

Holy Cross Lutheran Church (HCLC)
Minutes for Council Meeting – May 17, 2026

The May 2026 Church Council meeting was called to order by President Stephen Schulze on Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 11:05 a.m. Pastor Berggren opened with a prayer.

In attendance were: Pastor Jim Berggren, Stephen Schulze, Jay Byerly, Ricki Finstad, Julie Kilkenny, Wendy Lambeth, Bert Martin, Russell Richter, and Penny Schick. Anita Cooper was not in attendance. Alan Lambeth attended as a guest.

The **minutes** from the April 2026 meeting were submitted by Secretary Julie Kilkenny and approved by Council.

The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Ricki Finstad. He reported that April 2026 offerings were \$30,382, which was \$7,560 greater than March. April expenses were \$30,201, which was \$2,654 greater than March. April offerings were \$1,021 greater than expenses. Year to date expenses of \$112,420 have exceeded offerings by \$20,388 (a deficit of \$5,097/month). The checking account balance at 4/30/26 was \$51,742, not including restricted funds. Treasurer Finstad reported that the CDs for the Janus, Mission and Emergency funds have matured, and he asked Council to authorize moving these to a Schwab CD, which has a higher interest rate; Council approved this action unanimously. He then gave a summary of investments and other items in his report. Council approved the Treasurer's Report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Berggren updated Council on his activities for the month. He gave a brief summary of the Synod Assembly and noted that his report was filed in the church office. He distributed some materials from the last Assets and Ideas Committee meeting. Other activities included making phone calls and visits to parishioners; providing counseling and ministering for prayer requests; outreach to the community; and various church ministry meetings.

Committee Reports and Old Business:

Buildings and Grounds/Maintenance:

- Alan Lambeth gave a presentation on the status of HVAC in the Annex. Two of four units that cool the annex (16 and 24 years old) are not cooling. Dye injection and leak inspection tests were run, which found multiple leaks. He and President Schulze recommended replacing the units, as opposed to trying to repair old units that use refrigerant which is no longer in use. Three bids to replace the units were obtained, and Council voted unanimously to accept the bid from Schiller Services, as recommended by Mr. Lambeth.
- Ms. Lambeth reported that the **broken sidewalk** from the west parking lot to the sanctuary in the Westview lawn has been repaired. She noted that donations of \$3,800 of the \$4,800 total cost have been raised.

- Ms. Lambeth remarked that HCLC donated the commercial gas stove from the Gym kitchen to St. James Lutheran Church. She wanted to recognize the efforts of HCLC member Natalie Pazdra, who found a church that needed this. (HCLC converted to an all-electric kitchen last year.)

Vacation Bible School (VBS): Ms. Lambeth updated Council on VBS preparation, which will be held June 22nd – 26th. The curriculum is here, the banner for the Westview lawn has been ordered, registration information has been posted on the website and social media, and flyers were sent home with the Early Learning Center students. Progress is being made with volunteer recruitment, and several campers have already signed up.

Food Pantry: President Schulze reported he is hopeful that construction for the Pantry expansion would be finished in a week.

Assets and Ideas Committee (formerly Growth/Outreach Committee): Ms. Schick asked about the plans for the next committee meeting. President Schulze will check with other members, but he suggested June 28th.

New Business:

- President Schulze presented a request from Warren Schick to address problems with the Power Point setup in the sanctuary. He has asked Council to authorize work by a licensed electrician to install on/off switches, which would control the WIFI receivers and projectors inside the sanctuary, facilitating the uninterrupted display during worship services. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by Council to install this work.

The June Council Meeting was scheduled for Sunday, June 14, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

Upon motion to adjourn, the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kilkenny,
Secretary, Church Council