

St. John's Congregational Council Meeting

October 20, 2025 Room 103/104

Members present: Aaron Clark, David Clark, Cindy Gonsowski, Rachel Katterhenrich, Doug Knisely, Kathy Myers, Amy Wanner, Pastor Patti Morlock

Members Absent: Abby Johnston, Bonnie Swanson, Paul Wittenberg

Opening prayer: Pastor Patti Morlock started our time together with prayer.

Devotion: President Aaron Clark led council in a devotion from John 8.

Additional Agenda Items: Rachel Katterhenrich said that a copy of the church constitution will be placed in the church library so that all congregants can have easy access to it. David Clark is looking into the possibility of putting a digital copy on the website in a member protected area as well. In addition, there was a brief discussion on other ways to make the work of council more understandable and transparent, including articles in the Eagle and other modes of communication.

Aaron reminded council that the quarterly meeting is this coming Sunday.

Recognition of Approval of September minutes: Secretary Rachel Katterhenrich confirmed that the September minutes have been approved by a majority of council members.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Patti reported on the following:

- Planning an upcoming funeral service
- Working with the pastoral intern, including preaching more often, planning themes for Lenten midweek services, catechism, and leading the Life-to-Life Discipleship program
- Working through various administrative tasks and leading staff

Financial report: Treasurer Kathy Myers reports that the finance report has been sent to council members and filed. Several other financial concerns were discussed and addressed with the following motions:

- Kathy Myers motioned to allocate the leftover amount from the previous designated fund interest account (\$218.59) evenly into the current designated fund accounts. David Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Kathy Myers motioned to renew the current designated fund accounts for 2026. Amy Wanner seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Kathy Myers motioned to approve up to \$2400 to be spent from the Memorial Restricted Handbell account for the purchase of 16 new choir robes. Cindy Gonsowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Kathy Myers motioned to approve a policy that only selected staff members may hold a church credit card, to be used for budgeted items with limits set by the

finance team/policy and executive council. David Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- Aaron Clark motioned to give Pastor Patti a one-time gift of \$2500 from the operating fund payable in the year 2025 as a thank you gift for the extra service she is providing during this time of transition. Cindy Gonsowski seconded the motion. Discussion followed while Pastor Patti was not present in the room. The motion passed.

Kathy also reported that \$3699.96 will be spent on parts and repair of the dishwasher from the operating fund (per finance policy, no approval needed)

Kathy shared a draft of the 2026 budget and reviewed it with council. Council will vote on the 2026 budget at their November meeting in order to present it before the congregation for approval at the annual meeting in January.

Executive Team Report: Executive team met and also brought past executive council team members to discuss some past events of conflict. Christine from Slingshot is being contacted to possibly help follow up.

Membership Report: Aaron Clark read the membership report, including 0 outgoing and 3 incoming members: Edward Sheets, Glenda Sheets, and Julie Wittenberg, and motioned to receive these members to our congregation. Rachel Katterhenrich seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Unfinished business: none

New Business: none

Congregational concerns:

- Some members are concerned about the temperature in the sanctuary.
- The hot water has not been working in the FLC kitchen and bathrooms
- Rachel Katterhenrich shared about meetings with leaders of ministries in the Worship network – the Altar Guild continues to put a lot of effort in to making sure the sanctuary is ready for worship. They could use more volunteers to help in this effort! The contemporary worship team has also put in a lot of thoughtful effort to the worship time, creating space for different worship styles while maintaining unity. They expressed a desire that when services are combined, they would be truly blended.
- Amy Wanner shared about meeting recently with representatives from the Youth network. They spent time visioning for the future, including ways to improve parent and volunteer involvement in youth activities. They also expressed a desire to receive better communication about scheduling so that different ministries within the congregation can support one another.

Prayer requests: Members shared life updates and personal prayer requests.

The meeting was adjourned following the Lord's Prayer together.

ACTION ITEMS:

Review the minutes and respond to Secretary Rachel Katterhenrich within 48 hours with approval/additions/corrections (All council members)

Next meeting: Monday, November 17, 2025 at 6:30 pm in room 103/104