

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH
12650 JOHNNY CAKE RIDGE ROAD, APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124
Minutes of Congregational Meeting
Date: 6/14/2026
On-Site Sanctuary

Centered in the love of God in Jesus;

Call to Order: President Paul Moyer called the meeting to order at 12:51 PM noting satisfaction of meeting quorum. Paul reviewed the meeting's agenda. Paul shared an opening prayer.

Minutes: After review of the Council-approved meeting minutes of the September 14, 2025, Congregational Meeting, Melissa Taphorn moved to approve and ratify the minutes by the congregation. The motion was seconded by Robin Robinson. The minutes were unanimously approved and ratified by the congregation. Zero no votes and zero abstentions.

Staff and Volunteer Recognition: Paul Moyer shared words of appreciation to staff and volunteers for all their work and commitment over the last year. Paul recognized departing council member Melissa Taphorn.

Council Officers and Leaders: Paul Moyer presented the Council-approved officers and new leaders to serve on Church Council effective August 1, 2026. Each profile was reviewed. Continuing second three-year term: **Merilu Narum** as Council President for 2 years and 1 year at-large. First three-year term: **Bernie Zimmermann** as Council Vice-President for 2 years and 1 of 2 years as Council President. The congregation cast ballots that were counted by SOTV staff. No additional comments or questions from the congregation were raised.

The congregation approved presented Council Officers and Leaders:

Merilu Narum: 91 approve, 2 do not approve, 0 abstain

Bernie Zimmermann: 91 approve, 0 do not approve, 2 abstain

SOTV Constitution Approval & Ratification: Jennifer Davidson moved to approve ELCA Model Constitution requirements and SOTV updates incorporated into Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions as approved by the church Council and the Saint Paul Area Synod with the additions identified below. The motion was seconded by Robin Robinson. The ELCA Model Constitution requirements and updates incorporated into the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions were unanimously approved. Zero no votes and zero abstentions.

Model Constitution Required Statements to be included:

C9.03

b. 6

encourage adherence to covenantal relationship with this church as expressed in the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

C15.11

When there is disagreement between or among factions within the congregation...may petition the synod bishop for consultation after informing the **president** of this congregation... [strike Vice President]

Added statement:

Cover

The Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions contained herein supersede all prior Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

Message to the congregation

The assembly viewed a celebratory video highlighting the past year of ministry, programs, and events at SOTV. Pastor Corey shared a message with the congregation highlighting 2026 as our 45th anniversary. We will be celebrating on the 45th Sunday on November 8th. There will be a Stewardship initiative supporting 45 years of ministry and looking ahead to the future. Celebrating some highlights for the past year include sidewalk maintenance and repairs, chancel area floors redone, projector replacements, installation of LED panel walls in the sanctuary, hearing assistance technology upgrades supporting worship, Family Supported Worship in the Chapel, Eucharist Visitors ministry implemented and expanded staff support, food shelf increased its ministry supporting community needs, strengthened relationship with District 196 to support community needs – all thanks to the generosity of the congregation at SOTV.

Pastor Corey shared the focus of stewardship for next year: fully fund ministry and move away from operating in a deficit budget, invest in outreach and invitation outside of the walls of SOTV, renovate the acoustics in the Great Hall as part of an initiative to ensure all areas of our facility are usable for ministry and programs.

Antiphonal Organ Dedication & Blessing: Mark Ertl demonstrated the antiphonal organ. Pastor Corey dedicated the antiphonal organ.

Opportunity to ask questions: no questions from the congregation.

Council & Leadership Team Members Acknowledged:

Paul Moyer highlighted those on Council and those who are part of a leadership team asking for members to stand and be recognized.

Adjourn: Paul Moyer asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kris Ehrsman Moyer moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:27 PM. Pat Bus seconded the motion. The congregation voted unanimously to approve the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Carleen Melin, Church Council Secretary

Approved by Council June 18, 2026
Ratified by Congregation _____