



08/20/2025 – COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

6:03 p.m. Meeting called to order by Mikel Jones

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Reggie Klindworth, Pastor Laura Laughlin, Mikel Jones, Sherri Eriksrud, Bob Chinnock, Eric Larson, Kristi Kirsch, Bill Tyler, Deb Mangen, Kate Peterson, Ashley Pederson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chad LaGow

6:05 p.m. Approval of the June Council Minutes

There was discussion on corrections about icon related to the directory. The vote on approval of the minutes was done with these changes included.

- Deb Mangen made the motion to approve the minutes, and Eric Larson seconded the motion.
- All in attendance at the July meeting approved; no one objected.
- Pastor Laura was not at the July meeting and abstained.

6:07 p.m. Devotional: Bill Tyler

6:12 p.m. Financial Updates: Ashley Pederson

Contributions – In July we were short of our budgeted goal by about \$3,000. We are ahead of our YTD budget by over \$14,000. The July shortfall may be due to the change in the content of the giving letter this year. We did not have the same tone in asking for contributions as we had in the most recent years.

Rent - All rent is current through July. The Driving School has paid July rent but has not yet paid August. They have paid \$200 of their copy expense.

Fundraisers/Special Events

- We have collected \$2,260 so far for the Twins Fundraiser (first two events).
- We have collected and deposited \$700 for the Carver County Fair Fundraiser.

VBS

- Ashley has not seen many expenses come through for VBS.
- A lot of food cost was covered by donations.
- Some expenses are expected to come through on the credit card.

Youth Mission Trip

- The Youth Mission Trip is \$3,000 over budget.
- Reggie is collecting additional funds from those who went on the trip.

Facilities

- Building supplies are a little over \$2,000 over budget.
- It still appears that we underbudgeted the supply category.
- Examples of items over budget are CINTAS, paper supplies, and chemicals.

Reporting

- As requested, columns have been added for % of MTD Budget, % of YTD Budget, and % of Annual Budget.

Capital Improvement planning committee

- Ashley has asked for volunteer members from the finance committee.
- Sherri Shared the names of interested Council members from the July minutes: Bob Chinnock, Bill Tyler, Eric Larson, Kristi Kirsch.

6:30 p.m. Pastor Reports

Pastor Laura

- Chancel Choir is starting up soon and Laura has been busy selecting music.
- An evening at Carnegie Hall event is being planned for the end of Sept. (7:00 p.m. on a Thursday evening). Dr. Jennaya Robison will attend.
 - Dr. Jennaya is doing a program called "Mobile Tune-up", and traveling around the metro to do workshops and arrange for a song to be sung at church with the National Lutheran Choir. There will be a youth opportunity as well. We are a pilot for the program on October 12.
- Steve and Jane Clay do a deep clean of our kitchen every year. That was completed today. Please thank them if you see them.
- The Worship Arts team has lost 4 members. We will be simple this fall with only 4-5 members. We are recruiting new members.
- Laura started her preaching fellowship. This will continue biweekly via Zoom for the next 3 months. Participants learn from professors on preaching topics and ways to look at biblical texts. She will receive information from the leaders on the compelling preacher program and be invited to provide responses/reactions to the sermon as a way to track how this program is doing.

Pastor Reggie

- Gretchen provided a review of the Luther Crest VBS program. We would like to sign up next year but will need to figure out the funding (funding came from a donor this year).
- The confirmation retreat will be this next weekend.
 - It is one night.
 - 10 confirmands will be attending to work on their faith statements.
 - 8 confirmands will not attend.
- A meeting needs to be set for the Senior High Youth Team. Work on the Youth Room will be a focus at the upcoming meeting.
- Sara has been working on the directory and upcoming ministry tables for Rally Sunday. The Crownicle will be out soon.
- Reggie attended the Welcome Team meeting.

- Building updates
 - The fire panel had to be reset and there was a charge for that, even though it appears that a connection was not done correctly at installation.
- The Victims of Sexual Violence memorial that is now framed and will be hung on the brick wall inside the vestibule.
- Signing is being created for the pottery wall and stained-glass pieces created by and donated by members, along with the Noah's Ark painting. This will help tell the story behind these pieces.
- Reggie is working with the Finance Team on the Financial Charter (generated via AI by Lori Robinson). The next step is for Reggie to respond with comments to the Finance Committee and work together on a final Charter.
- Members Statistics
 - 2024: 35 New Members (13 Families) joined
 - 2021-present: 51 people have left the congregation

Discussion:

Mikel: Reggie's report commonly has information on the building issues that are often handled by Bob. I'd like to recognize Reggie and Bob for keeping an eye on the grounds and the building.

Reggie: Reggie shared a few building highlights.

- There are currently missing lid covers for property drains.
- The Gaga pit was spraypainted.
- New today, someone tried picking the lock on the vending machine with a bobbie pin and got it stuck inside, and it will no longer open. There is a camera above the machine, but it is not turned on (we only pay for 4 cameras) so we can't see who did that.

Mikel: Is DJ still renting the room? I thought the last month would be June.

Reggie: It is a month-to-month rental.

Ashley: Was there a class in July? We haven't received payment.

Reggie: We did receive payment.

Mikel: I thought we were renting to a new member.

Reggie: That member is back in Chaska but hasn't reached out yet to follow up on his interest.

Eric: Can we give him a call?

Reggie: We left it that he would contact me if ready and interested.

Kate: How are we keeping track if DJ is having class so that we know? He is late for August (due 8/15).

We seem to be going down the same route with him.

Deb: Can we ask that he prepay before the class starts for the month?

Reggie: I will talk to him and ask him to prepay.

Kate: How does payment for all contracts work?

Reggie: \$50 deposit.

Ashley: Money goes to Sara.

Eric: Let's make rental collection an agenda topic for the next meeting to stay on track for time today.

6:58 p.m. New Business

Rally Week: Mikel Jones

- The former Rally Weekend organizers are stepping down. Mikel has taken the lead for planning this year.
- Mikel is recommending just doing events on Sunday this year. This decision is based on feedback from last year's organizers and feedback from both Pastors including:
 - Saturday attendance for the event has been down trending in the past few years.
 - Several of the families who attend the Saturday events will not be attending this year.
 - There is a conflict with events associated with Steamboat days.
 - The original Saturday idea came from members who attended Saturday services so that they could participate without attending on Sunday also. Those individuals are no longer members.
 - The Council did not have a lot of enthusiasm to volunteer -everyone is busy, and it is a lot of work for very few volunteers.
 - There is a concern about not having a strong turnout.
- There will be an egg bake sign-up for Council. We will include fruit and muffins as well. The sign-up will have a deadline and then we will assess what needs to be purchased. A Sign-up Genius will be sent out and everyone is encouraged to participate.
- BINGO will be held at 11:00. We are looking for prizes from the Ministry Teams.
- There will be a bounce house outside.

Kate: I support the plan. I want to share that Steamboat Days and the VraniCure events are always in conflict.

Church Leadership and Financial Roles Charter: Mikel Jones

- Once this is complete, it will be brought to the Council.
- We need to consider the Constitution and Reggie's Call letter that outline the role of the Council in finances. We also want to respect the expertise provided by the Finance Committee. We need to follow those current guidelines/parameters and if changes are made, they need to be brought back to the Assembly.

Reggie: Currently there are no By-laws within the Church's Constitution. The new Finance Charter (Draft) could potentially propose a new By-law, as it is currently drafted.

Kate: Where is the Constitution?

Mikel: It is on Google Drive.

Kate: I'd like to request emails instead of storage on Google Drive because access isn't working.

Reggie: I can forward a copy to you.

Church Directory: Bob Chinnock

- The committee is Bob Chinnock, Kristi Kirsch, Sally Nelson, Allison Larson, Pastor Reggie, Sara Keim
- The committee is set up as partial administrators within Icon.
- They are working on communication to give members explaining what is needed from them to complete the directory.

- They will have a table at Rally Sunday. Members can fill out a paper copy at that time.
- An email will be sent to members with instructions on how to do their own updates (This will happen in October).
- There will be a test drive with The Council.
- The goal is to be complete by the end of December.
- Members cannot update their own pictures.
- There are several categories of members within Icon. We will start with members categorized as active members. (We won't communicate it that way because we want everyone to feel an equal part of it).
- Going forward, we will need to decide the frequency of updating. Reggie suggested 3 years, Eric suggested annually. The information (other than the picture) can be updated anytime by members using the app.

Fundraisers: Mikel Jones

- We raised \$700 for volunteering at the Carver County Fair. We have been invited back and may be able to do tickets at the gate in the future.
- It is not just about money; it is about coming together.
- It is great to participate in events in communities outside of Chaska.
- The amount raised at the Carver County Fair in comparison to the Twins effort and number of people seems to be a better ratio of money to effort.
- Twins games are winding down. Ashley received payment for the first two games. We have just a few more games left.

Capital Project Sub-Committee: Mikel Jones

- We should let the general congregation know about this committee so that people can come forward and express interest.
- Laura-are the Council members who volunteered going to lead the charge in getting the word out? If we aren't ready to answer questions, we should think about not introducing the committee at Rally weekend.
- Mikel-this committee is for a long-term focus.
- Bill-that's true but we do have to decide on solar by June.
- Ashley will bring this to the Finance Committee to get volunteers.
- Bill-we should start in time for the annual budget.
- Sherri-let's set up co-leads, one from the Council and one from the Finance team to keep the committee momentum moving forward.

Justice and Inclusion Team: Deb Mangen

- We will Celebrate International Peace Day on September 21.
- They will be discussing how to recognize that this year with part of worship outside.
- Beacon interfaith housing is opening 41 units in Shakopee. They will need some donations, but we don't have a list yet.
- Kids within the foster system time out at age 18. Deb has experience with a donation drive to supply items to this group.

Welcome Team: Bill Tyler

- We will start using recyclable name tags to encourage a connecting, welcoming environment.
- It will be announced on Rally Sunday, and we will start doing it the following week, including Saturday evenings.
- There is no Welcome Kiosk, so we are trying to create one.
- Name tags will be optional.

Misc.

- Saturday services will resume Rally weekend
- Mikel will send out needs for Rally Sunday, including a Sign-up Genius for the food donations and is requesting that we all serve together.
- Several people will be out of town, but all others will participate.

7:50 p.m. Closing

Closing Prayer: Pastor Laura

Motions:

- Motion to adjourn was made by Deb Mangen. Kate Peterson seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor

Next Meeting: Doodle Poll will be sent for the next meeting.

Devotion for the September meeting: Eric Larson

Submitted by Sherri Eriksrud 9/12/2025