

December 9th, 2025 Emmanuel Lutheran Church – Council Minutes

Present: Jeremy Sallgren, Joanna Magrane- Vice President, Jim Briar, Eileen Beyer, Holly Bayerl- Secretary, Brianna Camps- President, Gail Sieglaff, Allyson Bickel, Janet Conklin, James Porras; **Present to Report-** Deb Villas; **Absent:** Jeff Hines, Cindy Smith (surgery/recovery), Andrew Miller- Youth Rep.

Call to Order- 6:06 p.m. by Council President Brianna Camps

Approval of Agenda- It was reviewed and approved, a **MOTION (1st)** Gail Sieglaff, and **(2nd)** by Eileen Beyer. **Motion carried**

Opening Devotion- Dwelling in the Word- Isaiah 35: 4-10

Joanna Magrane read it through first, followed by thought and a few questions/discussion, then 2nd read through by Gail Sieglaff. Finishing out thoughts and discussion by 6:30 p.m.

Secretary Report- The report was reviewed, and attention was brought to a few errors in words, an activity date, & name spellings. It was accepted with repairs by 6:35 p.m. No correspondence noted.

Finance & Treasurer's Report- Check register reports were read, along with all the pages of the many reports for each category, also comparing the previous year to current balances. It was stated that the dedicated checking account balance is \$5,552, due to recent expenses. We may have to supplement out of the Mission Investment Fund, which is at \$327,339.00. The interest on our fixed term account will transition to the General Fund in December 2025. The dedicated Maintenance Fund is around \$57,400, so the Finance Committee would like the council to be mindful of this area; and consider either fundraising or giving to this area for our year end memorial funds. Many bills have occurred and will need to be paid upon completion in Spring of 2026, due to the age of our building; and the purchase of a new furnace, repairs to the roof near chimney (removal), and the brick work needed to keep our church in good repair.

Deb Villas gave Deb Lemery's finance report stating that \$146,647.00 of pledges for 2025 have been paid so far. As of 12-9, there are 83 pledges for \$144,359 for 2026. YTD income is \$4,900 under budget, but the finance committee feels the 2025 budget numbers will be able to be met by year end.

Action Items New Business-

Budget for 2026 -(began 6:50 p.m.) A few line items were bumped down, from high range, and the building insurance went down, so things look good for now. Year end staff bonuses were discussed; A **MOTION** by Allyson Bickel was made to pay them by end of Dec. 2025, and was **2nd** by Jeremy Sallgren. **MOTION PASSED.**

General Maintenance Budget- Each line item was looked at by the committee. They discussed the aging building and keeping focus on any further areas that will need attention in the near future. One mentioned was the entire roof, which is at least 10 years old, or even older.

Raises were recommended by the Synod, for our staff to increase by 2 ½ %, but those items, and specifics of raises will be voted on in January 2026 Annual Meeting. Some discussion and questions were asked in each area, answered by Deb Villas.

Nominating Committee Report- (7:12p.m.) It was reported that Rhonda Pedersen said the committee was progressing well, and should have enough people on the ballot, for the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting- 2026 The yearly church meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. Only one church service will be held at 9:00 a.m. There will be a brief coffee time after the 9am Service, and before the annual meeting. The Counters for a quorum will be; Jeremy Camps, Joanna & Glen Magrane, and Jeff Bayerl. Numbers will be checked to make sure we have a quorum of members present.

The actual number of voting members needed will be checked against the church membership, before the annual meeting date.

2026 Fund Raising Calendar- Much discussion around coordinating where we put our messaging of events; whether continued on the side hallway wall, Facebook, bulletins and The Messenger, besides the church website. Also discussed was ways to get more members into church activities, committees, and involvements of all levels.

Action Item- (Voted on by email/online) Quotes were received by email, before the meeting; and discussion followed on purchasing a new laptop for Patti; (as her old computer aged out of use); with questions and comments by the council members to research and vote on which quote was best. The vote was unanimous to choose, as printed the new laptop for \$1,095.00, and it was ordered.

Reports- Youth & Family- Patti's report was reviewed, and accepted as written.
No Youth Report

Presidents Report- Brianna led with a Church Directory update- Members can still use the QR code on the sheets given during all the pictures sessions. People can still call the Memories office and get pictures taken if needed. She & Jean Anderson are still gathering pictures, and both are developing the format for the activity and church pictures pages. People can still send photos to Brianna in a jpg format.

Brianna also gave a heartfelt thank you to all the council members for our service to the church and our mission.

Worship- Decorating was held during the week, on Wed. Dec. 3rd, and on Sunday, Dec. 7th after services. A small group was able to get both large trees up in the sanctuary, and still have a little time for fellowship, and enjoy a piece of pizza and water afterwards.

Endowment- Deb V. said she will get the information on what groups will receive the endowments this year.

Fellowship- They will be doing coffee hour for the Annual Meeting; with donuts and juice. Bunco will be planned for Jan. 21st, with a Flannel theme. There is a possibility of having a Trivia Night at the Spirit House on either Jan. 7th or 8th (more information to come), There will be a

sign up for any interest in car pooling down to the Green Bay Botanical Gardens- Garden of Lights Christmas displays, on Monday, Dec. 29th; children would be \$5, and adults \$14.00 for a walking ticket.

Outreach- In December the committee will make and take the gifts for the Angel Tree to the JoAnns Store (collection site) on either Monday, Dec. 15th or Tues., 16th. The Salvation Army will receive the food and items collected from our Drive in the narthex, but there is one more Sunday, Dec. 14th to get items into church. Shut in baskets will also be delivered soon. Cooking and Baking will take place this Saturday, Dec. 13th for the annual bake sale to be held between services on Dec. 14th. People can still drop off any baked goods or items in the kitchen by Thursday, or preferably on Saturday, Dec. 13th between 9a.m.-12p.m.

Pastors Report- Printed and accepted

Jeremy Sallgren made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting, and Gail Sieglaff 2nd the motion, **Motion Carried, Meeting adjourned at 7:55p.m.**

Pastor Christine led us all in the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,
Holly Bayerl
Church Council Secretary