

Council Minutes
November 13, 2025 4:30pm

Members attending: Dave Johnston, Scott Siegrist, Pastor Tom, Mary Koepke, Susie Grulke, Steve Stretz. Guests: Paul Thusius, Paul Christenson, By Phone: Ron Egelseer

Prayer partners – “Where have you seen God at work this week?”- highs & lows

Recite: Our mission “Sharing God’s Love, Caring for Community”

Approve minutes: Review/approve previous meeting minutes

- Susie motion to approve, Scott 2nd all approved

Deepen: Devotions: Pastor Tom

- Read and discussed 2 Corinthians 9. Paul’s call to church of Corinth. Live generously. Freely help others as part of your praise.
- Devotions next time? Scott

Next Meeting: December 11, 2025

Soup Troop:

- Nov. 21st next date, chili

Follow up on these items:

Prairie project—Labyrinth completed. Other information? Contract for field next year?

- Seeding in spring, Kristin will select seeds. People want to help with seeding. Date will depend on weather, etc.. in spring. Viking Bros. will be helping greatly.
- We should promote using labyrinth. Working on sign for it. Will be planting bushes around labyrinth and other places. Presentation in hallway, section for helping with funding.
- Also working on the design of an arch.

Mission Fund—Guidelines for Mission Fund. Final copy to be approved.

- Steve motion to approve, Susie 2nd, all approved
- Recommendation from team: would like to donate to Partners in Medical mission, supplies: \$500. Dave motion to approve, Suzie 2nd, all approved.

Belize Mission Team 2026. Final plans, funding thus far.

- Dinner went well, approximately \$4,400 donated plus more, maybe \$5,000 total. Getting some Thrivent Action Team funds. Still candy money coming in. Will be buying gifts for volunteers and staff there. Trip Feb. 17th to 24th.

General topics:

Intern—Pastor Tom

- Nothing new. We feel there is interested in our church but no decision on this intern yet.

Stewardship, 2025: Living Generously

Follow-up on program thus far.

- Pledges still coming in. Need to remind people to turn them in during offering time. Still getting data together.

Internet/Phone provider—Any more information?

- A lot of research has been done by Kathy. We will be saving money using existing provider. No other work being done at this time.

Annual Meeting date and candidates for the new Council

- Shannon wants to know meeting date. After discussion date is January 25th even though Belize team getting back evening of 24th.
- Pastor's family health insurance will be handled by Kris's employer. This will result in a savings. Pastor will meet with finance team.
- Paul Thusius
- Tim Thompson secretary
- Linda Feutz at large (we can have 3 members at large)

Christmas Ad for Conley Newspaper?

- Enterprise and Daily News. For Christmas services. If we want to be in 2 papers, 2 days \$110. For Christmas Church service. These are for Watertown and Oconomowoc. After discussion, we are full for 4:00pm, Only advertise other services. Scott interested in creating something, Dave motion to proceed, Susie 2nd, approved.
- Lutfisk reservations going well, all is going well

Youth & Family Ministry –Scott

- Sunday school has been practicing for Christmas program
- Working on Thanksgiving service. Youth doing service. Garrett message
- Pizza party tomorrow (Friday). Approx. 4 students plus
- Youth Quake – 2 for sure now plus a friend, 2 others possible, Feb. 13-15. Always a struggle scheduling with other youth events.

Worship and Music-

- Went through calendar at meeting before council meeting. Need one speaker in January but rest is all set.

Property Committee –Roof repair, chimney, water heater—Dave

New round tables?

- 4 estimates for roof, 3 with numbers, only one explaining materials. Along with replacing the roof will take chimney off parsonage. Water softener replaced so it will not use chimney. So there will be some extra costs.

- Also getting quote on copula repair also, not part of roof repair. New material as a rubber compound, 20 year life plus 10 year labor. Will get together with John and Jerry to determine what we will end up doing. Will use up most of capital fund. \$153,000 for roof plus other expenses, \$76,000 from insurance.
- Will work to get it done as soon as possible and avoid Lutfisk.
- Project is approved to proceed.
- Dave “We need new round tables”. Much discussion: Old heavy wood ones worn out. Only used for fund raising. (Some money from “youth, valentines, etc.” fund raising should go back to church fund raising account to support other fund raising) Propose using plastic, lighter, not stored in garage. Decision: hold off for now, determine where money will come from.

Finance update —John/Paul. Work on the budget begins next month.

- Doing well, insurance paid so general fund slightly down,
- Will be working on budget for next year. Need teams to determine what they need for next year for budget.

Vision Fund—

- There is approximately \$5,000 available. Will do accounting on Belize trip to see what came in and what might be needed.

Thrive Team:

- Christmas workshop on Dec. 20.

Closing: Lord’s Prayer