



Calvary Council Minutes January 19, 2026

Members Present: Pastor Hans Dahl, Pastor Angie Larson, Katie Rentschler, Bruce Luehmann, Jana Berndt, Brett Boyum, Ann Stehn, Mark Stromswold, Whitney Anderson, Brian Baustian, Jeff Rodel, Mark Christenson, and Cheryl Whitchurch

Absent: None

The council meeting was called to order by Brett Boyum at 6:03 pm.

All In Moments:

- Christmas season activity and attendance
- Extreme Christmas generosity
- Current series - Good Faith, Bad Religion
- Middle school mentors
- Wednesday Evening Worship
- Hospitality for weddings and funerals

Opening Prayer & Devotion: Pastor Hans shared Acts 2:42-47, the early church. Council discussed what caused people to want to be a part of the early church and what makes people want to be a part of Calvary now. Hans led the group in prayer.

Performance Highlights & Future Planning:

What got us here: Katie reviewed the dashboard metrics of engagement data collected over the last three years. The data indicates growth in all tracked areas.

The council discussed the characteristics of a large church as highlighted in the article, "Leadership and Church Size Dynamics" and noted observed changes that Calvary has made in recent years to promote growth.

Where we go next: The council discussed necessary changes for large church growth to continue and identified the areas of focus for Calvary.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of December meeting
- Staff Reports
- Fund Approvals

The council discussed the December minutes as presented. A motion was made by Brian and seconded by Whitney to amend the December minutes. The motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Brian and seconded by Mark C to accept the consent agenda as amended. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

December Financials: Jana reported that December worship income was significantly over budget and up 16% over last year. Expenses were down over last year and right on track for this year's plan. We are in a strong financial position as we enter the second half of the fiscal year.

Jana also noted that there are no significant changes in the preschool financials and that another mortgage principal payment will be able to be made soon.

A motion to accept the treasurer's financial report as presented was made by Mark S. and seconded by Mark C. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Annual Appeal Updates: Katie highlighted the February "All In" giving appeal timeline. Total commitments received from the round one appeal in October were 246 households for a total of \$666,318. Commitments will also be totaled for round two in February 2026 and round three in June 2026.

Season of Lent: A third Ash Wednesday service will be added at 5:30 pm and the focus of the season will be how Jesus is always building a larger circle.

Money Counters: Katie presented a list of people to serve as offering money counters. Names presented were Paul Hanson, Bev Sunde, Wally Stukel, Lynn Johnson, Jim Augdahl, Harriet Pexsa, and John Nesheim.

A motion was made by Ann and seconded by Whitney to approve the slate of money counters as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Sabbatical Planning: There was no further report.

Top Three Takeaways:

- Giving generosity
- Celebration of reaching the 800 mark for average weekly attendance
- Future planning for continued growth
- Leader thoughtfulness

The council meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

The next council meeting will be held on **February 16, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.**