



**Council Meeting
Monday, January 26, 2026**

Call to Order: 6:29 pm

Establish a quorum/present: Pastor Kjell Ferris, Sharon Steinhoff-Smith, Laura Magnuson, Lindsey Cornell, Brian Gieseke, Dan Bishop, Matt Goldade, Nikki Sames, Cassie Olson, Debbie Church, Nate Borwege

Motion to approve the 2026 Council Members and Officers by Borwege, second by Steinhoff-Smith. Motion approved.

2026 Elected Executive Council Officers:

- Brian Gieseke, President
- Laura Magnuson, Vice-President
- Matt Goldade, Treasurer
- Debbie Church, Secretary

Devotion by Brian Gieseke

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda and December Minutes by Bishop, second by Church. Motion approved.

President's Report:

- Google Drive/2026 Calendar
- Council Installation - Feb 1 and 4, 2026, during Worship
- Council Retreat.

Treasurer's Report

- Next Campaign Pledges:
 - 2023 Pledges Received: \$42,700.00
 - 2024 Pledges Received: \$715,725.08
 - 2024 Unpledged Received: \$241,651.92
 - 2025 Pledges Received: \$298,911.34
 - **Total Received: \$1,298,987**

PLEDGES as of December 31st, 2025	NEXT Campaign 2024 thru 2026
Total Pledged	\$1,252,399
Total Received	\$ 1,057,336
Remaining Pledges	\$195,063

Unpledged Gifts \$241,651
Organ & Chairs - \$196,000
Remaining Gifts = \$45,651
Land Proceeds + \$84,000
Total Add'l Funds = \$129,651

Finances as of December 31 st , 2025	December Budget	December Actual
Revenue	\$52,815	\$102,387
Expenses	\$55,375	\$93,062
Revenue - Expenses	-\$2,560	\$9,325

**Land \$=+34k in Rev & +34k in Exp*

Finances as of December 31 st , 2025	Year-to-Date Budget	Year-to-Date Actual
Revenue	\$667,065	\$662,593
Expenses	\$667,053	\$679,725
Revenue - Expenses	-\$12	-\$17,132

**Land \$=+64k in Rev & +64k in Exp*

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Borwege second by Magnuson. Motion approved.

Pastor Kjell's Report:

- Its time to consider our commitment (\$25,000) to Mpls Area Synod. **Motion for our 2026 commitment to the Mpls Area Synod to be \$25,000** by Steinhoff-Smith, second by Cornell. Motion approved.
Action to send the check to Mpls Area Synod ASAP.
- Urgent community need for Cristo Obrero families for assistance with rent and utilities approximately \$900/month per family. Follow-up action with mission outreach team to vote for immediate release of \$5,000 to Cristo Obrero. On Jan 30, 2026 Church Council emailed to initiate the **Motion to immediate release funds of \$5000 for Cristo Obrero**, by Church seconded by Steinhoff Smith. Motion approved.

- Discussion of draft risk protocols for staff to address Ice and Refuge
- Lent program, Hungry for Hope and preaching from the Gospel of John
- Plans to provide opportunities for conversation and support to congregation after church services this last week in January.

New Business:

Motion to Approve our Signers Accountant, President, and Treasurer with authority to discuss financial matters with financial institutions (accountant, pastors, president, treasurer) by Steinhoff-Smith, second by Cornell. Motion approved.

Motion to allow chairs of the endowment team and land sale team to speak to financial institutions by Church and second by Steinhoff-Smith. Motion approved.

Old Business:

- Reflections from Annual Summit (announce start time, attendance sheets all in same place, facing toward fellowship hall, end of service repeat the meeting announcement)
- Resource Development Committee: Need for two separate activities, both stewardship and gifts officer. As we define that infrastructure/team with Council representation by Matt Gouldade working with Pastor Kjell Ferris.
- Seminary Scholarship Fund – Matt Gouldade and Pastor Kjell Ferris to follow up

Communicate to members that any member questions/concern can be sent to council email for reply.

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Adjournment of Meeting at 8:50 pm: Motion by Goldade, seconded by Olson. Motion approved.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 23, 2026

Important Dates:

Feb 1 and 4, 2026 Council Installation during Worship