

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – APPROVED

August 25, 2026

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by President Allison Eger.

Members present: Pastors Peter Nycklemoe, Stephanie Friesen and Melissa Pohlman, Janice Devine, Ron Fiscus, Sara Gunsch, Jenna Harvieux, Phil Holst, PJ Ritters, Laurel Stewart (Z), Susan Troselius

Members excused: Christopher McCarty

Staff present: Pat Hansen

Christ Care Prayers: For his devotion, Pastor Peter shared the theme for this year – “The Welcome of a Steadfast God: Inviting All the Questions”; he then invited all to share their joys, sorrows, concerns, and thanksgivings, which were lifted in prayer.

Adoption of the August Agenda: The meeting agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes from June Council Meeting: The council meeting minutes for June 23, 2026, were approved. Also received were the Pastors’ Shared Report for August 2026 and Life Passages for May, June and July 2026.

Life Passages for May 2026

1. Baptisms

- a. **Henrik Glenn Nycklemoe** (*Parents are Siri and Sam Nycklmoe*) was baptized on Sunday, May 24, 2026, at the 10:30 a.m. service. Reverend Kathie Nycklemoe, Henrik’s grandmother baptized Henrik. Pastor Melissa Pohlman presided.

2. Weddings: none

3. Funerals/Burial Services

- a. **Lynda Marian Tidemann Minnick** (*May 9, 1937 – April 25, 2026*) funeral service was held at Central Lutheran on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Brian Gutzmann preached. Reverend Kari Parsons, Linda’s niece presided.
- b. **Glenn Howard Steinke** (*April 5, 1930 – May 12, 2026*) funeral service was held at Central Lutheran on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Peter Nycklemoe presided.

Life Passages for June 2026

1. Baptisms

- a. **Shanta Dejohnette Russ** (*adult*) was baptized on Monday, June 8, 2026, at the 11:00 a.m. service. Pastor Melissa Pohlman baptized Shanta
- b. **Zoe Dejohnette Moore** (*Parent is Shanta Russ*) was baptized on Monday, June 8, 2026, at the 11:00 a.m. service. Pastor Melissa Pohlman baptized Zoe.
- c. **Zayden Charles Moore** (*Parent is Shanta Russ*) was baptized on Monday, June 8, 2026, at the 11:00 a.m. service. Pastor Melissa Pohlman baptized Zayden.

2. Weddings: none

3. Funerals/Burial Services

- a. **James “Jim” Richard Weinell** (*December 8, 1933 – June 2, 2026*) No funeral or burial arrangements by Central.

Life Passages for July 2026

1. **Baptisms:** none

2. **Weddings:** none

3. **Funerals/Burial Services**

- a. **Gerald “Jerry” Maynard Olsen** (*April 7, 1935 – July 4, 2026*) funeral service was held at Central Lutheran on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided. Pastor Peter Nycklemoe preached.
- b. **Lawrence “Larry” Hollister Higgins** (*November 23, 1943 – April 26, 2026*) funeral service was held at the David Lee Funeral Home at 2:00 p.m. in Wayzata, Minnesota. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Ron Fiscus shared his Treasurer’s Report, which summarizes the monthly financial reports through July 31, 2026 – Analysis of Revenue & Expense, Balance Sheet, Summary of Designated Accounts, Revenue & Expense. These financial reports were approved by the Council. The Treasurer’s Report can be viewed by emailing Pat Hansen, phansen@centralmpls.org. Ron also presented the audit reports of Akins Henke & Company for the Year Ending December 31, 2025 – Communication Letter and Letter regarding Material Weaknesses and Significant Deficiencies.

Information and Conversation:

- Personnel: Pastor Peter shared Jovan Wright has started as Food Services Coordinator with Mark Carroll’s retirement. The custodian position will be posted soon. Isaac will be completing his third month of family leave from September 21st – October 19th with Melanie Ohnstad returning as interim.
- Pastor Peter shared that a proposal from Dobson Organ Builders is expected at the end of the week and that Isaac and the Casavant Organ committee will meet to discuss.
- Sanctuary Renewal updates: Pastor Peter shared that these projects are winding down - the Sacristy is done, the ADA ramp is done except for a handrail on the top, and the new marble on the chancel floor is all set and done, with the altar frame coming the next week.
- Summer facility projects: F & P has released a list of summer projects that have been or will be completed. These include work with kitchen wallboard protection, Free Center door replacement, great room lighting, and 3rd Ave exit stair/sidewalk replacement and will be paid for by designated funds.
- Fall Mission Cottage Meetings: The Sanctuary’s 100th Anniversary: Pastor Peter shared that these listening sessions with Tom Jolivet are set for Thursday, October 1, Saturday, October 3, Sunday, October 4, and Monday, October 5. Council members are asked to attend one of these sessions.

Council Action Items – the Council approved with a motion, second, discussion and vote:

1. To accept the audit reports prepared by Akins Henke & Company, Certified Public Accountants.
2. To affirm the Fiscal and Property summer projects.

Connections Conversation: Council members spent the remainder of the meeting breaking into twos to review the questions and conversations from May and June. The key listening was if there were any themes that have emerged, one or two key questions, and if there are any questions to add after time to reflect. These ideas will be given to Tom Jolivet in preparation for the Fall Mission Cottage Meetings: The Sanctuary’s 100th Anniversary in early October.

The theme/ideas that came forth include:

- What's my path and where does God need me? How will I know? What's my next "yes"?
- Why the suffering? What can we do?
- What did we learn in the first 100 years to move us forward in faith (trust vs. anxiety) for the next 100 years?
- How does the naming of our abundance (compared to scarcity) play into our future?
- It's our turn in this time!
- This fall's theme of a steadfast God – the now, the past, the future
- Do you believe that you are made in God's image and what do you do with that?

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm; Pastor Peter then led a tour of the newly completed Sacristy, the Sanctuary's ADA ramp, and the newly tiled chancel floor.

The Council's next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Hansen

Recording for Sara Gunsch, Council Secretary