

# Council Minutes

## January 12, 2026

Present: Pr. Joel Bacon, Eric Neff, Andy Vergeront, Deb Meier, Bob Ubbelohde, Janet Rivard, Dan Bergschnieder, Madeleine Bernard, Paula Gaida

Not present: Randy Neumann, Ted Urban, Jeff Reiche

Opening devotions were made by Pr. Bacon

1. The Secretary's report from December 8th was proposed for acceptance by Bob, seconded by Dan, voted upon and was approved.
2. The Agenda was presented, proposed for approval by Janet, seconded by Bob, voted upon and accepted.
3. Pastor reported that the new battery powered candles used at the Christmas Eve services worked well. The cleanup went smoothly without having to get wax out of the carpet or the pews. Lenten services will start on Wednesday, February 18th.
4. Committee reports: Eric made available the letter that will go out to the congregation regarding the Winter Annual Meeting that will be held on January 25th following the 9:30 am service. There will be Budget Hearings on January 18th following the 9:30 service in the Fellowship Hall and again on Wednesday January 21st at 4:00 pm in the Community Room where the congregation can visit with the Finance Committee. A motion was made by Eric and Seconded by Bob to send the letter out this week to the congregation. The motion carried.

Finance Committee - Andy reviewed the Operating Budget for January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026. Handouts made available. A motion was made by Eric to accept the budget, seconded by Dan and the motion passed.

Outreach committee received a request from Kym Kirk, Relay for Life chair, for funding for the luminaries candles that will be used at the walk on February 1st. Discussion followed and it was decided that \$500.00 will be donated from either the Endowment or the Fellowship funds for this.

Correspondence was reviewed: Thank you notes for the Chamber Bucks given to church staff for Christmas, a thank you note from the Hayward Community Food Shelf for our donation in December, a letter from Rev. Martin Halom, Bishop of the Northwest Synod of WI., and a newsletter

from Trinity's Classical Academy in Hayward.

New Member/ Welcome cards that will replace the "Communion Cards" in the pew holders were reviewed. A motion to accept these was made by Eric, seconded by Dan and the motion carried. Paula will arrange for Advanced Printing to make these up in a blue card stock. The payment for these will come out of the Worship Expenses.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Deb at 5:40 pm  
Pastor lead the council in the Lord's Prayer.