

Minutes of the September 9th, 2025 Congregational Council Meeting-

Present: Pastor Christine Olson, Vice President Joanna Magrane (running meeting in President absence), Jeff Hines, Jim Briar, Cindy Smith, Janet Conklin, Eileen Beyer, Allyson Bickel, Secretary Holly Bayerl; **Excused Absences:** Jerney Sallgren, James Porras and President Brianna Camps, and Deb Villas, **Unexcused:** Youth Rep. Andrew Miller, & Gail Sieglaff, **Present to Report-** Patti Treptow, Matt Vanni

Called to Order & Approval of Agenda- Joanna called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., and a request was made to review the agenda. **Motion-** change the order to allow for Matt Vanni to present a quote for work on church to occur just after the Opening Devotion. Motion 1st by Allyson Bickel, and 2nd by Jim Briar. **Motion passed- approval of Agenda change.**

Opening Devotion- (6:08pm.) 1 Timothy 4:1-10 NRSVUE

Cindy Smith offered to read passages first, followed by Jim Briar. Much discussion followed thoughtful insights.

Action Item- Old business (moved up)- Matt Vanni reporting (6:28 pm.)

Matt explained that these issues with the church chimney and exterior faults in stone and brick work have needed attention for a couple of years. Even though the attention was mainly on the chimney, the quote that he explained from CVM Masonry, would have been around \$40,000 (if all work included change/upgrade of the furnace and how it gets vented from building, thereby bypassing the chimney altogether. Matt tried to show the copies of building issues with Canopy and areas that need attention in either repair or tuck pointing by a qualified masonry contractor. Overtime, freezing and thawing have contributed to the problems. The bid to secure work in these areas before winter would include a quoted amount of \$6,000, and about 37 hours of work by CVM, from Neenah, WI. Three other quotes are in process; possible new furnace and removal of the chimney (due to no liner). Cindy Smith made a **MOTION to accept the \$6,371.00 bid**, by CVM Masonry as presented, with Joanna Magrane 2nd the motion; **Motion Carried/passed.**

Review of Minutes/Secretary Report- (as submitted by Joanna Magrane); (6:50-6:52pm.) The minutes were reviewed and approved. No correspondence.

Finance Committee Report- (Jeff Hines reporting) Jeff covered all major areas; going over 2025 and comparing them to 2024. He stated of importance that our WPS bill, which is already quite high, is going up another \$150.00 on the yearly budget plan; from \$750 to \$1,000 per month for the utility bill. GuideOne Insurance (our church building insurance) has given us a non-renewal of our coverage/plan (stating our value is too high to insure). The committee is looking for bids as soon as possible; as our current insurance plan expires Nov. 30th, 2025. We have two months to secure a new company to insure our church building. Some discussion continued and questions asked, but no decisions were made.

Action Items- Old Business

Rally Day (Sept. 7th, 2025)- Debrief; There were between 50-60 people attending, with many coming and going early and later, but only 30 signed up- which makes planning for food and fun a little more challenging. We will encourage more people to bring salads next year, and maybe make more hamburgers available/hot dogs had leftovers. Collin; our youth Bingo caller did a fine job, and everyone seemed to enjoy the prizes provided by the council members. Cards for veterans went well; for Our Hands Our Work will be delivered to the VA Hospital in Iron Mt. later in October. The Banner project will continue as the markers and table weren't the best for writing and giving people more of an idea what to write will be included in the instructions next time we "work" on it. The Service went well; everyone enjoyed John playing and Dan R. joining in the singing. Blankets were also suggested for next year, if chilly weather. Smaller than expected turnout of children, but ones in attendance really enjoyed the games/prizes provided by the Little Lutherans.

Fall Brat Sale- It will be held Friday, October 3rd, and Saturday, October 4th at Jacks Fresh Foods in Menominee; sign up sheets are in narthex for workers and donation help. Deb Villas made signs that Holly passed out signs for others to hang up. Jeff B. will hang the remainder; and monitor volunteers for the Sale.

Meatball Supper is scheduled for October 15th, 2025, so we are reminded of two fundraisers in the month of October.

Pictorial Directory Update- Joanna read the updates on Sign-Up for the event on Sundays; Oct. 19th and Oct. 26th. The company will be available for pictures at their studio on 13th Street. We will look into a laptop being available to sign people up not familiar with Sign Up Genius.

Action Items- New Business-

Affirmation of Baptism Approval- The approval of Kamily Gleisner, Colin Gleisner, and Brady Sallgren for Affirmation of Baptism is dependent upon completing all requirements, as approved of by Pastor Christine and Patti Treptow. A **MOTION was made** to approve these confirmants by Cindy Smith 1st; and Eileen Beyer 2nd the motion; **motion carried/passed.**

Reports-

Youth & Family Ministry Director's Report- Patti presented her report as printed; accepted as written.

President Report- Brianna excused

Committee Reports-

Little Lutherans- Met Aug. 24th, planned out yearly calendar, picnic children's activities went well

Fellowship- Coffee Hour will resume this Sunday, Sept. 14th, look for sign ups; Bunco will be Tuesday, Sept. 23rd, at 6:00 p.m.

Stewardship- Planning still continuing; two themes being discussed are Joy and Servant

Other committees either didn't meet, or no reports

Pastor Report- (Monthly reports emailed also)

Pastor Christine told us all that this Summer, especially August has been really tough, and right now her cup is empty and is asking for prayers. Our church has had many funerals/deaths, and some extremely difficult, and continue to be hard on all affected. Prayers for her continued strength in helping others through their grief, while dealing with hers also while ministering to us all.

Her report was accepted as written, and prayers were given.

Motion for adjournment- Allyson Bickel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with Janet Conklin making the 2nd. All in favor- motion passed. The meeting adjourned 7:51p.m. The meeting ended with The Lord's Prayer, led by Pastor Christine.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Bayerl

Secretary, Church Council