

# Council Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2026

**ATTENDANCE:** S. Bear, A. Beer, H. DeFranco, Pastor D. Hartfield, M. Hylinski, D. Larsen, P. Mason, Pastor J. Miller-Stubbendick, S. Raszkievicz, K. Richter, A. Schroeder, L. Zanin

**ABSENT:**

## **Discussion Topics**

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM
2. **Opening Prayer/Devotion:** Andrea
3. **CUSH Immigration Task Force Presentation on ICE** — Grant Pitts Gwen Firmin and Marlene Taft (works at ELCA outreach center), Kristi Wilson. Goal is how to prepare before and what to do during the encounter and then after. Who will fill these roles? Should be those that are here each day, ideally the same people (front desk people, admin) on any given day 4-8 people. Select three people to fill the three different roles. One to talk, one to document, one sep from those activities/legal liaison. Find one person today who can talk to these individuals at a later date. If taken on this type of role, have to be clear on what you want them to do (some still see ICE as law enforcement). Trainings on how to verify if an encounter is ICE or not (investigate, record etc) The Sheriff is now cooperating. Training on know your rights. Legal observe training. Escalating and marshall training for picket lines. How to track people through ICE's system, how to find resources. Organization is based in Milwaukee. Voces de la fontaris is the organization. Other government agencies are assisting and cooperating with ICE now (around 25%). Let Grant know once we have the individuals picked so they can get training. Also important to note the difference between warrants (administrative vs judicial). A valid warrant always has a judge's signature. They can show the warrant through a window, they do not have to come inside in order to show the warrant. Marlene: the ELCA Outreach has many programs for immigrants and their families and have 2 people who have limited immigration law accreditation and can represent. Will refer to private immigration attorneys. ELCA Outreach has resources for the families. CUSH has a mutual aid fund. Forward Latino list of legal counsel. FIRE...private property aspect Private areas in the church. If someone is taken, can contact the ELCA outreach center. Who can be the point person for this from SMLC: Andy as president. Think also of people who live near the church who can get here quickly, and they would also be great to take the trainings as well.
4. **Approval of Council Agenda for Feb. 19, 2026:** A. Beer made a motion to approve the agenda with the adjustments; P. Mason seconded. All in favor.
5. **Approval of Council Meeting Minutes Jan. 15, 2026:** D. Larsen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with adjustments ; P. Mason seconded. All in favor. ( figure out how to capture open action items) so that it can be approved at the next meeting. Updated Pastors leave.
6. **Treasurer's report:** – See Attached January 2026 Report. \$4600 plowing bill came in January (deficit), heating bill \$4000.
7. **President's report:** – Lutherdale annual meeting on March 1(Andy will be attending). Date passed for others to attend.
8. **Pastor's Reports**
  1. **Pastor Jordan**– See attached.
  2. **Pastor Debbie** – See attached.
9. **Old Business**
  1. **Leadership Retreat (Stephanie)** — met twice with Pastors to discern how to best serve the group and Adventures in Renewal. Incorporate this as an introduction to the leadership group and strong encouragement to participate in the Co-Lab when it is scheduled. Discussion of our own Dwelling. Stephanie working to put a synopsis together and incorporate with Dwelling event. Possible date of April 11th (tail end of Spring Break) half day in the morning. Meeting again on March 3rd and then Stephanie will send out a communication.
  2. **Together in Mission Update** (Keith asked to move this topic to the agenda, Patti seconded): Andy and Stephanie went to the sessions, very informative. Pastor Jordan will share out the slides from the event.
10. **New Business**
  1. **Prepping for MMRP FY26-27 Dan-N. (Keith).** — Ministries need to think about their budgets and

bigger things/projects for MMRP. Reach out to Keith, Dan or bookkeeper if you have questions. Would like to see initial numbers in April.

2. **Lutherdale Annual Meeting March 01 — Discussed above in President’s Report.**

3. **Council Connections Role —** If approached with specific concerns about specific people...decision tree type. State that you or someone else will get back to them. The council connection is the buffer and can guide them where to go. Pastoral concerns should go directly to the Pastor. The Council Connection should bring any concerns that require a decision to Council meeting, they do not have to list all the concerns brought to them.

4. **March Executive & Council Meetings — Will not meet during March.**

MINISTRY REPORTS & MOTIONS			
Ministry	Liaison	Notes	Motions
Audit	Keith		None
Caring Ministries	P. Deb/ Jordan		None
Church in Society	Patti	<a href="#">See attached report</a>	None
Education—> Faith Formation	Andrea/ P. Deb		None
Finance	Keith		None
Friendly Center	Lisa	<a href="#">See attached report</a>	None
I. Technology	Andrea/ Keith		None
Nominating	Dana		None
Personnel	Andy		None
Property	Keith		None
Reconnect Hospitality & Fellowship	Hollie		None
Stewardship	Stephanie		None
WMA	Markie	<a href="#">See attached report</a>	None
Youth/Sunday School	Sandy		None

*Discussion points that need to be highlighted and motions that are needed from Council (anything over \$500)*

10. Council Connection concerns: February – Andrea Stephanie mentioned that some people had concerns about ICE sign on the door and are no longer coming to SMLC.

## PARKING LOT

Topic	Date Entered	Notes/Updates
Volunteer/Staff Appreciation	19 Jun 2025	
Collecting Information on members' businesses and skills	14 Dec 2023	
Getting to Know a St Mary's Member	14 Dec 2023	
Church Service Analysis Update		
Protecting Places of Worship	16 Nov 2023	Mentioned again 11/20/25
Ministry Role and Responsibilities		
Church Renewal	21 Aug 2025	

## DOCUMENT UPDATES

Title	Date Entered	Committee	Notes	Due Date
Emergency Closure		Executive		
Constitution/By-Laws Reformat/Rewrite		Executive	1/15/26: A. Beer brought up that it is important that this document get updated/complete re-write and on it.	
Memorial Giving Policy		Finance		
Chapel Lounge Monitor Training/Guidance				
150th Anniversary Historical Booklet/Video	17 Nov 2025		Keith	30 June 2026

## ACTION ITEMS

Item	Date Entered	Notes	Responsible person if applicable	Due Date
Website feedback	02.19.26	Send your feedback to Andrea and Keith by March 1 to discuss at next IT meeting.		Enter as old business agenda item for May Meeting

**13. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- A. **February 21/22:** Council Kringle Mingle
  - B. **February 23:** Taize service at Sienna Center
  - C. **February 25:** Lenten Services begin (*Tell Me Something Good* theme, meal, simple service)
  - D. **March 01:** Lutherdale Annual Meeting
  - E. **March 09-21:** Pastor Jordan Solidarity and Accompaniment Pilgrimage to Holy Land
  - F. **March 25-02:** Pastor Deb in California for Family Wedding
  - G. **March 29:** Palm Sunday Brunch
  - H. **April 02:** Maundy Thursday (6pm)
  - I. **April 03:** Good Friday (7pm Youth Led)
  - J. **April 04:** Easter Vigil (TBD)
  - K. **April 05:** Easter Sunday
  - L. **April 16:** Next Council Meeting
  - M. **May 9/10:** Good Samaritan Fund Weekend
  - N. **May 24:** Combined Kenosha ELCA Worship at Trinity 9am
  - O. **May 29/30:** GMS Assembly
  - P. **July 05:** Combined Worship at Spirit Alive 10:45 AM
  - Q. **July 26:** Annual Meeting Date & Good Samaritan Fund Weekend
15. Prayer Requests/Closing Prayer: [Andrea](#)
16. Adjournment – [Meeting adjourned at 8:51](#)

2025-2026 Council Connections				2025-2026 Ministry of the Month Temple Talk			
Aug 25	Keith	Feb 26	Andrea	Aug 25	Youth	Feb 26	Finance/Stewardship
Sept 25	Andy	March 26	Andy	Sept 25	WELCA/Property	March 26	Friendly Center
Oct 25	Hollie	April 26	Stephanie	Oct 25	WMA	April 26	Nominating
Nov 25	Patti	May 26	Markie	Nov 25	Care Ministry	May 26	Nominating
Dec 25	Lisa	June 26	Patti	Dec 25	Endowment	June 26	CIS
Jan 26	Sandy	July 26	Dana	Jan 26	Personnel	July 26	Education/Faith Formation

# January 2026 TREASURER'S REPORT

## St. Mary's Lutheran Church - Treasurer's Report - January 31, 2026

### General Operating Fund

Beginning Balance	5,956.58
January Income	32,844.92
January Expenses	(46,438.46)
Cumulative Profit (Loss)	<u>(7,636.96)</u>

### Dedicated Accounts

Operating Reserve Beginning Balance	9,603.51
-Receipts	0.00
-Disbursements	0.00
Operating Reserve Ending Balance	<u>9,603.51</u>

Long-Term Reserve Beginning Balance	71,178.68
-Receipts	0.00
-Disbursements	0.00
Long-Term Reserve Ending Balance	<u>71,178.68</u>

Building/Grounds Beginning Balance	7,969.58
-Receipts	0.00
-Disbursements	0.00
Building/Grounds Ending Balance	<u>7,969.58</u>

Investment Accounts Beginning Balance	123,641.57
-Receipts -	0.00
Investment Accounts Ending Balance	<u>123,641.57</u>

Other Dedicated Accounts Ending Balance	<u>94,258.21</u>
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<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<u><u>314,288.51</u></u>
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### Bank / Investment Account Balances

Checking Account	20,059.07
Money Market Account	90,587.87
Investment Accounts	203,641.57

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u><u>314,288.51</u></u>
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<b>Difference</b>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>
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	<u>0</u>
	<u><u>0.00</u></u>

<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	<u><u>263,610.44</u></u>
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# Pastor Jordan Miller-Stubbendick

## Pastor's Report

February 19, 2026

St. Mary's Lutheran Church, Kenosha, Wisconsin

In July 2025, the Greater Milwaukee Synod joined a lawsuit that contested the rescission (or cancellation) of the Sensitive Locations Policy that had previously restricted immigration enforcement activity in or near churches, schools, and hospitals.

Earlier this week, a judge granted a preliminary injunction, at least partially granting our request! Here is a brief portion of the ruling: "**In substance, the preliminary injunction will prohibit warrantless enforcement actions—absent exigent circumstances—inside a church, at the entrance to a church, at a religious education facility (such as a Sunday school), at a religious social-service facility (such as a day-care center), or on adjacent church property (such as a parking lot).** It will also prohibit such enforcement within 100 feet of the entrance to a church, absent exigent circumstances or supervisory approval. And it will prohibit law enforcement from knowingly setting up checkpoints to interrogate persons on their way to or from a church."

Three other categories of places are also protected:

- (1) "places of worship," i.e., churches themselves or other places regularly used to conduct religious services;
- (2) "adjacent protected facilities," i.e., facilities "attached to or adjacent to" a place of worship that are used to conduct activities central to your members' religious missions, such as a school;
- (3) "**adjacent protected area,**" i.e., **any property adjacent to a place of worship that is owned, occupied, or operated by the church, such as a parking lot, walkway, lawn, garden, playground, or cemetery.**

\*The national Women of the ELCA group is trying out a new program to connect current college students with existing WELCA groups in congregations. They are also connecting these same college students with young girls in congregations who would like to be mentored. **I am very pleased that current Carthage senior, Gracie Underwood, will be invited to the spring WELCA tea, as well as mentoring Lilly DeFranco and Alex Raszkievicz.** Gracie will meet with Lilly and Alex about once a month. Any costs for their activities together will be covered by grant money that WELCA has received from the Siebert Lutheran Foundation.

**\*The dates for my trip to Palestine have shifted slightly. I will leave on the evening of Monday, March 9, and return on the evening of Saturday, March 21. Pastor Debbie will provide pastoral care coverage from March 10-19, and Pastor Becca Laabs of Trinity and Lakeside Lutheran Churches will provide pastoral care coverage for March 20-21.** Pastor Debbie can be reached at 262-599-5795, and Pastor Becca can be reached at 608-632-1045. I will take Sunday, March 15 and Sunday, March 22 as continuing education Sundays.

On Sunday, March 15, a representative from Lutheran Social Services will preach and Pastor Cliff Schmidt will preside at communion. On Sunday, March 22, Pastor Nancy Eggert will preach and preside.

\*We have had several visitors recently from Grace Lutheran and other places. This is **encouraging to see, and** please continue to welcome and get to know our visitors.

\*At last week's WMA meeting, there was a brief discussion about having a **church cleanup day**, especially in the kitchen and the sanctuary. Is this something we think would work better in the spring or the fall?

**\*I believe it makes sense to follow up on this 2/17 email from Greater Milwaukee Synod: We have learned that the organization Faith in Place is bringing a pilot program called "Focus on Energy Empowering Faith Communities" to congregations (across multiple faith traditions) in the greater Milwaukee area.**

The Focus on Energy Empowering Faith Communities Pilot includes:

FREE energy assessments conducted by an expert Energy Specialist. This assessment will identify the top energy-saving recommendations specific to your needs.

A list of qualified Trade Ally contractors located in and around your community who can assist with your project upgrades.

Step-by-step assistance from your Energy Specialist on obtaining quotes, performing upgrades, and understanding your savings potential.

Elevated incentives of 75% of the first \$20,000 in project costs and 50% of costs thereafter, up to \$30,000 in total incentives.

Information on no-cost energy-saving measures available for your membership base and additional services offered by Focus on Energy and Faith in Place to meet sustainability goals.

Faith in Place is available to meet with congregations to discuss the program in greater detail, and they would be happy to set up a time to speak to your congregation about this opportunity.

**Pastor Debbie Hartfield Report**  
**Pastor's Report**  
**(01/17/26 → 02/16/26)**  
**Congregation Council Meeting, February 19, 2026**

- Pastoral Activities
  - Congregation member pastoral care
    - Residential Care facility visit
    - Home visit
    - Phone calls
    - Texts
  - Preach/preside Sat/Sun, January 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>
  - On call January 16<sup>th</sup> -January 20<sup>th</sup>
- A Prayer Vigil, sponsored by CUSH, for the victims of ICE, was held at St. Mary's Lutheran on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. 215 people gathered to be together, light candles, sing, pray and find ways to be involved. We heard the names of 45 beloveds of God, and a bit of their stories, all now dead at the hands of ICE.
- The first Adult Faith Formation Team meeting was held Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Andrea Beer, Pat Gallo, Dick Sjoerdsma and Kristi Tysdal met to get to know one another, share our hopes for the group, identify the gifts we bring to this ministry and begin discussions about our reason for existing – our purpose statement. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Our youth group assisted with the burning of last year's palm branches (February 4<sup>th</sup>), creating ashes that will be used in our Ash Wednesday service this year! Thanks to Sandy Bear for contributing the sifter and all who braved the frigid weather! We had a very meaningful time together!
- Due to the death of Steve's aunt, we were unable to attend the *Together in Mission* event held by the synod.
- Two planning meetings with Pastor Jordan and Stephanie Raszkievicz were held to discuss and design a Leadership Retreat. Our initial plans to include the leaders of the Adventures in Renewal process had to be changed due to the lack of availability. A draft agenda has been defined. The next meeting is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>. ("Grounding" Service, Dwelling in the Word, Adventures in Renewal revisited/next steps, lunch)
- Administration/Meetings/Conference
  - Leadership Retreat Planning meetings w/Pr. Jordan & Stephanie Raszkievicz, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> & Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>
  - On Call for Pastor Jordan, January 16<sup>th</sup> thru January 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Pastor Jordan & Pastor Debbie 1:1 – January 21<sup>st</sup>, Feb.3<sup>rd</sup>

- Youth Good Friday service planning meeting w/Pr. Jordan & Kendra Richter, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>
- Clergy coach, February 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Executive Committee, February 3<sup>rd</sup> (special meeting) & February 11<sup>th</sup>
- Adult Faith Formation team kick-off meeting, January 5<sup>th</sup>
- WMA Meeting, February 10<sup>th</sup>
- Monthly Pastor's Report to Council completed, February 16<sup>th</sup>
- Council meeting, February 19<sup>th</sup>
  
- Looking Ahead
  - Preside Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Council, February 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Preach/preside February 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>
  - Clergy coach, February 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Staff Meeting, February 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Synod meeting w/Pr. Kristin, February 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Leadership Retreat Planning meeting #3, March 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Adult Faith Formation Team meeting, March 5<sup>th</sup>
  - On call coverage for Pr. Jordan, March 10<sup>th</sup> thru March 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Son's wedding in California, Vacation, March 25<sup>th</sup> – April 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - No Executive Committee or Council meetings in March

# Church in Society Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 in the library.

Members present included: Patty Mason, Margaret VanBoven, Steve Hartfield, Anne Winkle, Kathy Neururer

Devotions were led by Steve Hartfield. There will be no meeting in March. Devotions for the April meeting will be led by Patty Mason.

The minutes from the November 13, 2025 meeting were read and approved.

Financial Report: Budget #6201: \$300.00 Dedicated Acct.: #3243: \$468.09 Of this amount, \$162.00 has been designated for snacks during the Outreach summer program.

Fair Trade Coffee Fund #3208: \$625.90 An order was recently submitted to replenish products.

## OLD BUSINESS

No current report on Afghan refugees. Keep them and residents of Minnesota in your prayers.

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Breaking the Chains" ministry was observed on Sunday, Feb. 1, 2026 in Milwaukee. St. Mary's Community Quilters donated a quilt and CIS donated a basket of Fair Trade items for the silent auction.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Fair Trade Products

Saturday, February 21 – self serve set up

Sunday, February 22 – Margaret and Steve

Saturday, March 21 – self serve set up

Sunday, March 22 – Patty and Margaret

Bread for the World – Motion was made by Margaret and seconded by Steve to donate \$300.00 from budgeted account #6201 for the coming year to continue St. Mary's covenant membership with Bread for the World. Motion was passed unanimously.

Anne will follow up with the organization to insure the correct name (St. Mary's Lutheran) and date are listed on the membership card.

Shalom Center – Steve reported that the Center has worked with KYDS to keep the Center open every night as a shelter for up to 12 people. Hours will be from 6:00 pm to 8:00 am. This is in addition to the regular guests the Center houses in its shelter.

Christmas in July – Kathy presented a bookmark that had been distributed at another event last year. Group discussed the idea of using a bookmark for Christmas in July 2026. Kathy will follow up with Beth.

Grace Lutheran Church – church activities are paused at this time until the official closing. Meanwhile, other organizations are continuing to use the Grace facilities.

CUSH – the vigil at St. Mary's was held with 207 people in attendance. The chili fundraiser was canceled. Meeting was adjourned at 1:35.

The next meeting will be on April 9, 2026 at 1:00 pm in the library.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

# The Friendly Center Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2026

**MOTIONS TO BRING TO COUNCIL:** None

**HIGHLIGHTS/TOPICS FOR COUNCIL GUIDANCE:**

44 people were served a wonderful meal of Swedish meatballs and gravy over noodles, corn and jello on this cold day at the end of January.

Dessert was chocolate cake. Gretchen and helpers, Chris, Michelle and Mindy as well as the FC board were there to cook, serve and clean up. This event took place on January 28, 2026. The presentation as well as devotions were given by Pastor Cindy from St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In 2018 she and her family took a trip to Norway and the Friendly Center membership was treated to a slide presentation of their trip including breathtaking views of mountains and fjords.

**ATTENDANCE:** Lisa, Bob, Sue, Faith, Rod

**ABSENT:** Sandy, Carlene, Jan

**DISCUSSION TOPICS**

1. **Call to order:**
2. **Opening Prayer/Devotion:**
3. **Approval of [*Ministry Name*] Agenda for [*date*]-**
4. **Approval of [*Ministry Name*] Meeting Minutes from [*date*]-**
5. **Treasurer's report (if applicable):**
6. **Old Business**
  - a. Topic 1: Support from Gretchen and her helpers has been very much appreciated as we move into the new year.
  - b. Topic 2: Announcements given by Jan also went well. Bob had written them up for Jan to read.
  - c. Topic 3: Bob has been creating the newsletter twice a year (once in the fall and once in January). This is to cut down on the time/cost to create and send the newsletter. Informational updates will still be given during announcements on gathering days.
  - d. Topic4: Bob also mentioned that at this moment we have 64 members on the FC roster.
7. **New Business**
  - a. Topic 1: February 25<sup>th</sup> – Paddy Lynn and Les have been contracted to present “Love Letters,” which is a dramatic presentation of the reading of love letters between a couple. Their fee is \$225. Faith said that Pastor Becca can not give devotions on this date so she will contact Pastor Loveall from the Presbyterian Church in Kenosha to see if he is available. The meal will be made by Gretchen and will be choice of chili or soup. The organization for donations will be the Outreach Center.
  - b. Topic 2: March 25<sup>th</sup> – Pastor David Rebe will give the devotions and include information about the Breaking the Chains Ministry. He has confirmed. Then the membership will play Bingo. Sue will contact Jan to be sure she can facilitate Bingo. Monetary donations will be collected for Breaking the Chains Ministry and the meal will be chicken casserole.
  - c. Topic 3. April 29<sup>th</sup>—Alex Troupis (dementia care specialist) and Margaret Ricchio (caregiver support coordinator) from ADRC will give the presentation on the topics of Brain Health and Caregiver Concerns

respectively. Pastor Becca will give the devotions and meal will be catered from Yee's Oriental Inn. Donations will be collected for the Salvation Army.

**8. Parking Lot items (if applicable):**

- a. Topic 1: The May 20<sup>th</sup> gathering will be before Memorial Day. We will have brats, hot dogs and sloppy joes. During the program we will be honoring our veterans. Pastor Chip Lutz of Lord of Life will be asked to give devotions. Veteran's Village/ Pantry of Racine will receive our donations.
- b. Topic 2: Bob will give the FC Temple Talk in March for both Saturday and Sunday worship times.
- c. Topic 3: Pat Gallo will send a card from the FC to Kate Dishler Noreen and the family of Bob's Noreen.
- d. Topic 4: Beth will place an updated announcement in the Spirit letting our membership as well as other congregants know that we always need volunteer help.... especially for "behind the scenes" tasks. This request will be printed in the March, April and May Spirit newsletters.

**9. Upcoming Calendar of Events:**

See above for details

- a. Event 1: Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>
- b. Event 2: March 25<sup>th</sup>
- c. Event 3: April 29<sup>th</sup>
- d. Event 4: May 20<sup>th</sup>

**10. Closing Prayer:**

**11. Adjournment: –**

**Meeting Minutes Submitted by: Lisa Zanin**

# Property Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 2nd 2026

## MOTIONS TO BRING TO COUNCIL:

## HIGHLIGHTS/TOPICS FOR COUNCIL GUIDANCE:

**ATTENDANCE:** Dave Frost, Dave Sandahl, Christine Johnson, Dave Frost, Ralph Tollas, Dave Raszkievicz.

## **ABSENT:**

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

1. **Call to order: 5:37 PM**
2. **Opening Prayer/Devotion:**
3. **Distribute Property Committee Agenda**
4. **Approval of Property Committee Meeting Minutes from 1/5/25.**
5. **Old Business:**
  - a. **See parking lot items.**
6. **New Business**
  - a. Mount handicapped signs on poles for voting
  - b. Tax preparation 2026: Set up starting Tuesdays from Feb. 3rd to April 15th.
  - c. Trugreen agreement for 2026. Trugreen needs to get back to us with the bill for the church to pay.
  - d. FOB reader replacement meeting with Midwest Alarm. They will have to install a new FOB reader for the east side and keep the camera/speaker.
  - e. Midwest alarm meeting replacement of ten zone to a five zone estimate for \$1185. Cost should be covered from equipment maintenance.
  - f. Replace flood lights in Carport.
  - g. Budget: Land maintenance is likely going to be over budget because of snow removal, Trugreen, and possibly heating needs.
7. **Parking Lot items (if applicable):**
  - A. **Dave Raszkievicz concrete bench ends for use at exterior of east narthex entrance area:**  
bench ends have been power washed, recommended to NOT use solid core plastic wood and use treated lumber instead, with red stain. [bench length for 3 people ~49-1/2", plan to cut 8' 2" x4" in half for bench] *No change*
  - B. **Paint East Narthex South wall. No change, waiting for quotes to patch, prime, and paint**
  - C. **Repair Sanctuary East & West drywall walls and paint. On hold**
  - D. **Property Committee 11-month review of Lemberg EMC sign installation (March 2026).**
  - E. **Seals for exterior doors? Next year's budget.**
  - F. **Gym Floor cleaning set up time, next year's budget.**
  - G. **Upgrade fluorescent lighting in 1W, Choir, Sacristy, Sunday School Office, 3W, and 4E.**
  - H. **Chair lift for basement.**
  - I. **Lift to clean ceiling fans?**
8. **Upcoming Calendar of Events:**
  - a. Next Property Committee Meeting Monday, March 2nd at 5:30 PM 1W.
9. **Closing Prayer:** Amen, Alleluia.
10. **Adjournment: 6:37PM**

## Highlights/Topics for Council Guidance

### **Attendance**

Julie Schmit, Dick Sjoerdsma, Pastor Jordan, Pastor Deb, Pat Gallo, Markie Hylinski, Gretchen Rasch, Rod Pfeiffer

### **Absent**

Deb Black, Willy Mueller

### **Discussion Topics**

1. Call to order: 6:00
2. Opening prayer/Devotion: Prayer by Gretchen. Next time -Dick.
3. Approval of WMA agenda for February 10, 2026 -passed.
4. Approval of WMA Meeting Minutes for January 13,2026 passed. Dick added that Jubilate Bells will be donating money as well as the choir to help pay for piano bench in memory of Deb Blacks father.
5. Pastor's Reports: Pastor Jordan- There is money to have Pastor Becca preach occasionally. She will be preaching on Saturday, March 21 and Mary 23. We approved of having her do this at our last meeting. Th Easter Vigil will be at Carthage on Saturday April 4, probably at 5. This an ELCA group event. There will be no worship at St Mary's. Dick expressed concern about the parking there. With the students gone that should alleviate some of the problem. John Weit the Liturgical specialist for the ELCA will be in charge. Rod wondered if there will a group choir or special music at this event. Pastor Debbie reported that she burned last year's palms with the youth. It was a great meaningful experience for all. We will have ashes for a really long, long time.

#### 6. **Old Business**

- a. Topic 1 Lent – “Tell Me Something Good” is the theme for lent. After some discussion it was decided to continue with Eco Palms. We will also try using Sunnyside Florist this year for our Easter flowers. Gretchen will talk to Margaret about having the greeter sign up people who wish to have devotions given to them from the office. These would be available on Ash Wednesday.
- b. Update on Sound Board and Projection – Julie reported the Tech Committee has asked for quotes for Fellowship Hall TV Screens, Sanctuary Projector, and hearing impaired help for the sanctuary.
- c. Saturday night will be going back to Holden starting with Lent.

Topic 2. WMA

#### 7. **New Business**

- a. Topic 1 Communion logistics was discussed. Do we want to change and fill in from the back of the rail to the front? Should the pastor and communion assistants commune themselves while the congregation sings the Lamb of God? After discussion it was decided no change is needed.
- b. Topic 2 WMA guidelines Checklists- List were received for greeters, ushers, assisting ministers, communion assistants and sacristan. These lists will help provide continuity so each person is following the guidelines. Dick asked that in the usher guidelines it should be stated that the ushers do not invite the congregation up until the Lamb of God is finished. Dick also asked that it be put in the communion assistants list that they use the opposite hand to bless a child from the one they use for communion. Pastor Deb has sheets she uses to train the Assistant ministers. They need to be able to lead the service in their heart and minds.
- c. Ash Wednesday – Art and his wife will be gone for Ash Wednesday and Julie might need help for the sound board.
- d. Nathan Larsen is really happy with the new ringers. All are doing very well. Jubilate is planning on attending a bell Festival at Mt Pleasant Lutheran in Racine on April 18 at 2:00.

**8. Parking Lot Items-**

**9. Calendar of Events**

- a. WMA participant Discussion – Thursday February 12, 5:30
- b. Ramadan Presentation on Sunday February 15 after the service.
- c. Ash Wednesday – Feb 18, food at 5, service at 6.
- d. Lenten meals at 5:00, Feb 18, 25, March 4,11,18,25 followed at 6:00 with the service.
- e. Pastor Jordan will be gone from the evening of March 9 through March 21.

Closing Prayer - Gretchen

Next Meeting is March 10 at – 6:00pm.

**Meeting Minutes submitted by:**



Hollie DeFranco

Congregation Council Secretary