Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church Minutes
Sunday, November 9, 2025, 2025, 12:15 PM
Next meeting: December 14, 2025, 12:15 PM

Council Members Present: Rose Anderson, Kathy Carlsted, Angie Dahlstrom, Don Hansen, Becky Hulden,, Craig Loen, Julie Valez, Pastor Justin Fenger

A. Opening Devotions – Craig
December-Julie

B. **Sharing Stories of God's Love in our Lives –** Trunk or Treat was a success!! Thanks to all who participated.

C. Pastor Justin's Report –

1. Technology upgrades and changes-Matt Mitchell, projection in sanctuary is working well, live online is still planned, Matt is busy and still hopes to go live before year end. New computer for Jerry Rhoads for financial giving was installed by Geek squad.
2. Community Meals/Food Pantry ideas, Friday night community meal. Friday, December 12. 430pm -630pm. Becky will lead this community meal
3. Staff meetings at FELC-1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.
4. Schedule a combined council meeting in late afternoons, in January 2026

D. Treasurer's Report – Craig

1. Financial Process Review– Clergy Financial Resources Engagement letter signed 11/6/25. Cost $250/ hour, as many as 10 hours work. Motion hire Clergy Financial Resources to do the Financial Process Review-by Don, seconded Rose. Motion carried
2. Highlights. Noisy money goes to St Paul Area Synod, Planting hope campaign. October giving was less than budgeted. Craig will work with Janell to adjust budget to accommodate salary of pastor.
3. Move to accept report by Kathy, Rose seconded

E. Building and Grounds Committee Projects – Don

1. Bruce Carlsted began the bathroom remodeling of the basement bathrooms – asbestos tile removed. New floor tile and fixtures purchased for both Men and Women bathroom in basement of Education Wing. Total cost: $1,553.00 so far. Expense was paid from account number 6615 of "building repair and maintenance. Tree damage to Carol Nelsons car in August was also paid from account 6615.

F. Library Report – Julie

1. Apply for Little Free Library status-Becky will look into this program

G. Sunday School – Christmas Program scheduled for December 14th during worship

H. Vision Group -> Mission and Outreach Committee

1. Leadership will be Rita and Wendy. The hope is to evolve into the Mission and Outreach committee.

I. Shared Ministry – Better Together with Immanuel

1. A combined council made up of a few members from each congregation will meet quarterly to monitor the ongoing relationship – Craig, Don, Kathy, and Becky have volunteered to serve on this group. Scheduled for January 2026
2. Music and Worship Coordination – Becky and Toni meet on Tuesday mornings with Momoh, Pastor Justin, Pat and mark, the Immanuel Worship Team to choose hymns and go through bulletins.

J. Personnel

a. Momoh Freeman has completed W4 paperwork; has received keys; and has led rehearsals throughout September and October. We are waiting for him to get paid.
b. Extra hours for Carli to create screen presentation weekly (up to 3 hrs/wk) This cost will be shared with Immanuel.

K. Sunday Morning - Council Person on Duty (CPOD)

a. Start at 9:30

L. Caring Ministry

a. Monthly communion visits to home bound members.
b. Monthly meeting of visitors – We will begin meeting at least monthly next week on Thursday, the 13th.

M. Report on Events

a. Thursday, Holy Smokes on going-Faith conversations

N. Upcoming Events: - leadership?

a. Lighting Festival Weekend – Pancake Breakfast-Don syrup, Don griddle
b. Wreath – making
c. Carols at the Grand Piano in the Sanctuary-Momoh
d. Lefsa Making-December 13, Wendy is the lead
e. Immanuel Events

O. Motion to Adjourn-Kathy, Julie seconded