

## Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

*(Approved by the Church Council on September 9, 2025)*

1. **7:07 PM Call to Order** – Chris Hoelter
2. **7:09 PM Opening Prayer** – Pastor Ruberto Ek Yah
3. **7:10 PM Attendance and Approval of May 13th Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve amended minutes by Chuck Kunert, 2nd Jim Reidl – Approved by voice vote.** Attendance tonight: Chris Hoelter, Pastor Mark Hoelter, Elaine Von Wald, Pastor Ruberto Ek Yah, Chuck Kunert, Jim Reidl  
Absent: Suzanne Frank, Edgar Burgos, Ruth Gray, Amity Cunningham, Marsha Wolfe.
4. **7:15 PM Board/Officer Roundtable:**
  - i. **7:15pm - Board of Education Report – TLCS & TELC** (Suzanne Frank/Marsha Wolfe) – **No Report No Discussion.**
  - ii. **7:17pm - Board of Finance and Properties Report** (Chuck Kunert/Ruth Gray) **No written report.** Parking Lot resurfacing is currently scheduled to start the week of July 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be done in sections (front half / back half). While the front half is being done everyone coming to Trinity will need to use the entrance on 55<sup>th</sup> and Emerson. The week of July 21<sup>st</sup>, Capital Electric will be installing new exterior lights. Work that is funded by the security grant.
  - iii. **7:27pm - Board of Ministry and Outreach Report** (Jim Reidl/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Hoelter)- see written report. VBS is currently in session and going well. Attendance is currently at 66 children. The council had an open discussion about the challenges of moving changing the current service times. The Spanish language service would like to change their service time to earlier in the day. Ministry and Outreach is exploring different options and will work on a way to present them to the congregation. Looking for fewer splits and more opportunities for fellowship between all church groups. How can we best serve our community and neighborhood. Give Trinity the best chance for membership growth and maintenance.
  - iv. **7:57pm - Pastor's Report** (Pastor Ek Yah and Pastor Hoelter) - **No written report** – Pastor attended 3 Quinceaneras and performed 1 wedding ceremony. The District Convention

was a great opportunity for worship and fellowship. The meetings and business side of the convention were not so great. Pastor Hoelter has made some shut in visits and presided over Nadine Chiapuzio's memorial service.

- v. **8pm - Treasurer's Report** (Elaine Von Wald) - **See written report.** No additional discussion as preliminary budgets were just discussed at the recent congregation meeting.
- vi. **8:05pm - President's Report** (Chris Hoelter) - **See written report.** Proposals for the new Trinity sign were discussed. The council is supportive of the updated design from Vancouver Sign. A final review will be done by the Marketing Task Force and be presented to the Church Council for approval. The activity of the Call Committee was discussed. President Hoelter will call Pastor Duanne Meissner and confirm his status as communicated by the NW District Office is accurate.

**5. 8:20 PM Announcements**

- i. **Next Council Meeting – September 9th**

**6. 8:25 PM Closing Prayer – Pastor Mark Hoelter**

**7. Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Hoelter – Secretary Pro Tem

---

**Trinity Lutheran Church Council Email Vote  
August 2, 2025**

Church Council,  
Church Council,

I am presenting a motion on behalf of the Marketing Task Force. After reviewing the updated bids from Stewart Sign and Vancouver Sign, the Marketing Task Force is asking the Church Council to approve selecting the bid submitted by Vancouver Sign.

Vancouver Sign will install a new 10ft x 5ft sign onto the existing foundation and posts. The total bid is \$15,588.55. The full bid and mock up are attached. The Marketing Task Force is asking the Church Council to allocate the necessary funds from the PLS Foundation gift as a school capital improvement project.

Please reply with any questions or concerns. If you have no questions, please reply with a Yea or Nay vote.

Thanks,  
Chris Hoelter

Please reply this email with a Yes or No as to how you wish to vote.

**\*\*Motion Approved by a unanimous vote by the Church Council voting members\*\***  
*Chris Hoelter 08/03/2025*

---



Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday, July 8, 2025

**“Trinity is a diverse, vibrant community of forgiven sinners sharing the unconditional love of Jesus with all.”**

1. **7:00 PM Call to Order** – Chris Hoelter
2. **7:02 PM Opening Prayer** – Pastor Ek Yah
3. **7:10 PM Attendance and Approval of May 13th Meeting Minutes**
4. **7:15 PM Board/Officer Roundtable:**
  - i. **Board of Education Report – TLCS & TELC** (Suzanne Frank/Marsha Wolfe)
  - ii. **Board of Finance and Properties Report** (Chuck Kunert/Ruth Gray)
  - iii. **Board of Ministry and Outreach Report** (Jim Reidl/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Hoelter)
  - iv. **Pastor’s Report** (Pastor Ek Yah)
  - v. **Treasurers Report** (Elaine Von Wald)
  - vi. **President’s Report** (Chris Hoelter)
5. **8:15 PM Board Action Items**
6. **8:30 PM Announcements**
  - i. **Next Council Meeting – August or September?**
7. **8:45 PM Closing Prayer** – Chris Hoelter
8. **Adjournment**



**Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 13, 2025**

1. **7:07 PM Call to Order** – Chris Hoelter
2. **7:10 PM Opening Prayer** – Pastor Ek Yah
3. **7:13 PM Attendance and Approval of April 8th Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Chuck Kunert, 2nd Suzanne Frank- Approved. Attendance tonight: Chris Hoelter, PR Mark Hoelter, Elaine Von Wald, PR Ru Ek Yah, Suzanne Frank, Edgar Burgos, Chuck Kunert, Jim Reidl, Ruth Gray, Amity Cunningham. Via Zoom - Marsha Wolfe.**
4. **7:15 PM Board/Officer Roundtable:**
  - i. **Board of Education Report – TLCS & TELC** (Suzanne Frank/Marsha Wolfe) - **See Written report.** In addition per Chuck there will be some money in the security grant for cyber security. Outdoor school happening this week, Camp Namanu. No report for TELC but they are doing well financially, + budget numbers, #112 kids currently, up front last month.
  - ii. **Board of Finance and Properties Report** (Chuck Kunert/Ruth Gray) **See written report.** 3 new picnic tables bought and put together to replace the current ones that have disintegrated. Playground one will stay for now.
  - iii. **Board of Ministry and Outreach Report** (Jim Reidl/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Hoelter)- No written report. BOF&P has not met since the last Church Council last meant. Easter Services were well attended and breakfast went well with the 8th grade raising a good amount for their trip. Considering service changes but a way out from that at this point. 6/29 Portland Parkways we will be giving out water and Otter Pops, week of 7/7 VBS.
  - iv. **Pastor's Report** (Pastor Ek Yah) - **No written report** - Hoping to resume the Spanish Beach Ministry Trip at the beginning in August. Has only been doing 1 Sunday a month at Ascension and spending Friday's here with the Youth and basketball. Starting a first communion class for 4 and 1 baptism.
  - v. **Treasurer's Report** (Elaine Von Wald) - **See written report.** In Addition Endowment funds may be able to help fund a new pastor. possible 50-100k from the beginning and then taper it down over 5-6 years.

vi. **President's Report** (Chris Hoelter) - **See witten report.** Regarding the Sign the framing and structure would be the same but the plexiglass would need to be replaced. This is not included in the price from Stewart of \$5850. Still waiting to hear back from Vancouver Sign to see what they can come back with. Minuteman Sign will be donating signs 3x6ft. Marketing task force will have a table at Fremont fest in July and Cully fest in Sept.

**5. 7:45PM Board Action Items**

**1. Motion to Approve Slate of Nominees for Church Council**

- Vice President – Edgar Burgos
- Secretary – Amity Cunningham
- Board of Finance and Properties Chair – Chuck Kunert
- Board of Education Chair – Suzanne Frank (1 year)

**Elaine motioned for church council nominees, Chuck 2nd. - Approved.**

**6. 8:00 PM Announcements**

**i. Next Council Meeting – July 8th 7pm**

**ii. Next Congregation Meeting – June 22 bilingual 10:00 Service, Meeting, then meal.**

**7. 8:15 PM Closing Prayer – Chris Hoelter**

**8. Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,  
Amity Cunningham

---

**May 2025 Principal's Report**

**Enrollment Update 2025-2026**

<b>16</b>	<b>NEW - NEED</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>Reenrolled fully registered</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>New fully registered</b>
<b>66</b>	<b>GOAL - budgeted</b>
<b>38</b>	<b>Total Fully Enrolled</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>New in the process</b>

---

**Board of Education Minutes  
July 8, 2025**

No Report

---

**Board of Finance & Properties Report to Church Council  
July 8, 2025**

Since the report I submitted for the congregational meeting, I have nothing else to report.  
Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Kunert  
Chair, Board of Finance and Properties

---

**Board of Ministry and Outreach Report  
July 8, 2025**

Church Council Meeting  
July 8, 2025  
Ministry and Outreach Board Report

Our Sunday School will take a summer break and resume in September. All other ministries: adult Bible study, Spanish prayer evenings, youth Bible study/Basketball, will continue to meet weekly.

**Portland Parkways** (June 29th) participation by Trinity went very well. The booth on the southwest end of our property was manned by 12 – 15 volunteers through late morning into late afternoon. Otter Pops, water and information about our church, school, early childhood, and vacation Bible school were available to those that stopped by. Also, the offering of the use of our indoor bathrooms was a big hit!

Good conversation took place. So many stopped by that we ran out of otter pops an hour before we closed. Thanks to all who helped with this community outreach event!

Our annual **Vacation Bible School** ministry began yesterday and will continue through the week. This year's program is entitled "Camp Chaos" and is a product of Childrens' Ministry Deals. Each of the Bible stories featured during the week focuses on a New Testament story that involves chaos that Jesus made right. Directors of our VBS outreach are Allison Hoelter and Jan Gaylord. VBS is a ministry for our members' children, children in the community and children in our early childhood program. There is no charge to attend.

The weekend of **Aug. 1 – 3** will find many of our Spanish members and friends in Lincoln City as Pastor Ek Yah leads a retreat using the facilities of St. Peter The Fisherman Lutheran Church.

**Trinity's Church Picnic** will take place on August 10th. There will be only one bilingual service at 11:00 in the Sanctuary. The picnic will proceed on the south field following the service. Our Fellowship Committee, headed by Jan Gaylord and Judy LeBrun, will be in charge of the arrangements.

Trinity's annual **Golf Fellowship** will be held Sunday, August 17th, at Stone Creek Golf Course in Oregon City. Jim Olson, Terry Gaylord and Pastor Mark Hoelter are organizing this event.. Registration forms can be found in the Fellowship Hall or online.

The Board of Ministry and Outreach continues to look at our Sunday services to determine if change is needed and if so, what changes would best serve our congregation and community. Factors being considered:

- + Pastor Ek Yah says Spanish members would like to see the Spanish service moved to the Sunday morning hours.
- + Three services and Sunday School/Bible class time cannot all fit into the Sunday morning schedule.
- + Average attendance for each service during the months of March, April and May were:
  - 8:30 am. Liturgical service = 62
  - 11:00 am. Contemporary service = 25
  - 1:00 pm. Spanish service = 61
- + If a service has to be dropped, what would that look like?
- + Working with our organist/choir director's schedule and his other Sunday morning commitments.
- + We're in the process of calling a head pastor: should changes be made before or after a pastor is in place?
- + What is the best way to get the congregation members involved in considering any changes?
- + How can we best reach out to our community and welcome them to the services we offer?

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Riedl, Chairman of the Board of Ministry and Outreach

---

## Treasurer's Report Church Council Meeting ~ April 8, 2025

To Church Council:

I am in the process of gathering documents for the fiscal year end reports to LCEF, and the year end financial reports will be provided to church council when submitted prior to July 31. As required, the preliminary budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year will be submitted to LCEF with the reports. To note for the September budget update, \$9,243.70 has been donated toward pastor moving expenses, and is held in a clearing account for that purpose.

There is no additional information to report for this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Von Wald, Treasurer

---

### Presidents Report

#### Marketing Task Force

- Custom Banner is currently being designed. No recent meetings due to scheduling issue.
- Revised Sign Quotes:
  - Stewart Signs - \$5,850
    - Updated 60" x 120" Signage
    - 2 row changeable 6" letter area, vandal cover not available
    - Self installation
  - Vancouver Sign - \$15,588.55
    - Keep existing 4" X 4" square steel tube legs. Remove Address Numbers. Sand, Primer, & Paint to Match.
    - Design and Fabricate Aluminum Cabinet
    - New Sign Faces
    - 6500K LED LIGHTING
    - (2) 6" Zip Track Readerboard with Vandal Cover and hydraulic arms and locking system
    - Existing Brick Masonry Remains as is

#### Call Committee Update

The Call Committee is looking to schedule phone calls with 4 candidates. We did hear from the district office that Pastor Duanne Meissner is not currently available for a call. He is too new at his current position per his district office.