ELC Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 2026
Time: Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM

Presiding: Council President CJ

Present: Pastor Jenny, Sue, Tasha, Ann, Luann, Peter, Erin, CJ

Absent: Ed, Patti

Opening Devotion

Pastor Jenny introduced a new discipleship study that the Council will complete together over the coming months. The goal is to strengthen discipleship among church leaders through monthly readings and discussion.

Scripture readings included:

• Matthew 28:16–20 (The Great Commission)
• Ephesians 4:11–16 (Equipping the Saints)

Discussion centered on:

• Spiritual maturity and growth
• The role of church leaders in equipping others for ministry
• Living faithfully even amid uncertainty and doubt
• The importance of continual learning and discipleship

An opening prayer was offered by CJ.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the previous meeting were submitted.

Motion: Approve the submitted minutes.
Motion by Sue.
Second by Tasha.
Motion carried.

Records Retention Update

The Secretary reported ongoing research into records retention requirements. Historical records will be reviewed and unnecessary documents securely destroyed according to retention guidelines. Permanent records, including membership and baptismal records, will be preserved and protected.

Discussion included the importance of maintaining both physical and digital records for long-term preservation.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported a positive financial month.

Financial Highlights

• Approximately $16,000 in the Credit Union account at month-end
• Effective available balance after outstanding checks is approximately $7,000
• Designated fund balances remain healthy at approximately $106,000
• Roof Fund balance is approximately $22,000
• Roof Loan balance remains approximately $139,000

Operating Results

• Unrestricted Net Income for May: $6,656
• Total Net Income for May: approximately $10,000

The Treasurer also reported:

• 85% of Gifts & Memorials donations are received through in-person giving
• Approximately 29% of General Fund giving is received electronically

Additional discussion included youth program funding opportunities and the use of existing designated funds.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report: Peter.
Second: Luann.
Motion carried.

Children's Ministry Director

Pastor Jenny reported that Kate Ahl has expressed a willingness to serve as Sunday School Director.

Motion: Approve hiring Kate Ahl as Children's Ministry Director.
Motion by Sue.
Second by Ann.
Motion carried.

Kate is expected to begin transitioning into the role during the summer, with the formal position beginning in August.

Building & Grounds

Bathroom Project

Bathroom renovations continue, and painting is nearing completion.

Drainage Project

Plans continue to address rainwater drainage concerns near the elevator entrance.

Elevator Fire Panel Project

Two quotes from Fire Protection Specialists (FPS) were presented:

• Parts & Materials: $3,854.34
• Labor & Travel: $2,088.45

Motion: Approve both FPS quotes for elevator fire panel and safety system work.
Motion by Peter.
Second by Tasha.
Motion carried.

Funding will come from the Elevator Fund.

Additional discussion included:

• Wheelchair seating accommodations
• Removal of unused chairs and furniture from educational spaces

Stewardship

Sewing Circle Report

Current ministry accomplishments include:

• Goal of 425 quilts during the year
• Five quilts were presented to graduating seniors
• 75 quilts donated to St. Croix Hospice
• 150 quilts are scheduled for Lutheran World Relief in October
• 150 quilts planned for Project Christmas in December

Giving Initiatives

• Noisy Offering totaled $118.79
• Noisy Offering will be paused during the summer months
• The Stewardship Committee will develop a coordinated fall giving plan

Special stewardship worship services are planned for November.

Outreach

Outreach continues to work with community partners to provide, essentially needs for those having homeless or housing instability. In the past month we have assisted a few families.

Community Connect is coming up July 23, 11:00-2:00 at UMC next door. Our goal is to have 75 essential items bags.

Mighty Table

Mighty Table surpassed a significant milestone:

20,034 meals served.

Council celebrated this achievement and expressed gratitude to all volunteers and supporters.

Future Meeting Dates

Due to summer schedules, the July Council meeting was rescheduled to:

July 21, 2026

August Council Meeting:

August 11, 2026

Prayer Requests

Special prayers were requested for the Secretary's family:

• A niece was hospitalized following complications after childbirth
• A brother-in-law was recently diagnosed with a stomach tumor
• Strength, healing, and spiritual support for the entire family

Closing prayer was offered by the Secretary.

Adjournment

The meeting concluded with prayer and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

ELC Church Council Secretary

The minutes are in excellent shape overall. The primary corrections were:

- Kate **Ahl** (not Hall)
- Standardized motion language ("Motion carried")
- Consistent capitalization of Roof Fund and Roof Loan
- Added punctuation and spacing consistency
- Added the year to future meeting dates for clarity

This version is ready for council review and approval.