

**Lebanon Lutheran Church
Congregation Council
Minutes of November 18, 2025 Meeting
In Person - In Church Lounge**

In Attendance: Pastor Doug Ogden, President Wietse Schaafsma, Vice President Sarah Schmalz, Treasurer Terry Beekman, Financial Secretary Curt Crouch, Cheri Crouch, Laura Hollister, Amy Swope, David Dusenberry, Secretary Al Wheeler

President Wietse Schaafsma called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Wietse then called for the **Agenda Review**. The agenda was approved as written.

Opening Devotion: Wietse discussed his normal day's routine that includes purposely paying attention to his connection with God while attempting to make good use of his time. He finds that sometimes he doesn't do his best. He read a passage from the book, *Jesus Calling*, pointing out that we are loved regardless of how we are performing.

Future Devotions: December - Sarah
January - David

Recent Signs of God's Grace were shared by participants.

Secretary's Minutes: Council reviewed the October Council Meeting minutes. Two errors were noted. Spelling of the word "Seoul" was changed to "Soul" and "May/June" to "November/December". Cheri moved that the minutes be approved as amended, seconded by David. The motion passed.

Pastor's report: (See Pastor's Report to the Church Council November 18, 2025): Pastor Doug requested that Council discuss the existing damage to the church organ metal pipes. He noted that four new bass speakers had been recently purchased and installed. After discussion, Council concluded that no further action was necessary at this time. Pastor Doug then asked if we want to:

1. Do another sleigh ride in January?
2. Do health kits in lent for foster kids?
3. Have another after worship event to assemble water filters and solar lights?

Council answered yes, yes, and yes then discussed preliminary plans for each.

Financial Reports: (See Financial Reports to the Church Council for November 18, 2025): Curt continues to be optimistic about our meeting budget for this year. October income was good and expenses remain in line. He cautioned that next year's budget will increase.

New or Urgent Business:

- 1. Planning Committee:** Wietse used last year's ballot as a model and Council discussed possible potential candidates for each position to be filled. We have confirmed nominees for the the three Council vacancies.
- 2. Venture Account - Another New Resolution:** Pastor Doug introduced a written resolution authorizing HarborLight to remove Robert Mark from acct#.....3004, Erica Wisniewski and Robert Hohmeister from acct#5000, Scott Keller from Scout House LLC. The resolution was signed by all voting Council members.

- 3. Property Committee Notes and Concerns:** Terry commented that the new maintenance agreement with Hurst Mechanical Service is in effect for a cost of \$1,672. Al said that the tolling bell is in need of repair.
- 4. Event Planning:** (See Pastor's Report)
- 5. Thrivent Action Cards/Calendar:** Sleigh ride is covered. Bubble Circus - Wietse will check with Melanie.

At this point Terry asked if Council might consider an end of the year contribution to Samaritas or others, suggesting that we use 10% of the gains on the Endowments account. He said that there would be more than \$3000 available. After discussing this possibility, it was decided that Terry would first confirm with the Endowment Committee and that any available funds should be divided between Samaritas, Living Water Camp and the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. Wietse put this in the form of a motion, seconded by Al. The motion passed unanimously.

Emphasis of the Month:

- December - Music:** Amy and the Kids' Klub Kazoo Band on the third Sunday
January - Quilting:
February - Kids' Klub

Unfinished Business:

- 1. Plan in Place For Active Shooter:**
- 2. Outdoor Sign for November/December:**
- 3. Balcony Project:** On hold until Mike determines the schedule.

Curt asked if we could consider next year's Emphasis of the Month schedule and suggested that we change April to Good Gifts, June to Swim Lessons, July to Back Packs, August to Living Lutheran and October to Samaritas. Council agreed to make these changes for 2026.

Calendar and Adjournment: At 8:27 Cheri moved to adjourn and Amy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Al Wheeler