

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Council Meeting July 28, 2025

101 Peachtree Parkway, Peachtree City, Ga

ATTENDEES

Bill Grabill, Pastor Fritz, Pastor Wes, Ellen Pfundt, Ben McCumber, Mark Bunker, Mike Earwood, George Axford, Brenda Adams, Jason Hauser, David Turk. Davida Kilgore and Hope Catlett attend via Zoom.

AGENDA

Devotion: Pastor Wes Smith

Pastor Wes gave a wonderful devotion based on Luke 2. His theme “Christmas in July” centered on the celebration of Christ all the year through. No matter the crazy weather or what circumstances may bring us, a good dose of patience and the joy and celebration of the Good News of Jesus’ birth isn’t reserved for just December—it’s a year round thing.

Opening Comments and Youth Report: Bill Grabill and Hope Catlett

Hope: Great excitement over the Youth Group this summer. There were lots of people in the Loft for Sunday School. A lot of kids this year. Youth Sunday was for both the contemporary service and the 11:00 service were both packed and well attended. Pastor Fritz gave Hope many thanks for doing such a great job at representing her group.

Bill: There are several accomplishments and challenges ongoing at COS. The revised budget, a new fiscal year, transition in the church office and the challenges of handling all those duties with a combination of paid staff and volunteers. There are glitches to be expected but with patience and perseverance and God’s Grace we will figure it all out. If

anyone is inclined or knows of someone who could/would help out, please let one of the pastors know. Fall programs are on the way. Ingrid is on her way out. It's extremely important for volunteers and staff to help run things smoothly till we can find suitable replacements.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Fritz

Jesus loves you...continually! We are grateful for a Lord that goes with us always, good weeks and the bad. Pastor Fritz then indulged the council in an informative multiple choice "game" which includes some of the following information:

The ELCA is electing a new Bishop. We have Ethan Miller as part of the percentage of the "under 30" young voting members.

Pastor Fritz gave a quick overview of some transition discussions that are in very early stages. Shelly Jakubowski is proposed to have a part-time paid position and we will increase Kendra's hours to accommodate the division of duties formerly done by the Director of Administration, Linda Volckmann. Rebecca Nicholson, as a volunteer, is to oversee volunteers and the front desk. Upkeep of our building will be handled in this period of transition by a combination of existing staff and volunteers.

Pastor Wes had a birthday recently. Many thanks to him for all his hard work.

Sanctuary Renewal is nearing completion with the risers for the choir and a wall handrail for the altar.

With the retirement of Jane Troy, Joshua's Gift and other volunteer run projects will now go through Ellen Pfundt. Ellen will be facilitating volunteers and projects.

We have two positions open: Director of Children and Family Ministries and Office Director. There are lots of things happening with the Youth, Logos, sKiddles at Palmetto Rd and at the main campus. We are in progress of working on a Child Protection Policy. Happy to show what's in progress. David Turk is to help out with that as well. Our Care team met. We had a productive session with the good, bad and the ugly on how some things are run. The Prayer Request is on line and the visitations are ongoing.

Pastor Fritz had two quick amendments to his report: 1. Regarding the

columbarium, we still have niches available. Information on the columbarium can be available through Bob Spruck. 2. We had some recent vandalism to our columbarium as well. There is a large piece of marble that is broken. Please be vigilant with groups and children in and around the property.

August 15 is Sue and Wayne Forward's last day. They are moving to Pennsylvania to be near their grandkids and some family. We wish them well and God's blessings on this new chapter in their lives.

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee: Mark Bunker

Mark reviewed several informative slides. A brief summary is as follows: We were a little bit short on income but only by about 1%. The last ERTC check came in which helped us out a bit. All in all we were about 2% below the revised budget after the July updates. Roughly 16K for the year making this a great finish to the fiscal year. Benevolence was down a bit but still a good outcome compared to what we put into the revised budget. Steve did a revised report without the ERTC in order to see the actual financial functions without all the ERTC. We came in where we thought and landed right where we should.

There were also several topics to address and motions to go through.

We needed to make some changes to the check signers. Discussions ensued regarding persons, reasons, amounts allowed and purposes allowed. A motion was made to add Ellen Pfundt as a check signer. Motion moved, seconded and passed with all ayes.

CER: Construction of choir risers: moved, seconded, passed with all ayes.

CER: Preschool playground renovations: discussions regarding projects, purpose and specifics on renovations were had. Motion made to approve, so moved, seconded and approved.

CER: Exterior lighting-Mark gave descriptions and photos were available. A brief discussion ensued. Motion made, seconded and passed.

Discussed publicizing to the congregation completion of various improvements

and upgrades to both campuses. Possibly, we will have to approach Kendra and see. There is a lot going on right now with Kendra assuming additional administrative duties.

Personnel Report: Ben, Bill, Pastor Fritz

Executive Session started at 7:20 PM

Executive Session ended at 8:03

FMT PTC facility: Bill/Ellen

Discussions ensued regarding the Facility Use Policy that FMT 101 proposed to council. A motion was made to approve this document, seconded and passed. An email regarding computers was received. The new computers are here. Richard King has a plan for properly disposing of the old computers after offering them to members of the congregation who may have a need.

FMT Palmetto Rd: Mike

There were discussions over Eric's update and much praise over all the work he and his small group of volunteers have accomplished. We now can use the newly sodded area. The bathroom leak has been fixed as well as several other projects that were ongoing and have now been completed. We have three events upcoming: one is with the youth group and two with Delta on separate dates. Eric is still working hard to get things finished and looking great. The store is open. The Scouts are excited to use the property. We need to be careful to not let the Eagle Scout plans/projects get ahead of Eric's plans/projects (only as a word of caution from past experience). Eric would like to build another fire pit as well as rebuild our own and mulch around the playground equipment. Eric is in need of some younger volunteers, teens and youth to help with projects around the property. Each volunteer session would only be 3 hours once or twice a month. Discussions ensued regarding all of the projects and the need for younger volunteers.

50th Anniversary Celebration: Ellen/David

Our sales of the suncatchers(created by Jaycine Lester) are going very well. We will hire catering for the meal on the celebration on the 21 of September. The time capsule has been dug up but not opened. It will be opened before the celebration event in September and the contents will be put on display. The committee is unsure as to what to put into the next one but still have some time to figure that out. There was an idea of a recharter on the 21st service that Sunday.

The pictorial directory is being proofread and corrections are being made with the vendor.

Administrative Items: Bill

Approval of June Council Minutes. Motion moved, seconded and passed.

Update on child protection policy-Pastor Wes-still in progress.

Thank you notes: Brenda-volunteers in the office, property work and others that have been mentioned.

Audit Committee update: George reported the audit committee is meeting and an outside auditor selected.

Other committee updates, congregational feedback, etc.

Preschool meeting: Ellen reports the staff is looking forward to getting back in session.

Kathy Manes is stepping down next month as the coordinator for receptions. Carol Jensen-Linton and new member Athene Tenney will take over this responsibility.

Next Council Meeting: August 25

Next Devotional: Jason Hauser

Closing prayer: The Lord's Prayer said in unison

Adjourn at 8:38 PM