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

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2026 **|** 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM | On Zoom

Attendance: **Present:** Breanna Dauphinee; Carol Dunn; Jeff Gerstenberger; Ralph Jones; Lisa Klima; Shelly Knapp; Andy Mitchell; Joanne Neimi; Aileen Robbins Kacy Treadwell Collins; Sheri Treadwell Collins; Paul Williams

Devotions and Prayer: **Leader:** Carol Dunn
Theme(s): Coping with life when we're overwhelmed (Philippians 4:6-7)

Agenda Review:
- Paul requested to discuss the removal of a pew.
- Shelly requested a discussion about a photo directory

Approval of Meeting Minutes: **July 23, 2026** minutes are accepted as written

Welcome/ Election to Council:
- Shelly Knapp will take over for Lisa Klima for Adult Faith Formation.
- The Constitution and Bylaws were already discussed.
- Ralph made a motion to elect Shelly, and Joanne made a second to the motion. All of Council in favor.

Financial Reports: **July and August 2026 Reports:**
- In July $5,000 ahead, nearly $10,000 ahead.
- Food pantry support continues to increase in support.
- August is less positive, but there is confidence of giving 'catching up' in the fall.
- Is there a possible way to consider how to invest some food pantry funds?
    - It is understood that the policy states that the only invested funding is for the endowment fund.
- Budget planning discussions will begin in October

Meeting Minutes Submitted By: Breanna Dauphinee
Date: 09/10/2026 **Time:** 08:42p.m.

Ministry Team Reports:

Stewardship:

- Currently only 4 members. (a 5th person considering joining the team)
- There are other members considering joining
- The 2025-2026 theme was “Taking Care of Ourselves” through coffee hour.
- The 2026-2027 theme is “Taking Care of our Community”
    - 10/11, 10/18, 10/25 will be temple talk dates. (10/25 is Reformation Sunday & Consecration Sunday)
- The 2027- 2028 theme will be “Taking Care of our World.

Other Business:

Pew Removal(Paul):

- Some members mentioned the use of all of the chairs in the sanctuary.
    - There would be no issue to gather the chairs, and remove the pew.
    - It would total 6 chairs and flexibility for wheelchair space.
- What do we do with a pew once it's removed?
    - Could we attempt to sell it on Facebook Marketplace?
- Pew will be removed, and attempted to sell on Facebook Marketplace.

Communications:

- Vicky is working on the website, and due to travel. Kacy is working with her for updates.
- Kacy is working with Vicky and possibly adding a second person to add to upload worship.
- It would be beneficial to have centralized info and several points of access for websites and social media.
- There needs to be a space besides a personal computer where livestream videos should be stored.
- It would be beneficial if ministry team leaders could update the calendar with their own information.
- For the time being, it would be beneficial to copy both Vicky and Kacy into the cloud link.

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Photo Directory (Shelly):

- Shelly was asked to help Cathy with this goal.
- With a "why" "how" "when" announcement, to work through this project in early October.
    - Shelly will rework the announcement based on council discussion.
- Paul is offering to help with the project.
    - Paul will coordinate time on 9/20 to share with Shelly the copy of the Resurrection directory.
- It would be a good plan to start in October, to be mindful of people who travel in the winter. The end date would be a while.
- This would include:
    - Staff pages
    - Ministry pages
    - Family pictures
    - An updated version of the current directory
- We could include in the announcements, a request for photos of events with a caption as well.

2027 Council Nominations:

- Expiring terms: Bree, Paul, Jeff, Shelly (Paul cannot run again)
- Next month, we will talk about who will support the nominating committee.
- Jeff or Pastor will reach out about interest in running around

Membership Roll Review:

- There are only a few names this year.
- The list is pending review from Tim for possible giving for completion last month.

El Shaddai Update:

- There is a current request to move worship into Messiah as well.
- Timing would be Sunday from 1:00 - 3:30.
- Cameras and tech equipment are theirs.
- Instruments (minus possibly the keyboard) would be theirs.
- There is an occasional fellowship time scheduled around us.
- Additional Questions/ conversations:
    - There was about 20 years of sharing space between Concord and a Korean Presbyterian Church. Overall, it worked well. However, there

was buy-in from the congregation before anything happened.
    - The suggestion not to rush this, and create space for the congregation to ask questions before we commit.
        - It is important to have conversations with the congregation. For any questions and processing.
        - Pr. Heritage offered to possibly preach to get to know the community, and including musicians. (with congregation input first), also allowing time to ask questions of them.
            - This would be helpful in early November.
- It's important to over communicate here, and to be sensitive to varied levels of email, Herald, or Bulletin reading.
    - Could there be a space once a month in coffee hour for updates.
- Having 2 meetings (one before visitors come) allows people to speak freely AND encounter the new community.
    - It was suggested that we consider this 3 step process: (1) internal conversation directed to council and Pastor (2) meeting the others and asking them questions (3) if needed discussing anything brought up in (2).
    - In this case, we need to consider the feelings of both congregations.
- It is anticipated that there will be an increase in cost for operating the building.
- There was an additional request to use the building on the weekend of October 4:
    - Friday 7-9; Saturday 10- 1 and 3-7; Sunday Worship (1-3);
    - It would be important to publicize this to the congregation.
    - Would it be beneficial to have people present / available to assist with any needs.

Merger Team Update:

- Notes were sent after the last meeting.
- It is unsure if the team will meet again.
- There were 5 recommendations in Joanne's email.
- It is agreed that discussion of this deserves adequate time to discuss.

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- Adding a plaque of charter members of concord as well as what exists for Messiah.
- The idea of the suggested chairs includes the entire sanctuary.
- With the budget process starting next month, is this something we can postpone?

Goal Setting Update & Path Forward:

- Special Council Meeting?
- Saturday or Sunday to intentionally tackle goals.
    - There will be a Doodle Poll sent out to attempt scheduling this.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2026 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m **IN PERSON**
Extended Report: Adult Faith Formation
Devotions & Prayer: Paul Williams

Closing Prayer: Carol Dunn

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