**BTLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 11, 2025**

**Present: Einar** Stene, Kelli Brewer, Lori Minette, Rusty Terland, Pat Leary, Debbie Buerkle,

Pastor Julia Seymour, Judy Riter, Jeni Lannen, Brannin Tyler

**Absent: Meggen** Whalin

President Lori Minette called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, followed by devotions led by Kelli.

**Minutes: Becky** moved to approve the August 14, 2025, council meeting minutes with a correction, seconded by Pat. Unanimously approved. The council then reviewed the minutes of the September 7 congregation information meeting with motion by Rusty, seconded by Kelli to approve. Unanimously approved.

**Examples of Fulfilling Our Mission: Youth** group started meeting for the year, held Women’s Prayer Retreat, decorated PMC for fall, conducting collection for Tumbleweed Project and conducted funerals.

**Treasurer’s Report: The** report was reviewed and Rusty moved to approve, with second by Becky. Unanimously approved.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Julia reported she’s happy to be working with Brannin as new administrative assistant.

**Music and Worship: No** news to report but hope to meet within the next two weeks.

**Education:** Pastor Julia reported that Bible Study has resumed with 21 people participating. Confirmation begins the week of September 21 with Zoom class for five on Sunday evenings and in person classes for seven on Wednesday after school.

Pastor Julia proposed creating two positions:

Youth Group Activity Coordinator that would work 2.5 hours per week to arrive early; plan, set up and maintain schedule of activities; request supplies as needed and make connections for alternate activity locations (Civic Center or BTGS). Proposed compensation would be $30/week, billed monthly, paid for work, not salary. Applicant is Daniel Seymour.

Confirmation Teaching Assistant that would work 1.5 hours per week in person plus 20-30 minutes outside of class time for in-person classes only. Duties would be to help set up, prepare snacks and clean up; plan intro activity or questions; teach main lesson 4 times during program year (with Pastor Julia support in preparation); and general class support.

Proposed compensation would be $25/week, billed monthly, paid for work, not salary. Applicant is Shaela Whalin.

Following discussion, Rusty moved with second by Einar to create and hire Youth Group Activity Coordinator and Confirmation Teaching Assistant at rates suggested. Unanimously approved. Treasurer Debbie stated the Youth Group Activity Coordinator would come from Youth group bank account while Confirmation Assistant would come from education bank account.

**Mission:** Debbie suggested the Tumbleweed Project be extended for a few more weeks and she will see if Tumbleweed would accept some Thrivent t-shirts for those in need of clothing.

It was moved by Pat, seconded by Judy to give $1500 to the matching fund of Give Where You Live campaign. Unanimously approved.

Family Fun Night will be from 4-6 pm on Sunday, October 26. The mission team will meet to organize the event.

**Property: Rusty** stated that Jason Palm submitted an estimate of $1200 to $1500 to repair sanctuary flashing with a cricket. JB Brown will also give an estimate on this project. Rusty also reported that a handicap ramp or lift must be outside due to safety concerns. Einar suggested that we might consider a lift located outside current Parish Hall window facing 4th avenue rather than by the steps.

Pastor Julia will contact Jim Yocum to request options for sound system upgrade. We are waiting to hear from Jeff Sell regarding sanctuary carpet replacement. Debbie has ordered carpet samples for use on sanctuary chairs and kneeler.

**WELCA: A** meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 28 service.

**President’s Correspondence: None**

**Old Business:** It was the consensus of the members present that the Congregation Information Meeting went well and will need a Capital Campaign Committee in the near future. Four council members are registered for September 24 Grant Writing Workshop. The next joint church service will be September 21 at 10 am at the fairgrounds to include a blessing of pets. St. Marks is the host.

**New Business:** Pastor Julia’s upcoming sabbatical discussion included 12 week continuous or two 6 week spans. Probably would occur mid-June (approximate dates) to early September. We need to discuss supply pastor intermittently, emergency call people and scheduling lay leadership participation. This will be addressed in the future.

Having no further business, meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 7:30 pm.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 6 pm. Judy will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Riter, Secretary