

Big Timber Lutheran Church Council Minutes

14 May 2026

Present: Becky Frese, Gemma George, Lori Minette, Jeni Lannen, Pat Leary, Einar Stene, Debbie Buerkle, Pastor Julia Seymour, Brannin Tyler

Not Present: Meggen Whalin, John Callahan

President Becky Frese called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM and Gemma led devotions.

Council Meeting Minutes: Lori moved to approve the minutes from 16 April meeting, Gemma seconded the motion, Council unanimously approved. Minutes approved as written.

Examples of Fulfilling our Mission: Bible Study, Pastor confirmed student from Laurel, Youth Group and Confirmation are completed for the school academic year, and funeral

Treasurer's Report: Council reviewed reports provided by Debbie with a mention of \$3000 being pulled from savings account for expenses, no questions. Pat moved to accept the treasurer's report with second by Lori. Council unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Pastor Julia Report: Bryan Baker from Big Timber Evangelical Church will be on sabbatical starting 1 June. Bryan is the only signer for the Ministerial Fund checkbook, and there has not been a meeting since 2022. Bryan sent out an email today for a meeting for 21 May at 11 am for a touch base on the Ministerial Fund. Pastor reminded the council the Executive Committee is Becky, Meggen, Debbie, and Brannin. Also noted was remembering our mission if anything comes up while pastor is on sabbatical.

Music and Worship: Last meeting was on 16 April, minutes were emailed out from pastor on 27 April. Nothing has come up or changed since last meeting.

Education: Pastor reported -Bible Study has one more meeting before the current study is done and will pause until the fall. Youth Group and Confirmation are complete for the academic year. Meggen oversees VBS. Curriculum has been written and reviewed for VBS, and registration is open.

Mission: Becky reported Debbie has been updating the truck at the PMC and has been doing a great job! No other updates.

Property: Rusty, Al, Becky, and Julia all met on 13 May with Pat Parker from Interstate Engineering. They walked around the building, going over different needs of the building for ease of access. Pat gave some ideas and will be coming up with proposals. A survey will be needed to have more accurate estimation of cost and for plans to be drawn up for a ramp, sidewalks, building access, etc. Carpet will probably be installed in July; someone will need to be designated to let workers into the building and make sure to lock up at the end of the day. Chip Roe removed the stump! Council prepared a thank you card and it was moved to add \$150 cash to the thank you card by Lori, with a second by Jeni. Council unanimously approved. It was also noted that Daniel is the only one mowing this summer.

WELCA: Met on 19 April. They have purchased new plastic serving bowls and decanters for the church. The group also plans to join the indoor cleaning day for the kitchen on 7 June.

Grant: None- Grant committee cannot start writing until there are bids the council would like to proceed on.

President's Correspondence: Thank you note from Saint Johns, and a Donner Appreciation pamphlet was received.

Old Business: Debbie, Becky, Meggen, and Brannin will plan a meeting to go over status of VBS and what needs to be done for registration and any other needs. Council reviewed the open slot from the Sabbatical Plan, there are only 3 Lay Supports open, the rest have volunteers for. Pastor reviewed what tasks the Lay Support will preform with the Clergy and with the Leader. Discussion was had on to fill the open slots we need to invite individuals verse just leaving it open for volunteers.

New Business: Proposal will come in email for review once received. Other new business has been reviewed in the Committee Reports.

The council's next meeting will be on 9 June at 6PM, with Pat leading devotions. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Brannin Tyler, Secretary