Called into community, gifted to serve. Glorifying God through love in action.

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2026 **|** 07:00 PM – 08:30 PM | On Zoom

Attendance: **Present:** Breanna Dauphinee; Carol Dunn; Jeff Gerstenberger; Ralph Jones; Lisa Klima; Joanne Niemi; Andy Mitchell; Kacy Treadwell Collins; Sheri Treadwell Collins; Paul Williams; Karen DeRyke

Devotions and Prayer: **Leader:** Andy Mitchell
Theme: 1 Kings 17:1-16

Agenda Review:
- Request to hear about Synod Assembly
- Anniversary Celebration Request

Approval of Meeting Minutes:
- **May 7, 2026:** Accepted as written
- **May 29, 2026 E-mail Vote:** Approved up to $4,000 from the Memorial Fund for handbell refurbishment.

Financial Reports: **May 2026 Reports:**
- Net cash flow is doing better than last month.
- It was noted that it is good to see that the food pantry budget is holding its own.

Ministry Team Reports: **Finance:**
- Andy Shared his screen and spent the first minute to do a brief review of 2025 Goals.
- There was a priority to improve audit processes and procedures.

Audit Team Recommendations (Karen DeRyke):
- Wayne, Julie, and Karen met, reviewed Synod recommendations, and created an audit process with 6 recommendations for 2026.
- There will be a different set of audits in 2026.
- Kacy Treadwell-Collins and Karen DeRyke worked with Julie Gerstenberger and Tim Hutton to complete the audit.
- From the review of the bank statements it was noted that Wayne has resigned and is no longer a signer, leaving Jeff and Julie as our only signers. It was recommended that there be an additional signer; Pam Kremmin is now an authorized signer on our bank account.
- Kacy met with Tim and Andy, and at a separate time, Kacy met with a few counters, to review the process of the weekly counting. The only suggestion was to update the accounts list to simplify it. The list has now been simplified.
- Best practice is that couples do not count together and we currently have couples who count together. From Kacy's

observation, there is a bit more accountability in the room since there are 3 people present.

- Disbursements review with Kacy, Karen, and Julie checked that approved invoices are paid and recorded in our accounting system. No recommendations were identified in this review.
- The review of benefits happened with Kacy, Karen, and Julie. There was a review of the benefits to make sure they're consistent with job descriptions. No recommendations were identified in this review.
- Security and Records Management meetings occurred with Kacy, Karen, and Julie. The action here was to create a list of PowerChurch access needs and requirements, and a more consistent review of access.
- Financial Reporting conversations were held with Kacy, Karen, and Julie. No actions were taken in this Capacity.
- It was asked about the term limit for a treasurer. The treasurer is elected each year to a one-year term by the Council at the meeting immediately following the annual meeting. There is also an assistant treasurer, to assist in simple payments/ disbursements when the treasurer is away.
- Special thanks to Karen for joining our meeting tonight, and for the hard work of Kacy (outgoing audit team member) and the finance team.

Other Business:

Paul/ Property:

- There was a question about cloud storage for property-related records. Jeff is organizing a group to work on this, but the activity hasn't really gotten off the ground yet.
- Special thanks for getting the tree taken care of so quickly and laying new grass!

Synod Assembly Reflection(s):

- Nice to be in person.
- Intentional fun activities.
- No breakout sessions.
- It was nice to connect with people across the Synod

- It was asked how we compare to other churches in the Synod. We are larger size. In terms of support to the synod and ELCA, we tend to be generous, and we're one of the healthy congregations.

- This is the "E" experimentation year of GRACE, and not really presented outside of a skit.
- There was a discussion about lay people presiding at communion due to diminishing numbers of clergy.
- There was a fantastic presentation from Dr. Karyn Wiseman regarding inclusion.

Meeting Minutes Submitted By: Breanna Dauphinee
Date: 06/18/2026 **Time:** 11:01 a.m.

Membership Roll Review:

- Pastor Aileen and Cathy will work on it and will bring information to Council. They will also check with Tim about contributions before suggesting anyone be removed from the membership roll.

Pride Flag Status Update:

- Jeff, Kacy, Paul, Jim Hartmann, and Tarra Hartmann met on Monday 6/8.
- There was no consensus on how to mount the flag and keep it safe.
- Tarra suggested rotating vinyl banners with messages about welcome of the LGBTQIA+ community.
- There was a suggestion to move the flag indoors.
- We've received a few quotes on banners, and we're in the process of deciding the sizes and what we want.
- The hope is to have this up before Pride Sunday in July, in the same space it was before.
- There was a request for directed education for what the flag is and what it means. It is something we can do, with the leadership of Messiah Pride. It was also suggested that it isn't just a one-time thing.
- The design saying "Celebrating diversity as God's Children" was shared as one of the designs in process.

El Shaddai Update:

- Nothing else has heard back, and several emails have been sent. There is no update currently.

Schedule a date for the Zambia Presentation:

- There has not been one scheduled yet.
- It would be appreciated to have this done in person.
- This will happen on 6/28, after worship, in the sanctuary. Coffee hour will be moved upstairs (thanks, Carol), and Andy will run the PowerPoint.

70th Anniversary Celebration Proposal:

- Ralph suggested that council review the proposal from Sandy Dicillo.
- With 4-5 past pastors still living, putting it off for another 5 or so years may change that. It is hoped to include former pastors/ employees to participate.
- If council agrees with this recommendation, we will need to consider the financial aspect of this event sooner, rather than later.
- This idea is appreciated, and while it is the 10-year anniversary of the merger, we would extend this to include people from both Messiah and Concord.

- If cost is a potential barrier. It may it be beneficial to reach out to members to serve as 'host family' situations, cutting down on travel costs.
- In terms of celebration of the merger, we would make this a joint 70-year celebration of Messiah and a 10-year celebration of the merger.
- It was suggested to have a team put together to look into this celebration and suggest a budget.

Next Meeting:

- In the next 10 days, Paul will clarify a date for a summer Lake House gathering.
- Our next meeting is July 23, 2026 (because August is skipped)
  - 07:00 p.m. to 08:30 p.m., on zoom
  - Devotions & Prayer: Lisa (swapped with Carol)

Closing Prayer: Andy Mitchell

Meeting Minutes Submitted By: Breanna Dauphinee
Date: 06/18/2026 **Time:** 11:01 a.m.