Minutes of the Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 14, 2025, 12:15 PM
Next meeting: January 11, 2026, 12:15 PM

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

A. Opening Devotions – Julie
January-Don

B. Sharing Stories of God's Love in our Lives – Christmas program exemplified Gods love in our community of faith.

C. Pastor Justin's Report –

1. Technology upgrades and changes-Matt Mitchell will provide a list of items to purchase for the sanctuary.
2. Joint Council -Meeting time / day – Thursday, January 15 @ 8 am.
3. Community Meals-Planning a meal at FELC-Pastor will call Kevin Schuman to coordinate if the Baptist Church currently has one. The purpose of Community Meals would be to address food insecurity and social connections in our communities.

D. Treasurer's Report – Craig

1. Audit planning – Clergy Financial Resources Engagement letter signed 11/6/25. Cost $250/ hour, up to 10 hours work. See Engagement Letter-Craig and Becky will meet with Jerry Rhoads to complete the 7 page Financial Process questionnaire from Clergy Financial.
2. November giving total was $15,221.02 which is about $5,000 above budget
3. Received $61,693 from the estate of Maynard and Helen Sellman to a special memorial -fund.
4. Don moved to move funds from Account 3036 and 3038 which were 2020 unused youth group, maple syrup funds to account 3035, which is the main maple syrup account. Kathy seconded motion carried
5. Motion to accept financial report: Rose moved and Kathy seconded. Motion carried

E. Building and Grounds Committee Projects – Don

1. Technology installation-Don set up and installed the new laptop, connected new monitor and keyboard for use in office by financial secretary.
2. Bathroom remodeling almost done – painting needed – Angie and Carli may need help
3. Bruce installed new door in from kitchen to exterior stairwell.

F. Library Report – Julie

1. Becky and Julie will apply for Little Free Library status – meet with Angie in January, cost for application is $50.00

G. Sunday School – Christmas Program – Was wonderful and everyone enjoyed the choir- Choir suggested singing from the balcony or the back of the church next year.

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. May help lead Community Meals

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.
2. Music and Worship Coordination – FELC coordination is happening at the monthly staff meeting.

J. Personnel

a. Momoh Freeman has been getting paid.

b. Extra hours for Carli to create screen presentation weekly (up to 3 hrs/wk) This cost will be shared with Immanuel. Immanuel will reimburse FELC for Carli's hours quarterly.

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

a. Check all doors before leaving.

b. Security Training with CCSD – Angie and Becky attended and gave summary

c. Action items from training-number doors and lock doors during service, purchase a first aid kit and AED. Set up training for ushers and council members when this equipment is in place.

L. Caring Ministry

a. Monthly meeting of visitors – We will begin meeting at least monthly in November.

M. Report on Events

a. Lighting Festival Weekend – Pancake Breakfast-Went well, served 115

b. Wreath – making -went well

c. Lefsa Making – 4 griddles going. All lefsa taken home. 4 crafters working, too.

d. Immanuel Community Dinner-went well

N. Upcoming Events: - leadership?

a. Christmas Eve Services-4:00 pm and 9:00 pm at FELC

b. 12/21 Choir Cantata

O. Motion to Adjourn-Kathy and Rose