

ELC Church Council Meeting – April 14, 2026

CJ called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present: Erin, CJ, Pastor Jenny, Patti, Tasha, Luann, Peter, Wayne Bue

Absent: Ed, Sue

Pastor Jenny opened the meeting with a devotion focused on the question, “What is truth?” She encouraged the council to reflect on how we repay what God has provided and reminded us to live with an awareness of God’s presence in our daily lives.

Secretary’s Report

The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed, updated, and approved. Motion to approve was made by Tasha and seconded by Patti. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report

Erin presented the Treasurer’s Report.

- Our checkbook balance has improved.
- The congregation will return the \$10,000 borrowed from the Mission Investment account to help manage operational needs.
- A video call with our new TrustPoint representative will be scheduled in the near future.
- The wording “Feeding Stations” was added to the Bed Nets account for Malawi.
- Special Gifts and Memorial funds designated for Bed Nets, World Relief, and Missionary support will be distributed as they are received.

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made by Ann and seconded by Patti. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds

Wayne addressed the council regarding several ongoing projects, including the Elevator Fire Control system and the downstairs bathrooms.

Elevator Fire Control

The current system is no longer functioning properly, and two quotes have been received:

- Fire Protection Specialists – \$5,942
- Johnson Controls – \$6,835 plus electrical work

The Building and Grounds Committee will provide a recommendation at the May meeting regarding next steps.

Downstairs Bathrooms

Cabinets have been ordered and are expected to arrive soon. Once installed, the impact on the tile work can be determined. Additional electrical work is also needed and will be completed. Wayne expressed appreciation for the strong group of volunteers and supporters helping with these projects.

Committee Reports

Education

Jess has submitted her resignation due to changing family needs. The council will take time to review the congregation's future needs and the leadership structure for children's education.

Important upcoming dates:

- May 3 – Recognition and appreciation of Sunday School teachers and volunteers
- May 10 – Last day of Sunday School with a celebration

- May 17 – Recognition of graduating seniors

Youth attendance continues to average around 12 students each week, which is encouraging. It is also exciting that 22 students are expected to participate in the next confirmation class.

Pastor Jenny

Pastor Jenny shared her calendar and several questions for the council to reflect upon.

Holy Week services were very meaningful, especially the live presentation on Maundy Thursday evening. Appreciation was expressed to everyone who shared their talents and participated throughout the week. Easter Sunday attendance totaled 487 people.

Technology

The technology ministry continues to reach a large audience through Facebook and YouTube, and the radio ministry remains strong.

The church also received a gift of two additional cameras. These cameras will help provide better views of the congregation and allow baptisms and children's messages to be shown on the sanctuary screens.

Worship

Ann shared the Worship Committee report.

- Pastor Jenny will be on vacation on May 17, and Paul will deliver the message.
- Hatfield outdoor worship services will begin on May 24 with a joint Calvary and ELC service.
- There will be one combined worship service that day.
- Pastor Jenny will still be on vacation, and Peter will provide the message.

Witness

The Witness Committee continues to build a strong visitation ministry for shut-ins and hopes to expand volunteer opportunities using the congregation's time and talent surveys.

Mighty Table

Mighty Table is currently providing 105 meals each week and is approaching the milestone of serving 20,000 meals.

Stewardship

The \$1-per-week campaign will officially begin on May 3.

Peter will provide a short presentation, and information will be shared through all church communication channels. If successful, the campaign could allow the congregation to pay off the roof loan by Christmas 2027.

Youth and Family

Bible camp registration is now open. The congregation will provide funding assistance to ensure all youth can attend camp. Transportation plans are also being developed to remove any participation barriers.

Outreach

Tasha presented a detailed report covering several outreach efforts.

The congregation supported the warming shelter hosted at the Methodist church and will continue exploring additional ways to assist individuals experiencing homelessness. Plans are also being discussed to store supplies such as cots, blankets, and other emergency items at the church for future community needs.

Patti led the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.