

Special Council Meeting Minutes

March 8, 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

1. Call to Order – 10:17 AM

2. Purpose of Meeting

- The meeting was called to inform Council of Pastor Debbie Hartfield's resignation.
- Pastor Debbie shared her letter of resignation with Council members (*see attached*) and stated that it is the responsibility of Council to give the clear message of her reasons should they be asked by the congregation.
- It was further stated that Pastor Debbie's four reasons should be shared in The Spirit.
- Her letter will be sent to the Congregation on March 9th.
- Dana asked if Pastor Debbie's position would be kept and Keith stated that Pastor Jordan and Andy need to discuss the needs of the congregation first.
- **A. Beer** made a motion to regretfully accept Pastor Debbie Hartfield's resignation effective April 12, 2026; **D. Larsen** seconded. All in favor and motion carried.
- Pastor Jordan ended the meeting with a Blessing.

3. Meeting Adjourned – 10:38 AM



ST. MARY'S Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2001 80th Street Kenosha, Wisconsin 53143 (262) 658-3555

www.stmaryslutheran.org

March 9, 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ at St. Mary's Lutheran Church,

After much prayer and discernment, I am retiring from parish ministry and submitting my letter of resignation. My last day of call and last Sunday among you will be April 12, 2026.

I am deeply grateful for the three years that I served as your part-time Associate Pastor and all the ways we shared ministry, especially as we navigated life together without a permanent Lead Pastor, and in all the ways we celebrated 150 years of faithful ministry at St. Mary's. I give thanks to God, and each of you, for the honor of providing pastoral care during some of life's most vulnerable and holy moments and for the opportunity to grow in faith as together we studied God's Word.

I trust that God will continue to be with you and guide your ministry under the confident leadership and care of Pastor Jordan.

Until we meet again, may God's grace and peace be with you always.

In Christ,



Pastor Debbie Hartfield

*I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.
Philippians 1:3-5*

Meeting Minutes submitted by:



Hollie DeFranco

Congregation Council Secretary