

Salem Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2025

Attending: Phil Barker, Deb Hofbauer (present at start of meeting to give report), Aaron Holmgren, Debbie Lee, Art Lemke (dropped out having tech trouble), Louise Nesdahl, Lana Pemberton, Jack Schlukebier, Janet Sell, and Nancy Wyatt.

The meeting began at 7:06 pm.

Opening: Pastor Aaron was at a theological conference last week. A speaker did the Isaiah study for Advent. Visions of hope during Advent, as in Isaiah 11. Taking things at face value and not pondering what came before or what comes afterwards.

Minutes from the September meeting: Jack moved, and Louise seconded that the minutes be approved as written. Motion passed.

Reports

Properties: Have completed the RPZ test for this year. Wasn't in the monthly report. Janet asked about the air conditioning last Sunday. Debbie mentioned that she had told Jack that the thermostat needed new batteries. The cross timer needs to be reset.

Education: 19 students in Faith Formation. No date yet for new book club.

Evangelism: No report. Campfire Sing-along was held. Several people from the neighborhood stopped by. Corn Maze and bonfire were a success. Group would like to organize a game night. Trunk or Treat is this Saturday.

Stewardship: Program 2025.

Nov. 3rd Letters to go out – 4 target groups

Nov. 5th 1st Video(s) (Janet Sell)

Nov. 9th ***Church as Home*** pictures in Narthex
Items around church that need attention

Nov. 12 2nd Video(s)

Nov. 16th ***Church as Family*** pictures in Narthex
Internal ministries: Choir, Bells, Organist, Faith Formation, Bible Study,
OWLS, Quilters, Putzers, Family Fun Easter Egg Hunt,
Thanksgiving Pie Social, Christmas Tea, Christmas Program, Visitations

Nov. 19th 3rd Video(s)

Nov. 20-23 Phone call reminder

Nov. 23rd ***Church as Neighbor*** pictures in Narthex
WSP Parade, Neighbors Inc., Bonfire, AA, National Nite Out, Feed
My Starving Children, Loaves & Fishes, Beer, Burgers and
Hymns, Moreland School supplies and clothing drives, Pentecostal
Church service and programs, RefugeCity service and programs,
Adopt-A-Family, Square Dancers, Klondike Kates, Magome, San
Lucas, Lutheran Social Service, Global Relief Missions, River
Heights Chorale, joint services with St. Stephen's, Synod Support, Men's
Breakfast, Caroling.

Nov. 24-25th Follow-Up letter

Missions: 338 meals served at Loaves & Fishes. 13,000 packed meals at Feed My Starving Children. Going to Zambia.

Music & Worship: Carl is taking a 2-month leave of absence from the choir. Judy Belland will be leading the choir in his absence.

Financial: Janet had a new Balance Sheet. Only \$19,000 in the checking account. Do have savings funds that are available.

Pledges are current but we budget for more than the pledges could cover. That makes Salem \$60,000 behind. Is it time to share this with the congregation?

Calendar:

Beer, Burgers & Hymns next Monday night.

Thanksgiving Eve service and pie social.

December 11th: Owls Christmas party.

Christmas program is a sing-along.

Remove meetings from New Year's Day.

Summary of Goals for Pastor Aaron: Council wants to support the Pastor's goals. Pastor Aaron also needs to learn to ask for help. Developing an evangelism program should be a churchwide goal.

Thank You's: John and Pam Wakeen's extra help during the bonfire and the neighborhood celebrations.

Judy Belland stepping up to lead the choir.

Action Items:

From September:

Janet: Finance should try and get a better deal on the financial software program.

Jack: Properties (7340 & 7310) should see if we could get better insurance rates.

Louise is on prayer assignment for November.

Jack made a motion to adjourn the meeting after the closing prayer. Phil seconded. Motion carried.

Phil closed out the meeting with prayer.

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Wyatt, Secretary