

*We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace
for worship, learning, loving and service to all.*

**MINUTES - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting
Sunday, December 15, 2024**

After approaching the microphone but before the meeting was called to order, President thanked the congregation for all of their hard work and volunteering for this year.

Call to Order :

President Becky Shealy called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Purpose of the Meeting: President Shealy announced that the purpose of the meeting was to elect one member to the Foundation board and six members to the Congregation Council and to approve the 2025 operating budget.

Business:

Mrs. Shealy stated that since there is only one nominee for each of the positions, they are elected by acclamation. She announced the following nominees:

Ed Woodward : Foundation Board

Kate Ferlauto: Council

Sid Havird: Council

Mary Margaret Hoy: Council

David Lucas: Council

Becky Shealy: Council

Deborah Whitlow: Council

Don Caughman asked if we should take an election vote. Mrs. Shealy replied that a vote by acclamation does not require a vote. A voice vote was taken even though it was not required. The motion carried unanimously.

The second order of business was to approve the 2025 budget. President Shealy asked if everyone had a chance to see the budget. She said that the budget was mailed to each active member a couple of weeks ago. She assured the congregation that the Finance Committee had prayerfully considered this budget and feels that it is well within the guidelines of no more than 10% over expected income. President Shealy then asked if there was any discussion about the numbers in the budget. Having none, she then asked for a motion to approve the budget as presented. She also stated that since the motion is coming from committee, it does not require a second. David Lucas replied, "So move." Mrs. Shealy called for a vote. The voice vote to approve the 2025 Budget was carried unanimously.

Don Caughman asked how much the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church bus was sold for and to what line item were the proceeds placed. Mrs. Shealy stated that the bus sold for \$32,500 and the funds were placed in the Money Market Account where it could draw the best interest until the Council decided where it should go.

Having no further business, President Shealy declared the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Anna-Marie Plyler

*We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace
for worship, learning, loving, and service to all.*
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

MINUTES – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Sunday, December 15, 2024

Present: Pastor Andrew, Anna-Marie Plyler, Barbara Nagy, Becky Shealy, Chris Herrmann, David Lucas, Jason Fowler, Richard Inman. Incoming Council Invitees Present: Deborah Whitlow, Mary Margaret Hoy, Sid Havird.

Absent: Carole Sox, Deb Bodie, Ed Woodward, Jan Haigler. Incoming Council Invitees Absent: Kate Ferlauto.

Call to Order: President Shealy called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Devotion: Pastor Andrew gave the devotion.

Welcome and Appreciation: President Shealy welcomed the newly elected Council Members to the meeting and thanked the current Council Members for their work during the past year.

Adoption of the November Council Minutes and two Congregational Minutes:

1. President Shealy asked for a motion to approve the November 17, 2024 Minutes. David Lucas provided the motion, the second was provided by Richard Inman. A voice vote was taken, and the minutes were **Unanimously Approved**.
2. President Shealy asked for a motion to approve the November 24, 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes. Jason Fowler provided the motion, the second was provided by Richard Inman. A voice vote was taken, and the minutes were **Unanimously Approved**.

Refreshments

President Shealy invited everyone to join her in the next room to enjoy a brief social mixer and refreshments that she provided.

Attendance and Membership for November 2024

November

<u>2024</u>	<u>9:30</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>2023</u>	<u>9:30</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>YouTube</u>	<u>Total</u>
11/5/2024	107	43	33	107		11/6/2023	107	49	32	107
11/12/2024	96	49	32	96		11/13/2023	102	53	31	102
11/19/2024	87	19	39	87		11/20/2023	75	29	43	75
11/26/2024	85	48	31	85		11/27/2023	88	37	31	88
Average	94	40		94		Average	93	42		93

Note: YouTube numbers reflect number of views, not number of people viewing.

Total Membership* as of 12/31/2023: 578

*Realm Membership Status

Resident Active: 377 / Resident Inactive: 118

Non-Resident Active: 22 / Non-Resident Inactive: 61

Total Active Members 12/31/2023: 399

Current active Realm membership at the time of the November 2024 Council Meeting: 392

Members Added since the November 2024 Council Meeting: 0

Members Removed since the November 2024 Council Meeting: 1

Paige Frierson: Death

Current active Realm membership at the time of the November 2024 Council Meeting: 391

Reports

1. Treasurer's Report: Report Submitted.
2. Realm Financial Report: Reports Submitted.
3. Pastor Andrew's Report: Report Submitted.

Standing Committees:

1. Communication – Carole Sox: Written Report Submitted.
2. Evangelism Committee – Jason Fowler: Written Report Submitted.
3. Finance Committee – David Lucas: No Written Report Submitted.
 - a. Technology Subcommittee: No Written Report Submitted
4. Gifts Committee – Ed Woodward: No Written Report Submitted.
5. Learning Committee – Barbara Nagy: No Written Report Submitted.
6. Parish Life Committee – Deb Bodie: No Written Report Submitted.
7. Property Committee – Richard Inman: No Written Report Submitted.
8. Social Ministry Committee – Cathy Milejczak and Rod Kent: No Written Report Submitted at meeting.
9. Worship Life Committee – Becky Shealy: Written Report Submitted.
10. Youth & Children Committee – Chris Herrmann: No Written Report Submitted.
11. Good Shepherd 75th Anniversary Task Force: Written Report Submitted.

Old Business

1. Approval of Mutual Ministry Nominees:
The Nominees for Mutual Ministry are Bud DePriest and Bruce Shealy. President Shealy asked for a Motion to approve. Mrs. Shealy stated that since the nominees were submitted by a committee, no second is needed. David Lucas provided the Motion to approve the Motion. A voice vote was taken. The Nominees were **Unanimously Approved**.
2. Approved 2025 GSLC Budget:
President Shealy advised the Council that the 2025 budget as included herein was approved at the Congregational Meeting held after the Worship Service today. Richard Inman asked what line the funds from the sale of the bus were put in. President Shealy said it was placed in the Money Market Account in the Reserve Fund line item because the Money Market Account earns the greatest interest.

New Business

1. Council Officers:
Council conducted a vote for 2025 Council President and Vice President. Becky Shealy was reelected President and David Lucas was reelected as Vice President. Both Jan Haigler and Anna-Marie Plyler have agreed to serve again as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.
2. Committee Assignments for 2025:
The Executive Committee recommends Committee Assignments. Council Members can make a request to be assigned to another committee. The assignments are as follows:
Communication: Deb Bodie
Evangelism: Sid Havird
Finance: David Lucas
Gifts: Kate Ferlauto
Learning: Barbara Nagy
Parish Life: Deb Whitlow
Property: Richard Inman
Social Ministry: Mary Margaret Hoy
Worship Life: Becky Shealy
Youth and Children: Chris Herrmann
3. Flash Drive Council Notebook:
Returning and Retiring Council members were reminded to return their 2024 Flash Drive so that can be updated with the latest information and redistributed.
4. Council Calendar and Council Person of the Month:
The Council Calendar which also contains the Councilperson of the Month was passed around so that Council Members could sign up for Council Person of the month as well as recording the future Council Meeting dates on their personal calendars.
5. Printed Copy of Monthly Council Package:
Members who wanted a printed Council Package at the Council were asked to sign up so that the number of packages to be produced could be determined.
6. Sanctuary and Education Building/FAB Keys:
There is a separate key for the Church and for the Education Building. As a Council Member, you need to have both keys in order to open and lock up after your meetings and events. A sign-up sheet was passed around so that keys can be made for those who do not have them.
7. Council Contact Information:
Council Contact Information was passed around so that contact information could be verified and/or updated.
8. Council Retreat and Orientation:
The Council Retreat and Orientation is scheduled for Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the FAB. Coffee and pastries will be served. It is important that all Council members attend.

Petitions and Communications

1. The updated Council Calendar will be emailed to you as soon as both current and incoming Council have designated their month to be Council Person of the Month.
2. Council Members were reminded to send a list of all those serving on and/or attending your Committee if they have not done so already. They were also reminded to start working on your committee's annual report and have it ready to submit to the Parish Administrator before December 20.

3. Departing Council Members were reminded to schedule some time with the incoming Council member who will be chair of your former committee for a transfer of knowledge session.
4. Meeting spaces must be reserved and cancelled through the Parish Administrator. The Parish Administrator should also be notified of all Circle/Lutheran Men meetings. The GSLC Calendar is a wonderful resource and should be kept updated.

The Pulse

N/A

Executive Session

N/A

Adjourn

President Shealy declared the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Pastor Andrew closed the meeting by offering prayer.

Respectfully Submitted: Anna-Marie Plyler

Pastor's Report
Rev. Andrew Isenhower
December 14, 2024--January 17, 2025

Pastoral Acts

- No funerals
- Baptism for Shelby Nabors
- No weddings

Worship and Music

- I preached for 3 Sunday worship services. I presided and led worship for 5 Sunday worship services.
- I preached and presided for a midweek Advent service.
- I preached and presided for 2 Christmas Eve services.
- I participated in worship planning.

Education

- I have continued leading the mid-week bible study via Zoom.
- I have provided Faith 5 resources each week for members and families.
- I have continued teaching in-person Bible study.
- I taught Confirmation Sunday school each week.

Pastoral Care

- I made 7 in-home visits and 6 hospital/facility visits.
- I have followed up with bereaved members and families.
- I made 23 Pastoral Care phone calls.

Social/Fellowship/Community Events

- I continued leading the MORE Justice Task Force.
- I attended and led a devotion for the Epiphany Chili Cookoff.

Church Business

-I attended the following committee meetings:

- Shepherd's Visitors
- MORE Justice Task Force
- 75th Anniversary Task Force
- Executive
-

Synodical Business

-None this month.

Continuing Education

- I met with my clergy colleague support group.

Self-Care

- I took time each day for devotional reading and prayer.
- We spent time with family over the Christmas holiday.

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Andrew Isenhower

***We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace
For worship, learning, loving, and service to all.***

Parish Life Committee Report
January 14, 2025

We did not have a January Parish Life Committee meeting. We did have a Congregational event.

The annual Chili and Cornbread cook-off was held on Sunday, January 5, 2025 for Epiphany. We had 40 people in attendance. After our meal and dessert we had a devotion presented by Pastor Andrew, music by Susan Sturkie, and an appearance by the wisemen.

We got to sample 5 different Chilis and 4 different cornbreads and many delicious desserts. Best Chili award went to Becky Shealy and Best Cornbread award went to Pat Quattlebaum. Thank you to all those that attended and participated.

We also collected HUGS for the Dorcas Circle to be donated to those in need. A love offering was collected as well to be given to Dorcas to purchase more HUGS, we collected \$100.00.

During the event Deb Whitlow gave some exciting news. The Parish Life Committee has plans to have an event each month for the entire congregation with the exception of the month of July. More details to come, the committee welcomes any suggestions for ideas.

Upcoming events: The Congregational Retreat is January 31-February 2, 2025. The 75th Anniversary of the Charter Signing is February 9th, 2025 with light refreshments after service.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Whitlow
Parish Life Chair

We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace for worship, learning, loving and service to all.

Social Ministry Minutes (DRAFT, not yet approved)

January 14, 2025

Attendees: Don Caughman, Jan Haigler, Mary Margaret Hoy, Rod Kent, Cathy Milejczak, Anne Rush, Kerry Stubbs, Susan Sturkie

Welcome: Cathy Milejczak welcomed the group at 5:30 PM and introduced the new committee chair, Mary Margaret Hoy. Cathy led the meeting as a mentor to Mary Margaret.

Devotion: Jan Haigler

Approval of Minutes: Anne Rush moved to approve the minutes from November 12, 2024. Kerry Stubbs seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Communications: Thank you notes were received from Camp Cole and the Free Medical Clinic.

Committee Projects:

- **Food Pantry** - Anne Rush reported that comparing 2024 to 2023 resulted in a 10% growth of bags provided and a 7% increase in the number of people served. Donations increased 37%, but purchases were 37% more. At the end of the year after including the funds from the closing of the Transitions account, the Food Pantry budget had a deficit of [REDACTED]. Three of the 6 volunteers for the Food Pantry are unable to assist for various reasons for several months. The process now includes pre-packing bags based on person count with distribution on Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00. Thrivent action team funds were contributed by Sandy Gundlach and Susan Uehling. Deborah Mitchell's husband donated spaghetti from a truck driving incident.
- **Meals on Wheels** - Don Caughman reported that it is going well, but a couple of people were removed from the route resulting in a current count of 10 recipients. Unclaimed poinsettias were distributed after Christmas, which the recipients much enjoyed, as well as the special Christmas boxes donated by the congregation.
- **Fun Fridays** - Susan Sturkie reported that while attendance had been up earlier in the year, the December attendance was down, particularly with a group home having COVID causing 6 participants having to cancel on the day of the event. She is hoping February attendance will improve due to a February Tim Tebow Foundation event that often conflicts with Fun Fridays being a week earlier this year.
- **Ramp Ministry** - Rod Kent reported that the ramp ministry has been slowing down. The group fixed Rod's ramp recently and there is one possible ramp pending which may be beyond the scope of the group due to existing structural issues which are being evaluated.
- **Family Promise** - Cathy Milejczak reported for Jim Johnson that there will be an event in April with Ebenezer Lutheran Church.
- **More Justice** - Cathy Milejczak reported for Pastor Andrew Isenhower that there will be a meeting at GSLC on 1/15/25.
- **A.C. Flora** - Cathy Milejczak reported for Pastor Andrew Isenhower that a grant had been received for 65 new backpacks, and a few gently used backpacks, to be delivered to Flora this week along with food that was donated at the Thanksgiving service.

Old Business:

- **Noisy Offering** - The December noisy offering for the City of Columbia Animal Shelter was collected over two Sundays due to fewer children in attendance the first week and collected [REDACTED]. Don Caughman expressed concern about the lack of children in attendance and suggested that efforts be made to encourage parents to bring the children to church on noisy offering Sundays. The next noisy offering will be on 3/30/25, and Mary Margaret Hoy will reach out to Chris Herrmann to obtain the list of noisy offerings for 2025.
- **Monthly Emphasis** -
 - December - Angel Tree and ELCA Good Gifts with no funding tally at this time.
 - January/February - Woodyard Fund
 - March/Lenten Self-Denial - Homeless No More, Providence Home, Women's Shelter

New Business:

- Monthly Emphasis
 - April - Palmetto Place
 - May - Project HOPE
 - June - Big Red Barn

Next Meeting: March 11, 2025, in CL 2 at 5:30 PM. The group decided to continue meeting on the second Tuesday of odd-numbered months in 2025 at 5:30 PM.

Devotion for March: Don Caughman

Adjourn with Prayer: The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer and adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Monthly Gift Report 2024

Month	Monthly Emphasis	Amount	Noisy Offering	Amount	Food Pantry
January	Woodyard Fund	[REDACTED]	--	--	33 families 114 individuals
February			--	--	38 families 146 individuals
March	Lenten Self Denial <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless No More • Providence Home • Women’s Shelter 	[REDACTED]	A.C. Flora	[REDACTED]	41 families 119 individuals
April	TZ Farm Project	[REDACTED]	--	--	36 families 125 individuals
May	Big Red Barn	[REDACTED]	--	--	31 families 104 individuals
June	Project Hope	[REDACTED]	Camp Cole	[REDACTED]	35 families 123 individuals
July	Backpack Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Lake • Conder • Bradley School Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Lake • Bradley 	[REDACTED]	--	--	50 families 162 individuals
August	Free Medical Clinic	[REDACTED]	--	--	43 families 134 individuals
September	Senior Resources (Andrew Boozer)	[REDACTED]	Epworth Children’s Home	[REDACTED]	43 families 148 individuals
October	Lutheran Disaster Response - Carolinas Ray & Ruth Anne Sipe		--	--	41 families 135 individuals
November	VA Food Pantry	[REDACTED]	--	--	__ families __ individuals
December	Angel Tree ELCA Good Gifts		City of Columbia Animal Shelter	[REDACTED]	__ families __ individuals

We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace for worship, learning, loving and service to all.

75th Anniversary Task Force Report

The Task Force met on January 7, 2025.

Items discussed and update:

- A. Jan. 31- Feb. 2, 2025 – Congregational Retreat at Lutheridge; Pastor Drew Yoos (son of the congregation) guest presenter. Retreat theme – Walking in the Spirit. Retreat t-shirts will have 75th anniversary logo on front and retreat logo on back. Extra shirts are being made available at \$15 each.
- B. February 9, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. worship service and celebration of Charter 2/5/50; light refreshments after service provided by Parish Life Committee. Pastor Andrew will preach. Members are encouraged to invite family, friends and former members. Special printed invitation being sent to former pastors, etc.
- C. April 27, 2025 – 4:00 p.m. –Spring Music Concert. Opportunity for members to share their musical talents in the sanctuary. Jim Johnson will work on getting members to participate. Parish Life Committee will provide light refreshments. Members are encouraged to invite family, friends and former members.
- D. September 14, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service with catered dinner afterwards in the FAB. Former pastor The Rev. Dr. Ron Feltman will preach. Bishop Ginny Aebischer will attend. Also, recognition of specific ministries GS is involved in (i.e., Food Pantry, Fun Fridays, MOWs, Ramp Ministry) and inviting some recipients of those ministries to the celebration day. Other special guests to be invited: Synodical representative, former pastors and their families. Members are encouraged to invite family, friends and former members. Committee involvement needed from Worship Life, Parish Life, Social Ministry and Communications.
- E. Other possibilities: Pastor Andrew has been encouraged to consider inviting other former pastors to participate in worship with us during this celebration year. Pastor Andrew has confirmed former Bishop & Pastor Herman Yoos will be guest preacher February 16, 2025. Pastor Paul Wollner will be with us in March.

Advertising/Communications/Publications

- A. Bulletin boards/ Posters – Special display posters have been placed in narthex. Debi Powell and Anna Marie Plyler are gathering materials and creating a special display to be viewed in the glass board on the walkway of the Educational Building.
- B. Newsletter articles – Don Caughman is continuing to do interviews with various members of the congregation to be published in newsletter. Savannah and Blake Gross provided article for January newsletter by interviewing Don Caughman.
- C. Magnet – Task Force decided not to do magnets because of cost and challenges in using them on some cars. Kappy Cannon is working on design for stickers instead.
- D. Booklet – Booklet has been sent to Allegra Printing. When draft copy is approved, 200 copies will be printed. Hopefully distribution can begin Charter Sunday, February 9th.

Old Sanctuary Cornerstone: After investigation, it has been determined that items were enclosed in the cornerstone of the old sanctuary in 1955. Pictures and an article about this will be in February newsletter.

Next meeting date – March 11, 2025, 4:30 p.m.