

Hope Lutheran Council – January 19, 2026

Call to Order – 5:00 pm by Council President Clint Mack

Present: Clink Mack, Kelly Lorenz, Angie Newton, Sarah Gavert, Paul Gaukstad, Matt Lorenz, Steve McClellan, Jess Felten, Danielle Tieben, Pastor Matt Cordes.

Devotion: Pastor Matt asked us to share something that is good in our life and wrapped the sharing up with a prayer.

Agenda: Adopted without any changes.

December 15, 2025 Minutes: Approved without any changes.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Financial Reports: Written and oral report presented by Paul Gaukstad, he shared that we ended 2025 well and in a better position than we were at the end of 2024. It was approved.

Deacons: Oral report provided by Matt Lorenz. He shared that there is discussion on ideas for changing things up with Welcome Table plans, considering a potluck style. He confirmed that there would not be a Wednesday night meal during Holy Week. Angie added that we need to source our soup from a new vendor as the previous one has closed.

B.O.Y.E.M: Written report was submitted for BOYEM and C.Y.F. Jess Felten asked if a Continued Resolution was to be written to temporarily change BOYEM's board if there would still be a need for a Council Rep. Clint shared the update that it has been discerned that a Continued Resolution does not make sense at this time and will not be written. She also inquired who is caring for the library, Angie shared that Carlonna Lindell currently manages the library and it currently gets used by the craft group.

They feel that volunteering is going well however splitting the sign up for Wednesday night meals into 2 parts, set up/serve and clean up. This change will enable youth and their family members the ability to sign up to serve and be free to attend the service and participate in discussion groups.

Trustees: Written and oral report provided by Steve McClellan. He asked for clarification and guidance on the possibility of splitting the board into two, building/maintenance and finance. Clint shared that this idea has not been discussed with Constitution Committee so no action is needed at this time.

Pastor's Report: A written report was provided by Pastor Matt Cordes. He drew attention to a new Maundy Thursday congregational meal idea of one big table, with family style meal,

served by the staff. He also asked that we revisit our second service on Christmas on how we might be able to make it feel more intentional.

Old Business:

1. **Annual Meeting:** One change was made to the ballot in regards to the terms of the new BOYEM members, everything else is feeling well prepared for. Instead of speaking from the lectern, they will use the handheld mic and stand on the floor.
2. **Constitution Committee Update:** Clint shared that the committee has prepared a draft of an updated Constitution that the committee is reviewing along with the feedback from the boards. Next steps are to develop a plan for how the Boards might be structured, represented at Council and added to the bylaws. The timeline is to submit the updated Constitution and bylaws to the synod this summer, make any changes and get approval this fall to enable us to ratify it at our January 2027 Annual Meeting. A motion was made giving the Constitution Committee blessings to move forward with the updating of the constitution and bylaws.
3. **Strategic Plan Survey:** Completed surveys are slowly coming in so ideas were discussed on how to get more copies into members hands and emphasize that all voices matter and set the deadline of February 1, 2026.

New Business:

1. **Building Rental Inquiry:** Due to lack of information, discussion was tabled.

Adjourned: at 6:30pm, concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Lorenz

Next meeting: Sunday February 22, 2026, after worship service, in Boardroom, devotional by Clint