

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2026 5:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES

X Pastor Ian Hewitson
X Char Kinzer
X Bonnie LaPierre
Debbie Lindahl
X Brian Marquart

X Tom Nixon
X Peter Nordell
X David Pundt
X Paula Traylor

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Ian offered the opening prayer.

CALL TO ORDER

Char Kinzer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Addition(s) to Agenda: Old Business #5 Sound System Update; New Business #3: Authorize Norm Hullinger transfer, #4 Home School approval.

Agenda Acceptance: Paula Traylor moved the agenda, as amended be approved. Peter Nordell seconded his motion, and it was approved on a voice vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Acceptance: Peter Nordell moved that the Financial Report be accepted. Tom Nixon seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

1. 2026 Budget Approval: Brian Marquart moved that we approve the 2026 Budget, Tom Nixon seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote.
2. 2026 Benevolence Approval: Tom Nixon moved to change proposed donations for Lutheran Social Services to \$500 and change Bridges of Hope donations to \$2400 for 2026. Brian Marquart seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote. Tom Nixon moved that we approve the 2026 Benevolence Account as amended. Brian Marquart seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote.
3. Council was apprised of Executive Committee action that moved the matured Elsie Anderson Memorial CD to a Unity Bank 9-month CD at 3.85%. Information only.

Building and Grounds:

- Parsonage: A sewer line freeze-up at the beginning of the year, caused backup in the parsonage basement. Insurance has been contacted and all repairs are underway. ServiceMaster will be removing carpet and providing clean-up and asbestos mitigation will take place if necessary. Jim Patrick has offered to be the contractor on any rebuild needed. The septic line was steamed out.
- Handicap signs: A number of handicapped parking signs will be added in the spring to accompany the painted markings, which get covered by snow.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Immanuel Forward update: Informational only.

2. Immanuel East rental: Brian Marquart moved that we rent Immanuel East at market rates. Char Kinzer seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote. David Pundt moved we form a committee consisting of Jim Traylor, Harry Kahnert, and Leif Gustafson to prepare a lease agreement and tenant requirements for Council approval at February's meeting. Paula Traylor seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote.
3. Organizational structure/council retreat: Postponed indefinitely.
4. Audit Review 2026: An audit review was not completed in 2025. Peter Nordell moved that we ensure an Audit Review will be completed by the end of 2026. Paula Traylor seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote.
5. Sound System Update: David Pundt reported that the new digital mixer and 75" color monitor has been installed, and training will be accomplished intermittently, beginning next Sunday, January 25th. Contractor Jody Stewart was told of a potentially faulty amplifier, which seems to shut down unexpectedly. Sound system work is nearly complete.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of 2026 Officers: Char Kinzer was re-elected to the Council Presidency; Brian Marquart was elected Council Vice President; David Pundt was re-elected Council Secretary.
2. Pastoral and Congregational Interim Plan for 2026: Pastor Ian outlined his plan for Congregational Interim preparation for 2026. More information will be presented at the Annual Meeting on February 15, 2026.
3. Norm Hullinger Transfer: Peter Nordell moved to approve the membership transfer of Norm Hullinger. David Pundt seconded his motion, and it was approved by voice vote.
4. Classical Conversations Home School 2026-2027: Tabled

COMMUNION ASSIGNMENTS FOR MARCH

March 1: Paula Traylor
March 8: Char Kinzer
March 15: Char Kinzer and new council member
March 22: Tom Nixon
March 29: Brian Marquart
February 18, Ash Wednesday: Bonnie LaPierre

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT: Brian Marquart moved we adjourn at 8:42 pm. His motion was seconded by Bonnie LaPierre. The meeting was adjourned.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

February 10