

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA

Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

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

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

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

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