

# Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Building

*Mission - Worshiping and growing together in Christ serving and reaching out joyfully to all  
Vision - Trusting God + Loving the World*

**Present:** Kathleen Clark, President; Michael Boehm, Vice-President; Tom Teske, Secretary; Scott Ikeberry, Treasurer; Susan Linner, At Large Member; Taz Walkowich, At Large Member; Pastor Julie Brooks; Pastor Kim Gonia.

**Call to Order** 6:01

**Opening Devotion/Prayer** Taz Walkowich shared two songs with us that were particularly meaningful to him.

**Book Discussion** We are in the process of finding another book for our discussions.

## Reports:

Treasurer: Scott reported an amazing positive response to the request to help overcome the year's shortfall in the budget. December giving was far above any recent month's totals, with total income and giving of approximately \$167,500, which was more than three times larger than any previous month in 2024. Scott's report is attached.

Pastor Kim: No written report.

Pastor Julie: Staff reviews were completed and were very positive. Her report is attached.

## Continuing Business

- Preparation for the January 26th annual meeting will take place early in January
  - Council positions: There is one vacant position, that of Personnel, as Melinda's second term is expiring.
- The February Council Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, February 22nd, from 9:00 to 1:00 p.m.
- Committee/ Team updates
  - The Social Activities Committee has planned a January celebration of the Chinese New Year, to be held on January 24th, Friday, at 11:30.
  - Mike is continuing to work on the transportation offer to assist people attending church activities.
  - The Immigration Team sponsored a well-attended (50) Adult Forum with Chad Corman from Lutheran Family Services. The team is considering the possibility of co-sponsoring a refugee family alongside LFS.
  - The Communications Team is working on a theme for the website, as well as a new format for the weekly email updates.
  - English Language Learner classes will continue, and there is a possibility to consider another program through the public library.

## New Business

- Budget discussion: The Proposed Budget is attached. **Motion made, seconded and passed to approve this budget to go to the congregation.** The proposed budget is attached.
- The Office Manager position was discussed, with several options being looked at by the Personnel Committee.
- Food for the annual meeting will include chili, chips, fruit, veggie plates, cookies.

- Capital Improvement Reserve: Following discussion, **Motion made, seconded and passed to ask the congregation to approve a contribution from HS Capital Improvement fund, 10% of contribution (\$62,600) to give to one or more congregations specifically for capital improvements, subject to approval of the church council.**
- HSLC Credit Cards: Another First Bank card was compromised. We will be changing to a different product which allows us to go online to monitor the balance.

**Closing Prayer:** Song - “We Pray”

**Adjournment:** 8:10

**Next Meeting:** Council retreat, Saturday, February 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Impact Statement:** Following a positive financial report, the council will be asking the congregation to approve a gift of 10% (\$62,600) from the Capital Improvement Fund to be donated to one or more congregations for use in their capital improvements. This will have a major impact for the designated congregation(s).

**Approval of Minutes:**

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***Council Corner (for Happenings) ...***

Highlights of the January 14th Church Council meeting included a very positive year-end financial statement, adoption of the proposed 2025 budget (to be presented to the congregation for approval), discussion regarding the Office Manager position, and a proposal from the Council to the congregation to donate 10% (\$62,600) from the Capital Improvement Fund to one or more congregations in need of capital improvements. The council has scheduled a council retreat for Saturday, February 22nd.

Tom Teske, Secretary