

**Parish Planning Council
Minutes
September 9th, 2025**

Attendance: John Diefenderfer, Larry Feight, Ron Jung, Martha Haxby and Kerry Cutting

Ron opened the meeting with prayer.

President's Update

- Call Process update – John reported that he has not heard back from Faith, Boulder or St. Mark, Butte yet. We expect to hear from them soon so we can move forward with the Call process

Treasury Report

- Martha gave the treasure's report (Attached) Check for the lift was sent last week to Big Sky Elevator for \$32,211.34.
- St Marks payment for services to secretary was pro-rated from Aug 1-17th.

Board of Lay Ministry

- Shut in ministry update – Jackie was served communion this week by Pastor M. Ron and Larry would look to visiting Gwen and maybe Dianna.
- Membership Roll update – Kerry would put an announcement in the bulletin that we are updating the membership roster/ directory, and the Elders would be the primary POC for updating the information.

Board of Property

- Status of Lift plan – Ron gave an update. Touched base with Big Sky Elevator and they hadn't received the check yet but would let us know when they do.
 - Update 10 Sept – we received the email with the lift drawings and redline drawing so we can begin preparations for constructing the shaft and eventually the lift.
- The council wanted to thank Krysten Slater for mowing the church property.
- John brought up the concern of the large tree at the corner of 1st and Brook. After discussion, it was decided to wait until Spring and take it down and replace it with one of the seedlings from the tree.

Board of Education

- Current quarter attendance – Ave 14 per week (4 Sundays without classes)
- Current Bible studies
 - Augsburg Confession on Sunday
 - The Book of Revelation on Tuesday
- Future Bible Studies
 - "Practical Approach to the Bible" – 2-week study, evenings in Oct
 - "Power of Prayer" by Philip Yancy.
- "A time to Mourn, A time to Dance" is a grief book that was purchased by AAL in the early 2000's. Thrivent sent one member 5 copies that have been distributed to five families in the community who recently lost a loved one. We are currently trying to get additional copies from Thrivent. If not, we may have to purchase them.

Board of Fellowship

- The following events are upcoming and give Zion an opportunity for service in the community.
 - Christmas Shoebox – Luann Cutting will attend organization meeting this week
 - Thrivent Food Pantry service – Dates TBD
 - Advent Soup/Supper and services
 - Christmas Child Project – Whitehall Schools
 - Christmas Cantata – Dates TBD

Other Business

- Outdoor keyboard. The planning Council discussed upgrading the outdoor keyboard. The Board of Lay Ministry will check with Bethel on her recommendation so we can purchase one to use during outdoor services.
- Office phone and answering machine – Discussion tabled until after the completion of the Call Process.
- Dual Congregation agreement . The Parish Planning council is in the process of drafting a Dual Congregation Agreement. If you have any suggestions or recommendations, please let one of the members know.
- Yearly Plan of Activities. The council will begin to put together a calendar for the year. Some of the activities include the following;
 - Lent and Advent Services/Soup dinners
 - Easter Breakfast
 - Mother's Day Breakfast
 - Father's Day breakfast
 - Topical Bible Studies
 - Outdoor services at least once a month during the summer
- Motion made by Martha to reimburse Kerry for ink and paper used to create bulletins and Bible Study handout (approx. \$35.00 per month). After discussion, it was seconded by Ron and approved. Kerry will submit a monthly invoice to Martha.

Larry Closed the meeting with prayer

Zion Lutheran September 8, 2025

Balance forward September, 2025 40,441.96

Income: 31,000.00

(part of LCEF Reserve fund which was 52,900.00 rec'd August. Deposited to Memorial temporarily. Transferred this amount to pay Big Sky Elevator deposit 9/3/25)

Expenses: 35,211.34

Music: 200.00

Joshua Wareham: 50.00 (Adopt-a-Student)

Concordia: LW Sept 18.92

Concordia: Portals 53.80

Building: 16.97

Big Sky Elevator: 31,714.50

St Mark: 2980.72

Salary: 1984.32, Parsonage: 444.52, Secretary: 147.00, Mileage: 404.88

Water: 176.43

Current balance: 36,230.62