

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2025

Council Meeting Minutes

Opening Prayer

Pastor Derek opened the meeting in prayer.

Approval of October Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Jennifer to approve the minutes from the October council meeting. The minutes were accepted as presented.

Agenda Topics

Committee Reports and Updates

Pastor's Report

Pastor Derek reported that two of our recent services -- Polka Mass and Confirmation Sunday -- have been received very positively by the congregation. We want to consider the Polka Mass as an annual event on Reformation Sunday and use it as an opportunity to invite guests from the community. We have an opportunity to generate excitement via social media marketing and special advertising in the Park Record (\$500). Effective marketing will be a key focus as we plan the 2026 event.

Construction of the new sign is underway. The base is poured. We hope to have it installed prior to Thanksgiving. Once it is installed, the Pastor and the congregation will have a blessing ceremony at an upcoming church service.

Pastor Derek is meeting with the interior designer this week to review plans for the narthex design update.

Pastor Derek led a discussion on the opportunity for us to increase our marketing on social media. Annie will update the SOM Facebook page and begin to provide SOM information and highlights.

Finance

Dave presented the 2026 Budget Draft #2 to the council for discussion and review. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Annie to approve the 2026 Budget Draft #2. The budget will be presented at the congregational meeting on Sunday, November 16th.

We have a need to replace the microphone at the lectern. Dave will get a cost estimate.

Worship/Music

Stephanie requested we consider moving the Praise Band equipment to the storage area in the basement. This will allow for more seating during the highly attended holiday services.

We have an opportunity to clean out the basement storage area to discard/donate unused items. Bryan will reach out to the committee chairs to organize a “clean-up day”.

The Polka Mass special music cost has been added to the 2026 Budget Draft #2.

Property

Bryan has begun working on the Shining Stars lease and will be refining the terms of agreement. The new three-year lease will begin in May 2026.

Fellowship/Social Ministry

We have a very full schedule during the next few months! Project updates:

- 16 blankets have been delivered to the cardio unit at PC Hospital.
- SOM will ring the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle on Saturday, Dec. 6th at Smith's. Sign-up sheets are posted. We need two people per hour during our allotted time of 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- The Sub for Santa party will be held on December 13th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- We have a box for donations for the CCPC Coat and Toy Drive.

Youth/Education

Plans are underway to organize the Christmas services which will be an “interactive” service with congregational participation.

Other Business

The congregational meeting will be held on November 16th, after the service. We need a quorum of 35-40 people.

Jennifer will ask Sydnee to send out an email-blast with a reminder to the congregation.

Jennifer and Dave will work on meeting slides and distribute the meeting deck to the Executive Council Members on Friday. Please provide feedback.

Next Meeting

The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 8th, at 6:00 p.m.

Below is the link and meeting ID with password for council meetings

Meeting ID: 823 3601 6814

Passcode: Council

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82336016814?pwd=VFBuRVRMdktkUnAweFBKWkZxUjVKdz09>

The meeting was closed in prayer by Pastor Derek.

Laurie Ness

Secretary