

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

# Council Meeting

22 September, 2025, Conference Rm

## ATTENDEES

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

## AGENDA

### Call to order/Devotion

Call to order was at 6:30 PM. Devotion was given by Davida Kilgore regarding seeking God's wisdom in all things.

### Opening Comments/Youth Report: Bill/Hope

- Bill had positive comments regarding the great turn out we had for the 50th Anniversary Celebration last week. It was a wonderful trip down memory lane with Grace Flock. Wonderful music all the way around.
- Regarding personnel: we are still going through transitions in the office. It's going well though. Many thanks to all who have pitched in and doing a great job. Calendar looks great, organized and complete. Things are running smoothly thanks to everyone's hard work and enthusiasm.
- We did have interrupted service with the internet which created some issues. Georgia Power accidentally cut the line while working. This created issues with the computers as well as the thermostats. This incident did bring to mind that we need to have a back up plan for future use. Richard King worked tirelessly with GA Power to get it

restored.

- Goals for 2026: Growing Hope is the theme for stewardship. Important dates are listed below (bottom of these minutes).

### **Pastors' Report: Pastor Fritz/Pastor Wes**

Pastor Fritz had celebratory remarks regarding the 50th Anniversary service last week. It was a great day and fun day. Great idea with the re-charter poster. He commented on Sara's wonderful job of bell performance and how neat it was for him to see Sara performing at his "old" church while sitting at his current church of COS. He is enthusiastically looking forward to whatever is next.

The interim staff, volunteers, and permanent staff are working great together. Kendra is working her extra 10 hours, Shelly is working 10 hours doing scheduling and calendar items. She has been very efficient with the wifi thermostats controlling room temperatures. Brad has been trouble shooting certain videos and is pulling an extra 4 hours to help with Sexton duties. He is also working on some audio and hearing assists for the near future. Kaleigh is now fully engaged as the director of Family and Children Ministries and has great access to resources within Fayette County.

Growing Hope will be the theme for the first three Sundays in November in connection with the stewardship program. On Sunday, November 9 the Apple Tree Society will meet. Pastor Anna Lugo will speak.

Pastor Fritz summarized the many goals we have for this church at both properties. We have many leaders stepping up to help. There are many seeds being planted and it is up to the congregation to help this garden grow.

Pastor Wes:

We are working on two new groups: A young adult group and a senior group. We're currently seeing what people's interests are. Loft average attendance is around 15/16 kids. The COS child safety protocols have been slightly modified, more specifically how and when to report.

The 2 pastors made a covenant with Ethan concerning some things they would

like to see from him. This was done during his performance review. Pr. Wes has seen good things come out of that. The covenant will be reviewed every three months.

Personal note: Pr. Wes will be away from Oct. 24–November 4.

### **Treasurer's Report/Finance: Mark/George**

Mark gave a detailed report on the ups and downs in this month's budget. Summary as follows: We are less than 1% behind. Giving seems to be spiking but doing well. The expenses are under so we're doing well there—better than we budgeted. The personnel expenses are doing well. Benevolence is under due to giving being under. Mark did mention that the Finance Committee is considering having a financial secretary. This person would be responsible for statements, pledges, etc. It's not a difficult position but it is one that requires confidentiality. The person in this position will have knowledge of sensitive information. George Axford and Margaret Aldridge are currently filling this role.

A question was raised regarding R&R deposits: Do people still request where donations are NOT to go? Does this show in R&R? Mark answers: No, we won't see that in R&R. R&R does show people's request of where they DO want their offering to go.

### **Personnel: Ben/Pastor Fritz**

Ben was absent due to an emergency with his father. Pastor Fritz covered this report. Pastor Fritz had touched on several things previously in his own report. Pastor Fritz reported that David Pfundt would like to change some things with building maintenance responsibilities and has several suggestions. David, Pastor Fritz, Wes Saunders, Brad, and Bill plan to meet and discuss these ideas. Pastor also mentioned he'd like to bring in Kendra and Shelly. Kendra is in conversation with Shelly and will be monitoring groups that use the building and the people/contacts from these groups.

David Turk had a question: Could we designate someone to be the “lock-up”

person for the end of the day/event? He mentioned that the Philharmonic had left the door unlocked after their use. David suggests we have someone from staff to be sure the church is locked up every evening. Bill mentioned he had talked with Shelly regarding this issue. He mentioned that Shelly is eager to pitch in and do any special projects around the church facility.

#### **FMT-101 Peachtree Pkwy: Bill**

This month David Pfundt requested and the council approved the tree and brush removal project adjacent to the parking lot. Other projects are still ongoing. FMT September meeting was cancelled.

#### **FMT Palmetto Rd: Mike/Bill**

Mike Earwood was traveling, Bill reported. We are still in need of a fee schedule proposal for the Palmetto Rd. property. Now that we're past the 50th celebration it's time to talk about next year's plans and develop a master plan. We have approached some people who might serve on the planning team. Our core team will determine the process, time line and sub teams, status, zoning, easements, etc. We currently cannot add any more buildings due to zoning regulations. We still need volunteers to mow and help with buildings and grounds upkeep. So far the property is looking great!

#### **50th Anniversary Celebration: David**

Attendance was astounding. Great turn out and great fellowship. Wonderful success. We do need help from the pastors and congregation about what to put back into the next time capsule. We do know we are not going to bury this next one. It was a great difficulty retrieving this past one. We will tuck it away somewhere in the building. There were lots of ideas to gather information.

Final consensus was to approach all the various groups of the church and gather ideas from them. Many thanks to Carol for all her hard work!

## **Administrative Items:**

Child protective policy:

Pastor Wes: We have made revisions on the who and how people are trained with more specifics. He will resend this policy with the revisions for the council to vote on.

Internet Security Policy: David

Richard has sent an email to people eliciting help. It's a huge job and he does not have the capacity to handle it. David and others discuss how we need to get our arms around internet security and all the questions surrounding it. Much discussion. Bottom line: We also don't know enough of the particulars to determine honest needs. This will be worked on.

Audit Committee Update: George

George was absent for this report. Mark and Bill reported. Still figuring out the administrative end of it. The financial audit is complete and the report in preparation.

Thank you notes: Brenda

We need one to go to our heavy lifter, Carol. Bill also mentions the Jakubowskis', Richard for putting in 30 hour weeks lately. Please send any recommendations to Brenda.

Next Council meeting: October 27, 2025

Next Devotional: Bill

Important 2026 Dates: Jan 25, Annual Meeting; Jan 31, Council Retreat; May 17,  
Budget Approval Meeting

Other Committee Updates/Congregation Feedback:

There is congregation square dancing coming up in January. Lots of activities  
are coming up.

### **Closing Prayer and Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn 7:58. Moved and passed. We closed with the Lord's Prayer in  
unison.