



# Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday January 25, 2026

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## Attendees

There were 66 total in person members attending as well as 23 attending via Zoom. This gives a quorum total of 89 exceeding the required 57 members. Bill Grabill officiating.

## Agenda

### Approval of May 2025 Congregational Meeting Minutes

Bill Grabill presented the May 2025 minutes up for discussion. He mentioned they have been online at COS's website for sometime and hopes everyone has had a chance to review them. No discussions were had. Motion made to pass minutes as is, motion was seconded and passed without dissent.

### Senior Pastor Remarks

Pastor Fritz took the time to thank Bill for his service not only on council but in many other offices and positions over the years. Pastor Fritz then went on to discuss the 5 top achievements of Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church for the year 2025.

### Vote of members for Council

Bill Grabill presented three members who have been nominated to serve on church council. These members are Scott Daniel, Kevin Hawkins and Lisa Schulz. The floor was opened for discussions and questions. None were to be had. Motion was made to accept these three nominees, seconded and was passed without dissent.

### ELCA Model Constitution: 2025 Updates

Bill Grabill presented the Model Constitution with an analogy: the ELCA Model Constitution is like the trunk of a tree and all the various churches and their

governing documents are the branches. The ELCA presents its “model” and it’s up to the individual churches to model their own. He also announced that Scott Bosecker has agreed to lead the effort to update our COS constitution and if anyone would like to assist to contact Scott. A motion was made to accept the ELCA Model Constitution, second, and passed with a small dissent.

## Mid Year Financial Update

Mark Bunker gave a detailed presentation with 6 informative slides:

1. Slide of the names of the finance team and their roles
2. FY2025 projected budget vs. now. We ended up well into the black.
3. FY2026 6 month update. Great work closing the budget gap.
4. Observations on Income and Expense. Income has been quite variable. It would be nice if more members were signed up for regular online giving. However, the budget remains on track.
5. Special Gift. COS received a \$250K check from Phyllis Davidson’s Estate. The finance team has put it in a restricted account until Council votes on how to put it to use.
6. Balance Sheet 2024/2025. The balance sheet remains strong.

Bill Grabill came up when Mark was finished and thanked him for his many years of wonderful service on the Finance Committee. Bill announced that Don Stork is taking over for Mark as Treasurer.

## Palmetto Road Management and Master Planning

Bill Grabill spoke regarding the improvements that have been made to the property. We have drilled for our own water, built our own restrooms, the road has been paved and sidewalks have been created. The retaining wall has been dismantled and grading and sodding has been completed at the property making it a great location for all kinds of events and gatherings. Bill mentioned the volunteers and thanked them all for their hard work at making the property so beautiful and functional. Bill gave the floor to Eric Jakubowski. Eric also thanked all the volunteers that helped to make the property so wonderful. He then asked for volunteers to help keep the place maintained. Anyone can sign up either on the physical sign up sheet or online. Eric does work full time as a pilot and needs ample volunteers to help maintain the property. Eric did mention that the tools are already there; he just needs the bodies to work them.



## Questions from the floor:

Bill then opens the floor to questions and discussions. Larry Peterson stepped up with two resolutions regarding the preschool:

- 1) **Be it resolved that April Peterson, Director of the COS Preschool, be recognized and affirmed this day for her commitment to revitalizing this important community program that COS houses and supports.**
- 2) **That a task force be formed to explore an option of offering afternoon day care in addition to the preschool. Said task force should consist of at least one COS Council member, at least one Preschool Board member, the current Director of Preschool and at least two members from the congregation to be appointed equally by the COS Preschool Board and the COS Council. Be it further resolved that said task force report back to the congregation at the annual meeting, January 2027.**

### **Full Resolutions are attached**

Both of these resolutions were passed by the congregation.

Pastor Fritz then came up to give Bill Grabill a hearty thank you for his years of service on council seeing that this is his last time officiating the Congregational Meeting. Sanctuary filled with applause.

## Meeting Adjourned

The Congregational meeting adjourned at 12:48 PM and closed with prayer led by Pastor Wes Smith.

Submitted by: Davida Kilgore

### **Resolutions:**

Resolution 1

Whereas the COS Preschool suffered a great impact from COVID that the future of its continuance was in jeopardy,

And whereas the COS Preschool has seen great revitalization, to the point of operating at capacity by adding an additional class and full enrollment with 32 children now enrolled,

And whereas, this revitalization has been due in large part to the leadership, joy, hard work and countless hours of uncompensated time of the director of the preschool, April Peterson,

Be it resolved that April Peterson, Director of the COS Preschool, be recognized and affirmed this day for her commitment to revitalizing this important community program that COS houses and supports.

#### Resolution 2

Whereas the church, large C, has always been an advocate for educating both young and old,

And whereas, the COS Preschool as established a highly respected reputation in the community,

And whereas, COS is looking to expand its reach and service to the community,

And whereas, the only deficiency in the COS Preschool program for many parents seeking to find a safe place for their children for the entire workday is that they the COS Preschool does not offer afternoon daycare,

And whereas, this additional component to the program offering would draw more community people to engage in our preschool and potentially the worship life of the congregation,

And whereas, this would be an additional financial stewardship of the space that we only use for half a day a every day of the week,

Be it resolved that a task force be formed to explore such an addition in the program,

And be it further resolved that the task force consist of at least one COS Council member, at least one Preschool board member, the current director of the preschool and at least 2 members-at-large from the congregation to be appointed equally by the COS Preschool Board and the COS council.

And be it further resolved that this task force report back to the congregation at the annual meeting, January 2027.

## COS Mission Endowment Fund

A quick meeting led by Minka Fulton. Minka presented several slides:

1. List of Board Members and their titles/positions.
2. 2025 finances in review. The fund market grew by 15%. The funds available for gift distribution is \$4,000.
3. Endowment Fund Distributions: Local 40%. COS Lutheran Preschool in the amount of \$1,600.

4. Endowment Fund Distributions: Regional 30%. Midwest Food Bank in the amount of \$1,200.00.
5. Endowment Fund Distributions: National or Global 30%. Haitian Timoun Foundation in the amount of \$600. ERIPITO Safehouse / Tanzania School and Mission in the amount of \$600.
  
6. Motion to elect board members: Cinda King to a 3 year term, Keenan Anderson to a second 3 year term. Motion made, second and passed without dissent. 7. Motion to approve disbursements for donations as follows:
  - a. \$1600 to COSLPS
  - b. \$1200 to Midwest Food Bank
  - c. \$600 to Haitian Timoun Foundation
  - d. \$600 to ERIPITO Safehouse

Motion was made, seconded and passed without dissent.

COS Mission Endowment Fund meeting was adjourned at 1:02 PM. The congregation was thanked and then dispersed.