

*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, May 17, 2026

Present: Pastor Andrew, Alice Buckner, Anna-Marie Plyler (Substitute Secretary), Becky Shealy, Deb Whitlow, Gaye Tucker, Jan Haigler, Lisa Sanchez, Mary Margaret Hoy, Mike Weaver, Sid Havird.

Guest Confirmands and Their Parents: Jackson Nabors (Anna Lawson), Callen Gilbert (Heather Gilbert), William Snodgrass (Wes Snodgrass)

Absent: David Lucas, Karen Lucas, Ben Haigh

Call to Order: Vice President Shealy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Devotion: Lisa Sanchez provided the devotion and offered prayer.

Welcome to the Confirmands:

Pastor Isenhower introduced the Confirmands and asked Council if they had any questions for them. Several questions were posed and thoughtful replies were given. Pastor then asked several questions of the Confirmands and received answers. Vice President Shealy reminded the Confirmands that after Confirmation, they would be considered voting members. She also encouraged them to join and become active in a Standing Committee. The Confirmands were then excused for the remainder of the meeting.

Adoption of the May 18, 2026 Agenda:

Vice President Shealy called for a motion to accept the Agenda. Several persons provided the motion in unison. The second was delivered by Sid Havird. The Council **Unanimously Approved** the May 2026 Agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Shealy asked for any comments or corrections to the April 19, 2026 Council Minutes. Having no corrections, Mrs. Shealy called for a motion to approve the minutes. Sid Havird provided the motion. The second was offered by Jan Haigler. A voice vote was taken. The April 19, 2026 Council Minutes were **Unanimously Approved**.

Attendance and Membership for April 2026

Sundays

<u>2026</u>	<u>9:30</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>YouTube</u>		<u>2025</u>	<u>9:30</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>YouTube</u>
4/5/2026	180	N/A	50	<Easter	4/6/2025	96	41	35
4/12/2026	90	17	39		4/13/2025	110	42	46
4/19/2026	95	29	32	Easter>	4/20/2025	189	N/A	58
4/26/2026	101	9	32		4/27/2025	97	40	49
Average	117	18			Average	123	41	

Total Membership as of 12/31/2025: 568

Total Active Members 12/31/2025: 397

Current **ACTIVE** Realm membership at the time of the April 2026 Council Meeting: 382

Members Added since the April 2026 Council Meeting: 1

Karen Hellwig: Adult, Accession Transfer Lutheran (ELCA)

Members Removed since the April 2026 Council Meeting: 0

Current **ACTIVE** Realm membership at the time of the May 2026 Council Meeting: 383

Reports

1. Treasurer's Report: Reports Submitted.

Vice President Shealy notified Council that Good Shepherd will be looking at some type of compensation for Deb Embry (Volunteer Bookkeeper) as she has been and will continue for a short term in accruing close to full time hours in Deborah Mitchell's physical absence from the office. Mrs. Shealy also notified Council that Mrs. Mitchell will continue until further notice maintaining the bookkeeping portion of the Realm software.

2. Realm Financial Report: Reports Submitted.

3. Pastor Andrew's Report: Pastor announced that he was resigning as Pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church effective June 16, 2026. He provided Council with a copy of his resignation letter. Pastor Andrew has accepted a call at Joy Lutheran Church in Moore, SC. Pastor requested that Council keep his resignation to themselves until he could notify the congregation. Pastor also provided Council with a list of things for Council to do as a result of his resignation as well as his responsibilities in the interim. Vice President Shealy advised Council that she could contact the Bishop on Monday (May 15, 2026) in order to start the search process. After Pastor's resignation announcement and delivery of his letter of resignation and a brief discussion, Pastor excused himself from the meeting.

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Communication – Kate Ferlauto: Written Report Submitted at the Meeting.
2. Evangelism Committee – Gaye Tucker: No Written Report Submitted.
3. Finance Committee – David Lucas: Written Report Submitted.
4. Gifts Committee – Kate Ferlauto: No Written Report Submitted.
5. Learning Committee – Lisa Sanchez: Written Report Submitted.
6. Parish Life Committee – Deb Whitlow: No Written Report Submitted.
7. Property Committee – Mike Weaver: Written Report Submitted.
8. Social Ministry Committee – Mary Margaret Hoy: Written Report Submitted.
9. Worship Life Committee – Becky Shealy: Written Report Submitted at the Meeting.
10. Youth & Children Committee – Ben Haigh: No Written Report Submitted.

Old Business:

N/A

New Business:

1. Vice President Shealy called Council's attention to two documents included in the Council package concerning the hiring of a new Parish Administrator. Kathleen James "Jamie" Conrad has accepted the job offer of Parish Administrator. At this time Jamie will not be handling the bookkeeping duties related to the Realm software. Deborah Mitchell will continue to perform those duties until such time as Jamie has accrued a healthy working knowledge of the non-financial aspects of the Parish Administrator duties. Miss Conrad's first day will be May 26, 2026.

Petitions and Communications:

The Memorials Subcommittee has money for items needed by any committee.

The Pulse

N/A

Executive Session (if Needed):

N/A

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Anna-Marie Plyler

Empowering every generation to seek the missing, shepherd the weary and share the table.

Evangelism Council Report

June 14, 2026

The Evangelism Committee met on Tuesday, May 9 at 5:30 pm.

Present: Don Caughman, Marion Eargle, Sid Havird, Pat Quattlebaum, Bruce Shealy, Gaye Tucker

Absent: Pastor Isenhower, Verna Sawyer

Devotion: Gaye Tucker gave a devotion based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-3

Old Business:

- Discussed the need for more signage near the FAB/Playground area to identify times of Worship and Sunday School. Because of our location on Forest Drive, the speed of traffic makes it difficult for the public to read our brick sign.

New Business:

- Revisit "New Member Reception" for new members, sponsors, Council members and additional members to welcome them into our church family.
- Encourage members to wear magnetic GS name tags. A blurb will be placed in the Sunday bulletin throughout the month of July and in the July newsletter. A signup sheet for ordering a name tag has been placed in the narthex.
- Discussed the possibility of developing "neighborhood shepherding groups" in order to stay in touch with both active and inactive members. Bruce Shealy shared a model presented in 2002. The committee will decide if we want to pursue a revised version of this plan.
- Gaye shared an excerpt from a book titled Lead Like *IT* Matters by Craig Groeshel. Discussed the possibility of having committee members/Council members read a chapter prior to each meeting and share key thoughts or ideas.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 8 at 5:00 in Classroom 2

Devotion: Don Caughman

Gaye Tucker closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaye Tucker

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2026

PRESENT: Deb Embrey, Jan Haigler, Rod Kent, Janet Lockhart, David Lucas, Karen Lucas, Gloria Oakes, Becky Shealy

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM, by David Lucas, chairperson of the Finance Committee, in the conference room.

DEVOTIONAL: Jan Haigler shared a devotion about finance referenced in Matthew 6.

MINUTES: The minutes from April 14, 2026 were emailed to all members. Gloria Oakes moved to approve the minutes as emailed. The motion was seconded by Becky Shealy and approved unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT: Jan Haigler provided the April 30th and June 1st 2026 balance sheets for the savings and checking accounts. The money market savings account balance as of April 30th was [REDACTED] and as of June 1st was [REDACTED]. The checking account balance as of April 30th was [REDACTED] and as of June 1st was [REDACTED]. Jan pointed out that in April, as requested by Council, she transferred [REDACTED] from checking to the Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund is now over [REDACTED]. Jan also pointed out that the Food Pantry Fund is now down due to allowing families to request food twice a month.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT:

Deb Embrey reported the offering numbers for April and May 2026. We received [REDACTED] in general offering for the month of April 2026, which is [REDACTED] of our monthly budget needs, which is over the average for the month of April. In April of 2025 we had [REDACTED] for April 2024 we had [REDACTED] and for April 2023 we received [REDACTED].

For May of 2026, Deb reported we received [REDACTED], which is [REDACTED] of our monthly budget needs. Except for last year, we generally receive around 70% for the month of May. May of 2025, we received [REDACTED] due to an estate settlement. In May of 2024 we received [REDACTED] and in May of 2023 we received [REDACTED].

Deb let us know that the first 5 months of 2026 offerings received are 95.45% of budget needs. This is the best we have done in a long time.

Deb also reminded us that Jan Haigler will be writing an article in the July newsletter to remind the congregation not to stop giving during this transition time. The business of the church continues.

TABULATORS REPORT: Becky Shealy reported that all tabulators are doing fine. There have been some issues with tabulators calling in unable to tabulate at the last minute. Tabulators are reminded to make arrangements prior to their Sunday, if they are unable to tabulate.

TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

Eric Kemp will hold off on ordering the new laptop that would have gone to Pastor Andrew. Jamie Conrad's computer is working well for her currently.

OLD BUSINESS:

The May 1st to June 1st Statement of Activities was reviewed with no issues. The June 1st Statement of Financial Position was reviewed with no issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

Additional items that will affect the budget this year were discussed. This includes the salary for the new Parish Administrator, Jamie Conrad, and continued compensation for Deborah Mitchell as the Bookkeep and Trainer for the new Parish Administrator. Also, we will be compensating Deb Embrey for the additional Parish Administrator duties she has performed and for her continued role as Assistant Bookkeeper.

Members of the committee signed up for devotions for the rest of the year.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 PM with everyone reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Lucas

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Worship Life Committee Meeting Minutes

June 10/2026

Attendees: Becky Shealy, Susan Sturkie, Neal Inman, Pat Quattlebaum, Marcia Woodward and Kerry Stubbs.

Kerry Stubbs began the meeting with devotion.

The Minutes of the April meeting were accepted as written with correction that Marcia Woodward was in attendance.

Old Business:

Discussed Plans for Going Forward with 2nd service opportunity. Will look at this with call of Interim Pastor. Hopefully beginning the first of September.

New Business:

- Discussed resignation of Pastor Andrew and what would be needed extra from Worship Life. Did not think anything would be different from processes now in place.
- Discussed the possibility of ordering new choir robes. Will look into this and report back.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Shealy, Chair of Worship Life Committee

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Youth & Children Report

June 14, 2026

No standing committee.

Old Business:

- Last Youth & Children activity were the Easter Egg hunts.
- Maintaining records of annual events for better planning next year.

New Business:

- I have 2 requests for funding reimbursement for Lutherridge with a total of cost [REDACTED] each and would like to ask for funding for these from council.
- Upcoming on June 28th through Jul 2nd is the GraceWorks program. I currently have 2 families that have registered to my knowledge. The registration fee for this program is \$50 per child and I can fund this from the Youth & Children budget. I've attached a flyer. I will be able to attend all but 2 days so far.
- Pastor Andrew first presented a new program in a Learning Committee meeting, the Lutheridge bRIDGE program. We have met with or communicated with all of the GSLC families with youth and presented this to them with good response. So far we have 2 families committed and 3 others that are very interested. GSLC will be partnering with Incarnation Lutheran Church for this program to split costs and have some joint youth contact in our community that will last. Please see attached for additional details. Leigh Ann Tollison and I will be acting as co-coordinators for GSLC.
- I am planning on having Summer Splash on August 23. There will obviously have to be some discussion on pastoral involvement like previous years, but I can improvise and prepare a lesson for the youth if needed. More information to come.
- I do hope to have a lock-in sometime this summer but have not been able to plan dates due to my current work schedule.

Respectfully Submitted,

Benjamin Haigh

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Youth & Children Report

June 14, 2026

Below is information sent to the families regarding bBRIDGE.

What is bBRIDGE?

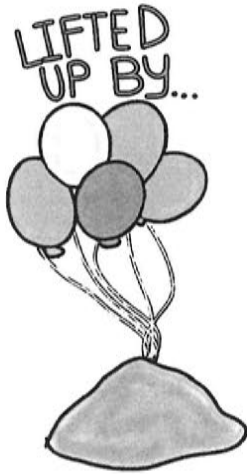
Similar to Lutheroad, bBRIDGE is a traveling ministry program hosted at our church. However, instead of a single week, it spans **eight months** (October through May).

We are thrilled to partner with Incarnation Lutheran for this program. Leigh Ann and I will coordinate our monthly gatherings alongside Walt Hampton, who heads their GraceWorks program.

The primary goal of bBRIDGE is to equip and empower parents and caregivers to embed faith formation into their everyday family culture.

The 3 Core Components

- **bBRIDGE Camp (Sept 11–13):** A kick-off retreat at Lutheridge to prepare parents for the upcoming year. Leaders will cover "Parenting in Faith," family-led Bible study, intergenerational worship, blessings, and faith sharing. This retreat is highly focused on building deep trust and friendships among participating families.
- **Monthly Gatherings (Oct–May):** Lutheridge will send two counselors to our congregation each month. These gatherings will feature a camp-style curriculum for kids and parents, including Bible study, worship, faith sharing, parent check-ins, and a shared meal.
- **bBRIDGE Home Portion:** Families will get access to the *Cabin Time Mobile App* to practice faith nightly at home through Bible readings, games, activities, songs, and discussion prompts.



GraceWorks 2026

Lifted Up By . . .

June 28th – July 2nd

The GraceWorks Leadership Team is incredibly excited for our 13th annual GraceWorks Youth Servant Camp here in the Midlands!

Here's some key information for congregations, adult volunteers, youth, and parents. **What is GraceWorks?** GraceWorks is a local servant camp for Midlands Youth who are rising 6th graders through recently graduated 12th graders. GraceWorks develops servant leaders as these youth serve various agencies around the Columbia area. Most of these agencies serve vulnerable children or adults. In addition to doing physical labor like painting, cleaning, yardwork, and organizing, youth also learn about the ministry of these agencies and often have opportunities to interact with those they are serving.

What does it cost: This year's cost will be \$50* per youth, this covers supplies, snacks, and our recreation day for all our participants.

*Cost should never be a deciding factor for any youth. If the cost is a barrier please reach out to Walt Hampton for scholarship information.

Where is GraceWorks this year? Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1301 Richland Street, Columbia, 29201. This will be our home base, most of our service experiences will involve traveling offsite via bus or by foot.

When is GraceWorks this year? This year GraceWorks begins Sunday June 28th with a meal and worship. We will gather at Ebenezer from 5:00-7:00pm to get to know each other, learn about our service agencies for the week, and worship together. Monday through Thursday, June 29th - July 2nd, we will gather between 8:00 and 8:15am to start our day and will be finished and ready for pickup at 5:00pm. Your congregation youth leader will make sure you arrive and depart on time.

**For more Info contact your youth leader
or www.facebook.com/GraceWorksSC**



bBRIDGE

Information for Congregations

Welcome to the exciting adventure of bBRIDGE!

We hope this manual will be helpful in the planning and operation of the bBRIDGE program within your congregation. Please call the Lutheridge Program Directors with any questions or concerns.

We look forward to our partnership in ministry!

What is bBRIDGE?

bBRIDGE is a Lilly-funded program that aims to equip and empower parents and caregivers to make faith formation a part of their family culture. bBRIDGE does this by building a bridge to overcome the distance between camp, the congregation and a family's daily life. bBRIDGE extends Lutheridge's strongest assets: faith formation expertise, creativity, joy and fun to participating congregations and families, year-round. Gone are the days when a camper has to wait until *next summer* to go to camp again!

Above all bBRIDGE is a resource for **parents**, which makes it different from other curricula and programs that are geared primarily towards children and youth. We strive to equip parents to be their child(ren)'s counselors in life. In the same way that we train our counselors in how to form faith in age appropriate ways, bBRIDGE will train parents by instilling camp-style habits that go with you.

bBRIDGE may work best as a program for just your congregation or as a partnership with other local congregations. In settings where there might only be a few children/families, we hope congregations will consider reaching out to partner with other local congregations in one bBRIDGE program. Doing so will facilitate an opportunity for parents and families to connect with a greater support network, building relationships that sustain them in this season of life.

Why bBRIDGE?

Evidence is clear that parents and caregivers are the most influential people when it comes to shaping the faith of their children. However, parents do not always feel equipped to share their faith. Often, the formality of traditional practices within congregations (including corporate worship, Sunday school, and classroom-style confirmation) only leave parents feeling *less*

adequate. At the same time, faith practices honed at camp energize children in their faith – children and youth often leave singing songs about God’s love at the top of their lungs!

By focusing on bringing parents and children together to share in energizing camp-style faith practices, and by connecting camp, congregation and home settings, bBRIDGE transforms the way that congregations walk with parents and caregivers. In this program, parents will first experience camp-style faith practices in a retreat setting alongside other parents. Faith practices are most effective when they are fun and energizing for parents and kids, and we believe that camp is the perfect mode of introduction! The time spent at camp with other parents will facilitate the deep relationships needed to sustain energy throughout the year. The retreat component will also teach parents to understand stages of spiritual development in their children. This retreat will build the foundation for empowering and equipping caregivers to see themselves as faith-leaders in their own home.

Retreat learning and supportive relationships bBRIDGE back into the congregation for year-round nurturing through camp-style learning. The bBRIDGE extends further into the daily rhythms of family life through the Cabin Time App which will allow families to make faith conversation a priority amidst their own daily activities, like car rides, dinnertime, or bedtime routines. This bBRIDGE will equip parents and caregivers in all kinds of family models to hand over the Christian faith.

We believe that bBRIDGE will increase a family’s comfort with:

- having faith-centered conversation
- reading and reflecting on scripture together
- praying together
- noticing God's presence in daily life

We trust that bBRIDGE will deepen participants relationship with God and knowledge and understanding of our faith. We pray that it will also draw participating families closer to the life of your congregation, bringing life and joy to your shared ministry as well.

Three Components of the bBRIDGE Program

1. bBRIDGE Camp

First, a retreat or Summer Camp experience will be held at Lutheridge. Congregations will send parents and children/youth to Lutheridge for a weekend retreat or summer program that models, equips and empowers parents and congregational leaders in faith practices that will be used year-round in the congregation and in the home. In a three year cycle, participants will attend one retreat.

In addition, we will have time for “Parenting in Faith” lessons from a retreat leader. This will occur while children are engaged in games, crafts, and camp activities. It will give parents and caregivers the opportunity to support, encourage, and ask questions relating to their child(ren)’s age(s).

A main focus of the retreat is providing space for families to get to know one another and become friends so that there is trust and vulnerability throughout the bBRIDGE program

Throughout your time at camp, we will focus on 4 basic faith-parenting practices:

Family-led Bible Study: A focus of one morning time during the retreat will be a cross-generational Bible study time. Like our interactive Bible studies during our summer programs, these times will take pieces of scripture and stories and bring them to life through games, activities, and music. The key takeaway for this family Bible study will be time together to reflect on scripture in families using simple, age-appropriate questions that can be repeated at home and in congregations. This practice is included because parents desire to understand scripture themselves. We hope that they will become more comfortable with it as they learn to lead their family in Bible Study.

Camp-style intergenerational worship: Worship is a key component of all our camp programs. It is usually simple, participatory, often outdoors, and features camp music. This worship will conclude our retreat, modeling what a similar worship might look like in congregations. We will also model "vespers," an abbreviated evening worship that often contains scripture, reflection activity, and music that can be repeated in homes. All worship will be intentionally inclusive of all ages. We are intentional about camp-style worship because it can engage all ages differently than traditional congregational worship, bringing energy and new experiences to families.

Blessings: At various points throughout the retreat, we will model three types of blessings. First, we will use fun, simple, often singable meal blessings that can be repeated at home or in congregations. Second, we will take time to notice blessings around us using nature as our inspiration to thank God. Third, we will teach parents to bless children (and vice versa) as a simple and effective practice to continue away from camp. We're including blessings because they are a powerful way of connecting families to God and one another.

Faith Sharing: We will use the retreat to teach parents the camp practice of "Cabin Time," a nightly ritual during summer camp that includes sharing highs and lows, praying together, and answering simple faith questions with one another. Once it is modeled for two nights at camp, it can be replicated in congregations and daily life at home. We hope this ritual will help parents seize daily opportunities to talk about God.

2. bBRIDGE Church

Second, we will send at least 2 Lutheridge staff into congregations to lead a monthly camp-style curriculum for kids and parents. Curriculum for use in congregations will include content and a structure for monthly gatherings that include Bible study, camp-style worship, faith sharing time, and time for parents to check in with one another, following the modeled examples from the on-site retreat. This will provide continuity and reinforcement while allowing faith to grow and relationships to deepen among families within the congregational setting.

Each gathering will center around a theme or story from scripture and include time for age-specific learning. The content will also include a "Parenting in Faith" curriculum to guide parents through conversation each month while the kids are engaged with the Lutheridge staff.

This will provide a way for congregations without dedicated staff or large numbers of families to have a regular faith gathering for families. Though the curriculum is focused on faithful parenting, nonparents and empty nesters would find value in the offerings also.

Congregations have a choice of gathering monthly (8 times per year from October-May) or bi-monthly (4 times per year from October-May).

3. bBRIDGE Home

Third, parents and kids will have access to the Cabin Time Mobile Application to practice faith nightly in homes. At camp, Cabin Time is a nightly ritual that takes place in our camp cabins just before bed. It is a time to share about the day, read scripture or stories, and have great faith talks together. The Cabin Time App content offers age-specific content for families to use daily.

Cabin Time has 3 main components: Sharing highs and lows, an interactive faith practice that changes nightly, and a closing prayer. These practices comprise a nightly devotional ritual (10 minutes or less) to use in their home. Participants will earn "patches" within the App for regular use and completing fun camp-themed achievements.

This App is a key component of this program because it will allow families with diverse schedules, abilities and needs to engage in faith formation in a way that works for them.

Interactive Faith Practices within Cabin Time

Each night, a child will be able to select one of the following:

- Bible Time- Families will be guided through an age-appropriate interaction with scripture that may include stories, memory verses, or answering questions.
- Go and Tell- Families will go on a mini scavenger hunt to connect faith to items and places around their home.
- Snapshots- Families will sort through photos on their phone to match prompts and look for God in their photos and memories.
- Winding Down- Families will view a video that leads them through a faith-based winding down ritual
- Songs- Families will view a video and sing along with a camp song
- Big Questions- Families will be asked a faith question to discuss together

Role of Church and Coordinator

Organization

Each congregation or group of congregations should appoint someone to be the bBRIDGE Coordinator. That person is responsible for communicating with Lutheridge, ensuring payments are made, and managing church volunteers. For initial pilot congregations, the bBRIDGE Coordinator will also do any follow-up that is needed with program evaluation, survey data and storytelling.

Site

The church will select an appropriate site in their facility to host the desired number of families on a monthly basis. A fellowship hall space may be appropriate and in some cases an outdoor space may be used as well to preserve the "camp" feel. The goal is to make the church feel as much like camp as possible. We encourage use of outdoor space if weather permits for a variety of activities, including meals. For example, a simple campfire with s'mores while welcoming people or singing songs can be a valuable addition. If a group of congregations is partnering in the bBRIDGE program, the church gatherings may rotate locations.

Basic setup will include tables, chairs, and some space to move around in. The church will coordinate with Lutheridge staff about any set up needs.

Publicity

It is the responsibility of the church and coordinator to ensure that all participants know they are participating in the bRIDGE program, when gatherings are going to be held, etc. This can be done through announcements in worship and the bulletin, calls, texts, and emails. If desired, a representative of Lutheridge may visit your congregation to publicize the program.

Volunteer Coordinating

The bRIDGE Coordinator may either delegate the following roles and/or do them, depending on your church context and volunteer capacity. Other roles include:

1. **Meal Host:** If a meal is being served, the meal host coordinates the meals for each event. This person is responsible for the following tasks:
 - a. Research a list of catering options OR arrange for volunteers to provide a meal
 - b. Ensure the meal is ready to be served on time and arrange volunteers to serve and clean up the dining space as needed
 - c. Manage the dining space and serving configuration (family style or buffet)
 - d. The meal host should print out the icebreaker questions provided and place them at each table for discussion during the meal. If additional table place settings or decorations are desired, the meal host may prepare these.
2. **Classroom Volunteers** (may be youth or adults who are not parents): During the children's programming time, these volunteers would provide additional support for the camp staff
 - a. A 1:6 or 1:8 staff/volunteer to child ratio is recommended
 - b. For a larger church with a group of children/youth of varying ages, an adult volunteer may be asked to lead a classroom of an age group
3. **Adult Facilitator** (pastor or lead parent): This leader will facilitate the parent conversation using the curriculum provided.

bRIDGE Camp Responsibilities

For the on-site retreat at Lutheridge, the bRIDGE Coordinator is responsible for registering families and communicating all needs with Lutheridge, using the attached registration form.

Timeline for bRIDGE Coordinator

Year 0= year prior to your bRIDGE contract beginning

- Bring bRIDGE up at your congregation and submit application to Lutheridge

Summer of year 0

- Sign contract with Lutheridge

Fall/winter of year 0

- Begin to get congregation excited
- Begin to publicize
- Hold an information session for families

Spring/Summer of year 1 (first year of bRIDGE program)

- Participants register for bRIDGE camp retreat
- Participants register/sign up for bRIDGE church gatherings
- Deposit due to Lutheridge
- Arrange bRIDGE church volunteers

August of year 1

- Finalize details with Lutheridge including bRIDGE Church meeting location
- Send out pre-bRIDGE survey to participants

September of year 1

- Attend bRIDGE Camp retreat at Lutheridge
- Ensure all participants have access to Cabin Time app

October of year 1

- bRIDGE Church monthly/bi-monthly gatherings begin

May of year 1

- bRIDGE Church monthly/bi-monthly gatherings end

Summer of year 1

- Provide feedback to Lutheridge
- Arrange volunteers for year 2

October of year 2

- bRIDGE Church monthly/bi-monthly gatherings begin

May of year 2

- bRIDGE Church monthly/bi-monthly gatherings end
- Let Lutheridge know if you are planning on beginning another 3 year cycle after the completion of year 3

Summer of year 2

- Provide feedback to Lutheridge
- Arrange volunteers for year 3

October of year 3

- bRIDGE Church monthly/bi-monthly gatherings begin

May of year 3

- bRIDGE Church monthly/bi-monthly gatherings end

What is Included?

A congregation enters the bRIDGE program with the expectation of completing a 3 year cycle. A yearly cycle begins in August or September and ends in May.

The 3 year cycle includes:

- 1 on site retreat at Lutheridge at the beginning of year 1
- At least 2 Lutheridge staff to guide your congregation through the program
- 3 years of congregational curriculum and supplies for activities. Depending on the congregation's needs, this can be done in a 4 times per year format or 8 times per year (monthly from October-May).
- Free access to the Cabin Time App

Adapting bRIDGE to your context

While the curriculum and retreat parts of bRIDGE are set, there is some flexibility within congregations to implement bRIDGE in a way that works best for your context.

Frequency of bRIDGE Church gatherings- The curriculum is designed to include either monthly (8 gatherings per year) or bi-monthly (4 gatherings per year) gatherings. Congregations may choose which pattern best suits their needs.

Timing of bRIDGE Church- Congregations may choose the day and time that works best for their context. The curriculum itself will be around 1.5 hours. If a meal is included, please plan for a 2 hour gathering.

Meals- Some churches may choose to offer a meal as a part of bRIDGE church, especially if the program is done in the evening. The cost of the meal will be incurred by the congregation.

Space- In addition to church buildings, congregations may make use of a local park or other suitable venue for bBRIDGE church, in communication with the Lutheridge staff.

Differing needs- If your congregation has unique needs or circumstances, please contact the Lutheridge staff about how to adapt the program.

Surveys and Feedback

Before or during the initial bBRIDGE retreat, participants will be asked to fill out a questionnaire so we are able to measure growth as the program continues. Intermittent surveys will be conducted throughout the program. We are partnering with Sacred Playgrounds on regular bBRIDGE assessments as we gather data on the impact of this program on faithful parenting.

Planning for bBRIDGE Camp

A month prior to your first bBRIDGE Camp retreat, you will receive information with a retreat schedule, packing list, and driving directions to share with participants.

Pricing

Retreat Costs (fixed)

\$200 per family unit (1 room or 2 adjoining rooms) plus \$65 for each adult attendee and \$50 for each child attendee

bBRIDGE Church Costs

Pricing for the 3 year cycle is determined by the amount of family units participating in the program from a given congregation or group of congregations. The price is set based on number of families registered at the beginning of the year but may go up if another pricing bracket is reached.

# of Families	Cost of 4 month	Cost of 8 month
0-5	\$2100	\$4200
6-10	\$2350	\$4450
11-15	\$2600	\$4700
15-20 (additional staff needed at this level and beyond)	\$3025	\$5125
20+	\$3275	\$5375