

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

(Approved by the Church Council on May 12, 2026)

1. **7:06 PM Call to Order** – Chris Hoelter
2. **7:07 PM Opening Prayer** – Pastor Ek Yah
3. **7:10 PM Attendance and Approval of January 13th Meeting Minutes**- Attendance tonight Chris Hoelter, Elaine Von Wald, Suzanne Frank, Pr. Mark Hoelter, Pr. Ru Ek Yah, Charles Kunert, Jim Riedl, Amity Cunningham, Marsha Wolfe. Missing - Ruth Gray , Edgar Burbos. Suzanne Frank motioned to approve Minutes, 2nd by Elaine Von Wald - Approved.
4. **7:15 PM Board/Officer Roundtable:**
 - i. **Board of Education Report – TLCS & TELC (Suzanne Frank/Marsha Wolfe) See written reports.**
 - ii. **Board of Finance and Properties Report** (Chuck Kunert/Ruth Gray) - New Gates will get “energized” this week. Decisions to be made as to if there will be any access from the front entrance during off hours pedestrian wise or not. Still “tweaking” whether it will be all cards or phone access as well. Doors will have keys for external doors to a limited # of people. All other people granted access will have a QR code. Chuck met with Hacienda and Brian Shelton-Kenney on the land east of the driveway. Because the land is so narrow it may need to go from Killingsworth all the way to the North boundary of the farm - TBD. Karla Grandos has been hired as the half time maintenance person. She is a parent of a child at TLCS.
 - iii. **Board of Ministry and Outreach Report** (Jim Riedl/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Hoelter)- See Written Reports.
 - iv. **Pastor’s Report** (Pastor Ek Yah / Pastor Hoelter) - Mayan outreach for citizenship Saturday Event coming soon. It will be 8am-8pm. Date TBD.
 - v. **Treasurers Report** (Elaine Von Wald) - See written report
 - vi. **President’s Report** (Chris Hoelter) - On Monday, March 9th Pastor Schultheis accepted the divine call from Trinity to be our next Pastor. He would like to complete the school year in Virginia, take a family trip to see their son in Zambia, Finalize his work at the SE District and start the relocation Process in June. Communication will be in the coming months to determine start date and installation date.
5. **8:15 PM Board Action Items**
 - i. TBD
6. **8:20 PM Announcements**
 - i. **Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, May 12th**
7. **8:24 PM Closing Prayer** – Chris Hoelter
8. **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,
Amity Cunningham – Secretary



Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2026

“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 Hoelter
3. **7:10 PM Attendance and Approval of January 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 Riedl/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Hoelter)
 - iv. **Pastor’s Report** (Pastor Ek Yah / Pastor Hoelter)
 - v. **Treasurers Report** (Elaine Von Wald)
 - vi. **President’s Report** (Chris Hoelter)
5. **8:15 PM Board Action Items**
 - i. TBD
6. **8:30 PM Announcements**
 - i. **Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, May 12th**
7. **8:45 PM Closing Prayer** – Chris Hoelter
8. **Adjournment**

March 2026 Principal's Report

The enrollment fee has been increased 3% (\$300) for the 2026-2027 school year. The board approved the 2026-2027 school calendar.

We hired a part-time counselor, Lisa Henry. Lisa is working 4 hours every Tuesday.

Enrollment for 2026-2027:

Returning Students

4 applications in progress

2 completed re-enrollment

New Students:

2 have submitted applications

1 in third grade

1 in fifth grade

Friday, March 6, students sang the National Anthem for the Remix Hoops Game at the Chiles Center.

Wednesday, March 11, Grandparents' Special Friends Day
PTO is making a taco bar lunch for all students and special friends.

Wednesday Evening 5-6:30 STEM Night in the gym

Thursday Kindergarten Round-Up 5:00-6:15 In the fellowship hall.
Dinner will be served.

Scholastic Book Fair:

All students are being gifted a \$10-\$15 book.

Kids Heart Challenge Fundraiser for the American Heart Association:

As of 3/10/26 we have raised \$1,072.19. Our goal is \$1,500

TELC Report to the Church Council

March 2026

TELC YTD 2025-2026

- February gain +\$15,569
- YTD gain \$79,776

Enrollment is 103

Completed all job descriptions

Ad was placed for the Directors position- so far we have one candidate that we will be interviewing and know of two others that will submit their application

Ruth our Business Manager will be taking over the business part for TELC
Looking into a new curriculum for the next year
Trinity Office Manager discussion

**TLCS Report to the Church Council
March 2026**

The current Enrollment Fee Structure will remain unchanged. The Board members approved this.

PTO Report:

In addition to the written report given to the Board members, the additional information below will be filed as part of these minutes:

Kindergarten round-up on March 12th. PTO will be providing dinner for families that attend the round-up

Marketing Report:

Post cards are being sent out to a targeted area about our church, school, and early learning center.

Facebook and Star News ads are going out about Kindergarten Round-Up and April Open House

Teardrop/Feather flags are being purchased to display Kindergarten Round-Up and April Open House information. These will be placed on the front lawn.

Old Business:

A school counselor has been hired. She will be on campus one day a week.

New Business:

An oral review of the 2026-2027 calendar was given. Marsha sent the calendar to all members in an email. The calendar was approved via email.

Tuition figures were discussed for the 2026-2027 school year. It was moved, seconded, and passed that tuition would be raised by 3%.

Our next meeting will be, Friday, March 13th at 11:30am in the Hoelter room.

March 10, 2026

Board of Finance & Properties Report to Church Council

No Written Report Provided

**Church Council Meeting – March 10, 2026
Ministry and Outreach Board Report**

Pastor Ru said there are several requests of him to lead quinceaneras. With Pastor Lopez accepting a Call and leaving, requests are coming from Hope Lutheran in Woodburn as well as here at Trinity. The Friday evening Spanish meetings are studying external outreach – how to get the Word out in our community. July 28th to 31st the LCMS will hold a national Hispanic convention in Irvine, CA. The cost is expected to be \$1800 (registration, lodging, food and transportation) per person. Ten Latinos from Trinity and Hope Lutheran would like to attend including Pastor Ru. Fundraising efforts will be used to cover as much of the cost as possible. Those attending may have to foot part of their cost. Trinity will cover Pastor’s cost and help other Trinity members as we are able.

Pastor Mark reported that Lisa Bowen has been in the hospital and now has been moved to a rehab center. A transfer request was made and completed for Gerritjan and Katie de Villiers and their two children to Hope Lutheran in West Seattle

Sunday School continues to provide an enjoyable learning experience to those children that attend. Adult Bible Class has begun a six week course “In the Footsteps of the Savior”. Six different areas in the Holy Lands are featured. Max Lucado narrates the videos. Stephen Burgos is not holding the youth basketball/Bible study on Friday evenings. He said that the attendance had gone down to zero so he brought the program to an end.

Call Committee report: With Pastor Martin Schultheis’ visit this past weekend, we are aware of at least two items that will be discussed in the Ministry & Outreach Board. He asked if the congregation would consider offering Holy Communion every Sunday. He also said he would be in favor of continuing to have two English services every Sunday as opposed to combining them into one service. If he should accept the Call to Trinity, these are areas that would likely be in the congregation’s future.

A review of the Advent/Christmas season took place. Everything went well. Advent services, although not highly attended, went well. Our Sunday School children and parents presented a Christmas pageant the Sunday before Christmas. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services were well done. Fifty-four families received toys for their children provided by KGW TV and monetary contributions by congregation members. Teens of these families received gift cards. Fred Kramer continues to help with the preparation and organization of this outreach ministry. Angelica Ek Juarez took charge of the distribution.

Lent/Easter Review:

Wednesday Lenten services: Feb. 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25. Theme: “Jesus Prays for His Church” – Joy, Truth, Unity, Glory, Love. Service time: 6:30. Soup Suppers: 5:30.

Holy Week: Palm Sunday – March 29. Maundy Thursday – April 2, Good Friday – April 3. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday services: English @ 6:00, Spanish @ 7:30 pm. Easter Sunday: regular service times Breakfast between morning services, Egg hunts: Sunday School between services, community @ 12:00 on the field.

Outreach Program Ideas:

The three ideas: Childrens' Carnival, Craft Fair, Movie Night, were discussed. No new ideas were offered. Since the M & O Board is small and the amount of work will likely be great, getting some help was discussed. Parents of the school and TELC, volunteers, another Board? No decision was made at this meeting

Whistle Team Opportunity:

After deciding to participate in offering whistle kits supplied by Coventry Presbyterian Church as a method of alerting people of ICE presence, we received over 300 kits to distribute. Pastor Ru reported that 70 kits were given away the first Sunday they were available to those attending the Spanish service. (Some people from the two morning services also picked up kits) He is planning on making them available to those attending a Mayan outreach service program coming in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Riedl, M & O Board Chairman

Pastor's Report to the Church Council - March 10, 2026

No Written Report Provided

Treasurer's Report Church Council Meeting - March 10, 2026

To Church Council:

The treasurer's report for this meeting is very brief:

1. The financial information for the FYE 6/30/2025 LCMS Congregation Statistics Report for LCMS was compiled, and provided to Ruth Gray for online submission, with the church membership and attendance information, by the due date of March 31, 2026. The financial report is somewhat different from the QuickBooks financial reports, as income includes amounts received, during the reporting period, by the clearing and memorial designated accounts and also reports expenditures paid out of the designated accounts. TELC income and expenses as well as enrollment information is also included in the report.

2. Condensed financial reports with budget information, for the Church, School and TELC, for the period July1 - December 31, 2025, were prepared and provided for the Congregational Meeting held February 22, 2026. A copy of the condensed report is attached.

3. Below is the LCEF notification of the mortgage loan rate adjustment effective 2/25/2026:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INTEREST RATE AND/OR-PAYMENT-ADJUSTMENT PROVISION OF THE NOTE EVIDENCING YOUR LOAN. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENT TO YOUR LOAN:

Account Information

Account Number:	9990059025
Type:	Commercial Loans
Balance:	\$1,241,887.06

Rate Change Information

	Interest Rate	Index	Effective Date
From:	6.62500%	6.62500%	2/25/2025
To:	6.37500%	6.37500%	2/25/2026

The next set of quarterly reports for LCEF will be for the nine month ending March 31, 2026, and will be due by April 30, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Von Wald, Treasurer

Presidents Report – March 10, 2026

Pastor Schultheis Update

On Monday, March 9th Pastor Schultheis accepted the divine call from Trinity to be their next Pastor. He would like to complete the school year in Virginia, take a family trip to see their son in Zambia, finalize his work at the SE District and start the relocation process in June. We will be in communication over the coming months to determine start date and installation date.

Roof Replacement Appeal

An initial appeal was made during the Congregational meeting on February 22nd. To date the appeal has received 2 pledges totaling \$11,000. Messaging to reinforce the appeal and encourage pledge card submission will start this week as well as a translated appeal letter and pledge card distributed to the Spanish language members.

Marketing Task Force

The Marketing Task Force has started a marketing campaign to target homes within a couple mile radius of Trinity. A postcard is being sent to 3,368 homes in 7 mail routes near the school. Trinity is also placing ads in the Hollywood Star News and neighborhood newsletters in the Concordia, Rose City Park, and Beaumont Wilshire neighborhoods. The Task Force is expecting to spend around \$6,000 on the campaign.

★ STAR COLUMN

The story continues ...

Hollywood Library reopens

Reimagined public space features new mural, improved services



MIKE
on a
BIKE



Michael Wright

I cycled down to the corner of Northeast 41st Avenue and Ellamook Street in February to be one of the first in line to visit the renovated and reimagined Hollywood Library. Happily, there were no ladders left behind following the seven-month effort to refresh the library and bring it into the future in style.

When I arrived, I found a queue of two dozen people, who were all gathered to rush in once the doors opened at 10 a.m. I saw retirees like me, preschoolers and all ages in between. Kids were excited to see the newly redesigned children's area, replete with every imaginable Beverly Cleary book and hundreds more. Even more interesting for the little ones was the exciting reading area with interactive games and movable, child-sized furniture.

Every person involved in this project —



The new check-out and return system at the renovated Hollywood Library. (All photos by Michael Wright)

the 11th and final bond-funded renovation of Multnomah County libraries — was beaming as they encountered eager guests keen to get back to their local meeting place. When I spoke to library director Annie

Levin about the effort, she said she was most proud of how the redesign has improved equity and access for library patrons, and created adaptable spaces for people while still creating opportunities to connect

through physical books.

"We are so excited to welcome the community back to a beautiful, updated

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Trinity Lutheran Christian School

2026

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH
From 5:00 - 6:15 PM
5520 NE Killgusworth St. Portland, OR

"Empowered by Christ's love, Trinity students engage in academic rigor to be life-long learners and serve others."

www.trinityportland.org

503-288-8402

Our Programs

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- Play and explore the classroom on your own
- Learn about the enrollment process

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Training makes a happier life together!

Behavior Changes	Foundations	Foundation Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leash reactivity Fear and anxiety Barking and impulse control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potty Training Nipping and biting Confidence building Skills for everyday life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking on leash Come when called Calm behavior Focus around distractions

Heidi VanDerVoorn, CEO, KPA-CTP, CPDTL-KA is a certified professional dog trainer.

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