

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA**

**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 20, 2025 at 6:30 P.M.**

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Voting Council</b>     | Bill Bjorum, John Hodler, Kirsten Parker, Tina Swanson, Shane |
| <b>Members present</b>    | Brockshus, Pastor Peter Weston Miller                         |
| <b>Non-voting Council</b> | Parish Administrator Sarah Kinsman                            |
| <b>Members present</b>    |   |
| <b>Absent</b>             | Jill Longnecker   |
| <b>Guests</b>             |   |

**Location:** In-person at Trinity Lutheran Church, office conference room

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**I. Call to Order** – *John called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.*

**II. Prayers** – Pastor Jen

**III. Dwelling in the Word Devotions** – Tina (today is Tina's last Council meeting)

**IV. Consent Agenda (Kirsten/Bill/Passed)**

- Approval – September 2025, Council meeting minutes
- Approval – October 2025, Meeting Agenda

**V. Pastoral Updates**

- Pastor Jen report
  - Met with ELCA regional lead for endowment, Joe Sullivan; planning Legacy Giving talk in January
  - Discussed comprehensive campaign wrap-up with Steve Olson
  - Continued search for visitation pastor
- Pastor Peter report
  - Fall schedule in full swing

- Considering a congregation-wide trip to [Holden Village](#) in August 2026 (history of this journey with Trinity in the 1980s)

## **VI. Reports**

- Administrator – Sarah Kinsman
  - Budget Forum in the Living Room on Sunday, November 9
  - Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 16
- Treasurer – Jill Longnecker (Not present; update provided by Sarah)

## **VII. Unfinished Business**

- Transition Team has been selected and is meeting next week
- Comprehensive Capital Campaign – Steve Olson consultation
  - Campaign funds *interest* to be utilized 70-20-10 (est. \$12-14K) aligned with usage of campaign funds
  - Impact statement drafted for Trinity Today
  - Close out Campaign plan March 31, 2026; re-engaging the Campaign Cabinet to facilitate the campaign closing celebration and next steps (e.g., mortgage reduction phase II)
- Revisit restricting weekly donation counting to Finance team and council members; consider expanding list of counters and creating a rotation schedule for teams of in-person counters; no visibility to online donations

## **VIII. New Business**

- Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 16
  - November Council Meeting to be held immediately following Annual Meeting in (room 108B) in lieu of the normally scheduled meeting to handle election of officers and post-meeting needs.
- Council member candidates to be selected by Nominating Team

## **IX. Shout Outs, Gratitude moments, etc.**

## **X. Closing Prayer**

## **XI. Adjournment (Tina/Bill/Passed)**

The Council meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M. by President John Hodler

*Signed by: Kirsten Parker, Congregational Council Secretary*