

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: March 17, 2026, 5:30 pm

X Meredith Bloedel
X George Erickson
X Char Kinzer
X Debbie Lindahl
X Brian Marquart

Tom Nixon
X Mary Ellen Perry
X David Pundt
X Paula Traylor
Pastor Ian Hewitson

OPENING PRAYER: Brian Marquart opened the meeting with prayer.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Brian Marquart called the meeting to order at 5:39 pm. There were three additions to the agenda under New Business: #6 Accept Tom Nixon's resignation; #7 Seek an additional council member; #8 Discuss a potential exit interview. Char Kinzer moved that we accept the agenda as amended, Mary Ellen Perry seconded her motion, and it was approved by voice vote.

CELEBRATING THE JOYS OF IMMANUEL: The wonderful way that Judi and Churchyard Band have stepped up to furnish music for services; the progress at the Parsonage; and the Meal with a Mission for Immanuel East raised \$1,700 to pay down the mortgage.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Char Kinzer moved that the Financial Report be approved. Her motion was seconded by Debbie Lindahl and was approved by a voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Manna for Malawi:** David Pundt reported the committee has selected the band Third Wheel to perform for this year's event on August 9th at the Bridge Tavern from 2 pm to 6 pm. The committee will meet at the Bridge on April 8th at 5:30 pm. Bonnie Lapierre has volunteered to take over the food section from Carol Pundt, but we're still looking for someone to take over the raffle team.
- **Investment Committee:** Jim Stolle reported that the Investment Committee met on March 10th and plans to reinvest CDs maturing in March 2026 in 2-year CDs, following our approved laddering program. We have adequate reserves to get us through September 2026, at which time we will evaluate CDs maturing at that time.
- **Financial Manager:** We received an insurance check for \$9,119.87 to cover expenses with the Parsonage sewage freeze-up claim, which was deposited in the Major Capital account under the Insurance Claim fund. A \$5,000 deductible will be coming out of that account, so Council should be aware, as to avoid if possible using that account for major purchases or plans.

Discussion: Brian Marquart suggested that all major committees be listed on the agenda under Committee reports each month.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Organizational/Structure Update:** No report. Mary Ellen Perry moved, and Paula Traylor seconded a motion to ask Pastor Ian to supply a rough draft for the next Council meeting.
2. **Update on Immanuel East Rental:** Char Kinzer reported that the rental documents are being finalized on March 19, and the rental committee will announce on Sunday the opening of the window for rental applications to be received.
3. **Set date for Installation of Officers and new council members:** Tabled until after Easter.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discuss Council retreat/training session:** Char Kinzer reported that a contact from LCMC has offered to teach a Council training session. George Erickson moved that we ask the LCMC contact to present his information and perhaps explain more about his organization. Mary Ellen Perry seconded his motion, which was approved by a voice vote. Paula Traylor, Mary Ellen Perry, and Char Kinzer will prepare for the meeting with the LCMC contact.
2. **Propose change to Council meeting dates:** Motion was made but withdrawn. No action was taken.
3. **Audit proposal:** Brian Marquart moved, and Paula Traylor seconded a motion to hire Minnesota Money Management to conduct an external audit for the 2025 financial records. The motion was approved by voice vote.
4. **Authorize Substitute Organist Service program:** Char Kinzer moved and Debbie Lindahl seconded a motion to purchase the Substitute Organist Service to supply music for church services. The motion was amended to include the purchase of an iPad and other equipment for up to \$550. Brian Marquart has volunteered to help with the selection of music if needed. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Money for the purchase and service will come from the Immanuel Lutheran Church Special Savings account Music Fund.
5. **Sunday School update:** Brian Marquart moved, and David Pundt seconded a motion to suspend Sunday School classes until September. The motion was approved by a voice vote.
6. Brian Marquart moved, and David Pundt seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Tom Nixon from his seat on the Council, with regret. The motion passed on a voice vote. The nominating committee will be alerted.
7. **Web site management:** Mary Ellen Perry moved, and George Erickson seconded a motion to appoint Deb Eatros as the head of a committee to operate and update the Immanuel Lutheran Church website.

COMMUNION ASSIGNMENTS FOR MAY: May 3 Paula Traylor; May 10 Meredith Bloedel; May 17 Mary Ellen Perry; May 24 Brian Marquart; May 31 Char Kinzer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT: Paula Traylor moved, and Mary Ellen Perry seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

April 21, 2026, 5:30 pm