

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

(Approved by the Church Council on September 8, 2026)

1. 7:04 PM Call to Order – Chris Hoelter

2. 7:05 PM Opening Prayer – Pastor Schultheis

3. 7:07 PM Attendance and Approval of May 12th and June 11th Meeting Minutes- Jim Riedl, Jeremiah Bahr, Pr Ru Ek Yah, Elaine Von Wald, Pr Martin Schultheis, Chris Hoelter, Amity Cunningham, Ruth Gray and Chuck Kunert via zoom, Absent Marsha Wolfe, Suzanne Frank, Edgar Burgos. Motion to approve minutes by Elaine Von Wald, 2nd Jeremiah Bahr - **Approved by voice vote.**

4. 7:15 PM Board/Officer Roundtable:

i. Board of Education Report – TLCS & TELC (Suzanne Frank/Marsha Wolfe) State inspection due to an incident that happened this spring. Possible fine to follow. Waiting on State decision.

ii. Board of Finance and Properties Report (Chuck Kunert/Ruth Gray) - Fire Inspector here today for TELC and TLCS. 2 very minor issues. Per Fire inspector we are to have no paper on the doors, inside or out. Noah Robles has been hired to fix the gutter issues which come down to caulking issues that he will be fixing. He will also be putting a gutter on a part of the Sanctuary where it is missing to fix water issues. Solar Panels have been ordered for the roof, so the job has technically started and we met the 7/4 deadline for tax purposes.

iii. Board of Ministry and Outreach Report (Jeremiah Bahr/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Schultheis) Jim Reidl is doing hand-off to Jeremiah Bahr. Communion for every Sunday has been approved and started. VBS is off to a good start. 60 students registered so far. Hispanic Conference is at the End of the July for Pr Ru Ek Yah and Natalia and families + Pr Hoelter.

iv. Pastor's Report (Pastor Ek Yah / Pastor Schultheis) - Pr Ru Ek Yah has been doing a baptism class the last couple months for a couple of families and discussing membership at the same time. This Sunday 7/19, will be the first one. Also Pr Ru Ek Yah has a quinceanera this Saturday. Mayan Festival Date and Location should be decided by this next week and if Trinity will be hosting it as previously planned.

PR Schultheis reports bringing in a few members via baptism, Also the granddaughter of Heidi Frank, Savannah, is doing first communion classes currently. Possibly 8/9/26. Installation service being planned for 8/2. President Von Behren will be preaching that day. Information will be sent to the district office for the announcement and invitations.

v. Treasurers Report (Elaine Von Wald) - Promissory note review. Terms already approved at the budget meeting. Attached is the form missing the numbers. LCEF report due on 7/30. Elaine is diligently working on this.

vi. President's Report (Chris Hoelter) - Displaying flag in Sanctuary. The presence of the American flag in the Sanctuary was previously discussed during several bible studies on

Christian Nationalism last fall (2025). The consensus among the members in attendance at the bible study was to not have the flags displayed in the Sanctuary and to find another visible place in the Church building to display them. The Church Council will move the flags from their current location to an appropriate spot in the Narthex. Pr Schultheis will speak with the member who is concerned about this.

5. 7:45 PM Board Action Items

- TBD - None

6. 8:00 PM Announcements

i. Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 8th @ 7pm

7. 8:24 PM Closing Prayer – Chris Hoelter

8. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Amity Cunningham, Secretary



Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting Tuesday, July 14, 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 Schultheis
3. **7:10 PM Attendance and Approval of May 12th and June 11th 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** (Jeremiah Bahr/Pastor Ek Yah/Pastor Schultheis)
 - iv. **Pastor’s Report** (Pastor Ek Yah / Pastor Schultheis)
 - v. **Treasurers Report** (Elaine Von Wald)
 - vi. **President’s Report** (Chris Hoelter)
5. **7:45 PM Board Action Items**
 - **TBD**
6. **8:00 PM Announcements**
 - i. **Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 8th or 15th**
7. **8:15 PM Closing Prayer** – Chris Hoelter
8. **Adjournment**

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Board of Education Report to Church Council

Due to proximity to the recent Congregational Meeting, no written report was prepared.

Board of Finance & Properties Report to Church Council

Due to proximity to the recent Congregational Meeting, no written report was prepared.

Board of Ministry & Outreach Report to Church Council

Due to proximity to the recent Congregational Meeting, no written report was prepared.

Treasurer's Report to Church Council

To Church Council:

I am in the process of preparing the June 30, 2026 financial reports to be submitted to LCEF by July 31. Church council and finance committee will receive copies of the reports when sent.

Attached is a copy of the Solar Loan Promissory Note, prepared by Dan Lorenz, to be completed and signed when the funds are disbursed.

I will prepare the required 990-T Tax return when the required information is provided and forms for the 2026 year are available. There are two different registrations that will need to be filed, and we are awaiting the required specification information in order to complete the registrations.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Von Wald Treasurer

Presidents Report – May 12, 2026

Displaying Flags in the Trinity Sanctuary

I received a letter from a church member addressed to the church council. It is related to the presence of the American Flag and Christian Flag in the sanctuary. This was a topic that came up last summer around this same time. I'd like the council to discuss this and consider the best way to address this concern.

The LCMS does not have an official stance on this matter, but I have found plenty of papers where this is discussed from a theological perspective and some interesting history.

<https://www.lcms.org/about/beliefs/faqs/worship-and-congregational-life#flags>

<https://concordiahistoricalinstitute.org/about-chi/chi-reference-and-research/frequently-asked-questions/us-flag-in-missouri-synod-churches/>

https://www.synodresourcecenter.org/wma/worship/worship_space/sanctuary/0003/flags_theology.html