

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Latrobe  
Church Council Minutes  
July 15, 2025

I. President Jarrett Nicely called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Opening devotions by Mark Jones.

III. Prayer Partners

IV. Roll Call:

A. Present- Pastor Jason Felici, Herb Harris, Donna Showalter, Joe Bruzda, Cheryl Morgan, Mark Jones, Heather Deemer, Darlene Hoffmann, Jarrett Nicely.

B. Excused- Kayla Yasurek, Dana Shannon, Tiffany Shrum, Dave Gebhart, Mallory Hudson

C. Motion to accept Roll Call-Donna Showalter, Seconded by Mark Jones.

V. Adoption of Agenda: Motion by Donna Showalter; seconded by Herb Harris

VI. Review of Minutes:

A. Corrections: Under XI. C. Omit "...with the current rate of \$1,200 per month," and under XI. C. again, correct typo of "\$120,00" to \$120,000.

B. Motion to Accept Minutes: Heather Deemer; Seconded by Cheryl Morgan.

VII. Communications:

Church council, Special Gifts and Finance Committee received a lovely thank you letter from Kathe Houck for funding her upcoming Lay Worship Leader program enrollment.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

A. The checking account balance at the end of June was \$34,823.92.

B. Giving during church services is still good.

C. Wages, salaries, and office costs are still balancing.

D. Building expenditures are up due to some A/C repairs the church needed.

E. Cash flow is better than planned, and the deficit is lower than originally predicted.

F. The Car Hop turned a good profit.

**G. The Finance Committee makes a motion that we renew our Mission Investment Fund CD of \$20,000 for a 3-year term at a fixed rate of 4.4%.**

H. Darlene Hoffmann made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; motion seconded by Cheryl Morgan.

IX. Ministry Report

A. VBS is currently underway and going well. (July 14-16) Post cards were sent out inviting the kids, and a few participants said that was what brought them into VBS.

B. More summer events are planned such as Pine Springs Day Camp done in tandem with other local churches.

C. Even though it is vacation season, church attendance has remained strong.

- D. Men's Communion Breakfast had 113 attendees, including some from other churches.
- E. We elected a new Bishop at the Synod Convention in June: Melissa Stoller, who offers both experience and a new perspective. Her induction ceremony will take place on October 18, 2025.
- F. Bishop Kusserow's farewell party will be held on August 10, 2025, at Lutherlyn.
- G. Hospital visits were slightly down in June due to some pastoral vacation time, but they are increasing quickly again.

#### X. Unfinished Business

- A. Boiler Financing has been obtained with a lien on the church for \$65,000, but the interest has decreased from 8% to 7.06%.
- B. First Commonwealth Bank checking will take our check, and then pay James S. Gunst from that.
- C. Committee Chair Nominations update: Rachael Marinchek will chair Children/ Youth Ministry Committee; Lucinda Nicely will chair the Personnel Committee.

#### XI. New Business

- A. Green Sheets must be approved by someone other than the person requesting the money due to auditing requirements. Council representatives pass this information to committees.
- B. Motion from the Executive Committee to accept a contract with the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit. The motion passed unanimously.**
- C. New and transferring member's update: Transfers from St. James Lutheran Church in Youngstown include Erica Ferry, Gracelyn Ferry, and Caleb Ferry; also Joan Akins from Prince of Peace church in Latrobe.**
- D. Motion to accept these transfer/new members** Donna Showalter; seconded by Cheryl Morgan. Passed unanimously.
- E. Safety and Security Update: A discussion of plans for exterior door keys and which doors will be locked during which hours ensued. Some highlights were:
  1. Reminder to security that Sunday School doors must be unlocked by 10:30 to guardians to pick up minor children. \*Have a watch volunteer open it if needed.
  2. Maybe put the name of the "Morning Watch" person in the bulletin as a reminder?
  3. We had a lengthy discussion about the cameras and how to best use them.
- F. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Donna Showalter; seconded by Joe Bruzda.
- G. Adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 8:20 p.m.