fixtures near the mailboxes need to be replaced. Do we replace in 2025 or budget in 2026. Council thinks 2025 would be good. Andy will check with Jeff and Julie upon their return.
- The alarm system and the hot water tank were repaired
- RGE is cheaper for electricity.
- Considering resealing and striping the parking lot.

Other Business:

Allocation of \$20K gift to Messiah:

- Brought up in the last meeting. It is currently sitting in our savings account pending Council's input.
- Suggestions included putting it to property, updating the bells, updating the things we use on the altar, 50% for seed money for new projects / 50% for a future capital campaign. There is a desire to put at least half in the Greater Messiah Fund.
- It was asked about the possibility of putting some in an investment. Andy, Julie, Jeff, and Finance Team will discuss option of this.
- We will bring this up one more time next month.

Nomination for Terms ending January 2026: (Mark- Outreach) (Lisa- Adult Faith Formation) (Jim- Stewardship) (Laurie- Communications) (Amy- Youth and Family)

- Lisa needs to be formally elected, as she's currently filling a slot.
- Mark is hoping to be done.
- Amy and Laurie will need to be replaced.
- Jim is in his first term; however, Jim is choosing NOT to be reelected.
- Jeff is working on the council nominations.

Next Meeting:

- October 9, 2025 | 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. **IN PERSON**

Extended Report: Adult Faith Formation | **Devotions and Prayer:** Paul

Snacks: Pastor Aileen and Laurie will bring things. Cathy will bring paper products.

Closing Prayer: Andy Mitchell