

# CHURCH MINUTES

## Grace Lutheran Council Meeting January 8, 2026

Present: Robin Baldwin, Diana Bauer, Jarred Curry, Paul Haedt, Terri Huntley, Heather Kreutz, Kelly Magdanz, Chris Pankratz, Debbie Patmore, Casey Raftevoid, Bob Tesch, Jeremy Vliem, Pastor Kevin Jensen, Pastor Carla Nelson. Absent: Jeff DeKraai. Guest: Craig Pfeifle, Synod Council President Tesch called the meeting to order.

Devotions by Kelley Magdanz.

Additions/Adoption of the Agenda: Motion by Jeremy to address Wi Fi need for two Eero's. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kelly.

Approve the Secretary's minutes. Motion by Kelly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debbie.

Treasures report given.

Old Business:

\* Bob informed council there will be a 6.5% lock in loan for 5 years with the First National Bank on the parsonage loan of \$130,000.

\* Discussed Sanctuary roof repair that needs to be done.

New Business:

\* Money counters:

Feb. 1 – Debbie and Diana

Feb. 8 – Kelly and Terri

Feb. 15 – Jarred – Debbie

Feb. 22 – Bob and Heather

March 1 – Paul and Debbie

\* It was decided to have the Egg Drop Fund raiser again. Bob will be the Bunny. Candy donations for the egg cartons, donation for each carton is set at \$20.00.

\* Congregational meeting is January 25, 2026. Installations of officers February 1, 2026.

\* Casey Raftevoid will replace San Monahan as a council member.

\* Election of officers. Unanimous ballot by Pastor Kevin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul to retain Bob Tesch President, Heather Kreutz Vice President, Diana Bauer Secretary, Robin Baldwin Treasurer.

\* Casey Raftevoid will take over David's janitorial duties until David is able to return to work.

\* Motion by Chris to purchase two Eero's to improve the Wi-Fi system (\$450.00). Funds to be used from the Music fund. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jarred, motion passed.

Current Committee Liaisons

Property – Paul Haedt, chair; Casey co-chair

Endowment – Robin Baldwin

Education – Terri Huntley

GLCW – Debbie Patmore

Stewardship – Jeremy Vliem

Evangelism – Jarred Curry

Worship – Chris Pankratz

Next council meeting is February 5, 2026

Debbie made a motion to adjourn with prayer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Secretary, Diana Bauer

## **GLCW Minutes, Tuesday, January 13, 2026**

The GLCW meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. with 11 in attendance. After opening devotions and singing, the minutes were approved as read. The treasurer's report showed income of \$370 and expenses of \$889.57 (Christmas family, gift cards, the Raforth funerals, and a new coffee maker) leaving a balance of \$27,641.15. The Mission Investment fund is \$26,320.

Correspondence included thank you notes from the college students, the Pastors, Casteel's, WELCA, and St. Dysmas. Lynette Kvanvig conveyed appreciation she received by phone for the Christmas bags. She also sent 8 cards.

### **Old Business:**

- The Christmas bags for our elderly and shut-ins went well with help from many who packed the bags and delivered/visited the people. 18 bags were assembled along with Christmas stockings given to college students at BHSU and the School of Mines.
- Shopping was done for a needy family - 3 children and their mother. Toys and clothes were purchased along with a beef certificate.
- Funeral chairmen for the year are: 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter-Deb Patmore and Sheri Boy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter – Connie Hurlburt and Lynette Kvanvig, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter – Diana Bauer and Ruth Smit, and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter – Darlene Mullins and Janet Johnson. All Grace women should have the new booklet (pick up at church) and check to see which quarter they are listed in.

### **New Business:**

- Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18. GLCW will provide the meal. Lynette Kvanvig will chair the meal. Other Lenten meals will be served by other church groups. Lenten services follow at 6:30 p.m.
- Extensive discussion was held about doing more for Lutheran World Relief and other giving projects in our community. If the GLCW quilters wish to ship any quilts to Lutheran World Relief, money from GLCW would be offered for the expense so that they don't need to use any funds from their treasury. This will totally be at their discretion and wishes. A report on our church's projects (quilts, kits, etc.) needs to be submitted to the Bear Butte Conference and the Synod. This was the yearly report always sent by Eileen Raforth. The quilters were asked for their project numbers for this report as it has to be submitted in January.  
All women agreed to include the church as a whole to assemble items for LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent. Pastor Carla will write up a note about the items that will be requested for each week of Lent. Future projects include Baby Care Kits and School Kits.
- Pastor Carla asked for volunteers to provide a meal for either of the campus ministries.

Shirley Halverson was the hostess and Pastor Carla conducted the Bible Study. Next month's meeting will be a Valentine's Celebration – all women are invited to come share a meeting of love and devotion to each other and to Christ.

Marlene Kotab, Secretary

## **Worship Committee Minutes – Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026**

Members present were Tim Patmore, Chris Pankratz, Christian and Marlene Kotab.

Old Business:

- We will use “The Hidden Beauty of Creation” liturgy on Jan. 25 and March 1<sup>st</sup>. (possibly again on May 31)
- Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18. Imposition of ashes will be by the youth. Tim will help set up the area. The GLCW will serve supper beginning at 5:30 p.m. Other groups will serve supper every week during Lent.
- Weather permitting, we will have a palm procession into the church followed by special music by the adult choir and the children on Palm Sunday, March 29.
- The Easter Cantata performances are Palm Sunday, March 29 and Tuesday, March 31 at 7 p.m.
- On Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the confirmands will lead “A Living last Supper.” The Altar Guild (led by Kris Little) will drape the altar area.
- The high school youth and leaders are discussing a possible Good Friday Reverse Advent service.
- Easter services: 6:30 a.m. at the Lions Club Shelter (Bob Tesch will help Pastor). Tim Patmore will set up the signs. 9:00 a.m. service plans are forthcoming.
- The Church Council has approved a wi-fi update. Christian will look into ordering it. Donated funds have already been designated.

New Business:

- There is a need for a musician for services at Aspen Grove on the second Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m. Anyone able to do this should contact Pastor Kevin.
- Christian met with KBHB and they brought a new device to improve our weekly broadcast. This is a temporary fix as they will need to invest in an updated system.
- First communion will take place at the end of February or beginning of March.
- Christian will help adjust Pastor Carla’s mic to improve the quality.
- Discussion was held about our prayer list read on Sundays. One suggestion is that those put on the list could be read every Sunday for one month. Then the families may ask Keri to keep them on the list which is read aloud on the radio. All others will continue to be listed in the bulletin so that they will be remembered in prayer.
- Liturgies – Feb. 1 - #10, Feb. 8 – Spoken, Feb. 15 - #8, and Feb. 22 – Chosen People.

The meeting closed in prayer. Marlene Kotab, Chairman

## **Grace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting January 25, 2026**

Call to Order by President Bob Tesch.

Prayer by Pastor Kevin Jensen

Adoption of Agenda – Motion by Marlene Kotab, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Otto Magdanz to adopt Agenda

Treasurer’s Report presented by Robin Baldwin. Question answered about the parsonage loan. The loan is being renewed at a better rate.

Budget for 2026 was approved by the congregation on November 23, 2025.

Thank you to outgoing council member San Monahan. Welcome new council member Casey Räftevold.

Congregational Council President Bob Tesch gave a report on the 2025 achievements.

Pastors report was presented.

Old Business – None

New Business – Installation of 2026 council members will be February 1, 2026.

Meeting adjourned

Secretary, Diana Bauer