

BADGER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, September 11, 2025

Attendees: Allison McBride, Mike Bruen, Pastor Meier, Brent Larson, Michael Hendren, Jim Vinsand, Renae Gebers, Abee Kelleher and Michelle Hendren.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:59 by Allison McBride.

Devotion and Prayer: John 14: 16 – 17 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever the Spirit of truth. There are a lot of people trying to exist on Do-It Yourself Christianity. But that is not possible for anyone feeling done-in, worn-out, tired, lonely or helpless. The idea of making yourself holy enough for God holds little hope for any of us. Actually, we can't make ourselves good enough, holy enough or well-mannered enough to meet God's Standards. There is a point where we need more than just some good advice. We Need Help. There is no way that I do half and God does half and that gets us to heaven. We need more. Each of us needs help, from the inside out. Not near us, not above us, not around us. But in us. In the part of us of us we don't even know. In our heart, that no one else can see. I the hidden part of us that our self-dwells – no angel, no philosophy, no genie can help. Only God can help.

Secretary Report: The Minutes from August were reviewed and approved by Jim Vinsand and Mike Bruen.

Financial Secretary Report: Financial Secretaries Report reported by Jim Vinsand, the General Bank Account balance is \$13,839.60, Memorial Bank Account Balance is \$120,444.30, The Youth Bank Account Balance is \$22,575.98, the total income was \$16,529.93 and the total expenses were \$17,618.87. The expenses were higher because we made a quarterly payment for insurance which was \$4,000.00. Our Offering is starting to grow. We had a payment through the QR Code. Allison asked Jim about the donation that covered the Contemporary Service for Brady O'Brien which is \$75.00 per Sunday. We have 4 Sundays left; after that, would we like to fund this out of the General fund Jim asked. Motion was made by Brent Larson and seconded by Renae Gebers. The Financial Report was approved by Mike Bruen and seconded by Brent Larson.

Pastor's Report: Reported by Pastor Scott, Month of August 2025 – Registered for LCMC Annual Gathering 2025 in Lakeville, MN (October 5- 8) - – with my wife, Kim. Attending the Gathering is a high point of the year, like a family reunion/ homecoming. I get to see lots of colleagues and friends from around the country and world only once a year. I make connections with mission organizations. There is opportunity to meet new people who have never been to LCMC Gathering – to Worship together, Study God's Word together, here some great Keynote Speakers (this is the 25 Anniversary of the origin of LCMC), go to some great Breakout Topics. Pastoral Care for several congregation members in grief and/or health crisis. Funeral, Sat. Aug. 9, for Bill Cote, Uncle of James Johnson of Badger, IA. Graveside service for Norris Overdahl at Blossom Hill cemetery, August 23, Saturday. Of course, all the regular assignments – Newsletter, Prep for Sunday Worship, and Sermons and PowerPoint slides.

Commission Reports:

Business Management: Reported by Jim Vinsand, nothing to report.

Properties: Reported by Mike Bruen, the Tuck Point will happen this fall. Jim asked what the cost of that was and Mike replied \$12,200.00.

Education: Reported by Renae Gebers, Sara wanted to thank everyone for the planning and execution of the Kickoff 2025. They had eleven kids for the first day of Sunday School. They will continue to do the one room Sunday School which takes place after the Children's Sermon. They are working on getting a calendar together for which teacher is working which Sunday. They also showed appreciation to the council for the Sunday School teacher appreciation gifts. It was a touching moment to see how many lives Brian Larson has touched. October we will be planning for Confirmation, October 26th. They will start working on the Christmas Program which will follow the VBS True North Theme.

Youth: Reported by Brent Larson, last month Brent reached out to the Messenger to see if they would be interested in doing a story on the Youths Canoe trip. He asked if anyone has seen the article in the Messenger. The Youth Group went to Fort Frenzy and there were 15 kids who showed up. The 17th is the first weekly Youth activity with First Presbyterian. Brent would like the First Presbyterian kids to join the activity on September 21st, 11:30am to 1:30 as well. He is also going to check when the Winter Jam concert in Des Moines.

Worship, Music & Arts: Reported by Abee Kelleher, Sunday is the Church picnic. Abee will be out there to set up. The kids at First Presbyterian are building a pantry. She is inviting the congregation to this event and bring a canned item for the Pantry. It is in honor of her dad Harry Armstrong. This will be at the Shalom Center. It will either be the 1st or the 8th of October. Abee will be in touch with Michelle. Renae also shared that Anna Armstrong is fighting Stage 3 Colon Cancer, they have a meal train started. Renae will find the link and share it.

Membership & Outreach: Reported by Michael Hendren, thank you to all who helped with Kick off Sunday. We had 83 at the Worship Service and 65 for lunch. They collected \$65.00 in Free-will Donations. Michael has been working with Abee and Brent about a new event for kids. They will be putting together a Fishing Derby at Badger Pond, for next June. It will cost approximately \$250 dollars to stock the pond with Blue Gille. Abee would like to name it Harry Fisher of Men's Fishing Tournament. Michael was fine with that name. Michael is thinking June 7th for a date.

Missions: Reported by Renae Gebers, had heard on the radio that September 21st is invite someone to church national day. They are working on community and how to grow the church.

New Business: Zach Dodge has a Ministry at Iowa Central. He was one of the cyclists in our "Bike to Church" event. Part of his college ministry is a radio show on 88.1, the Point. His show is on Wednesdays from 5-6pm and he has a Youth group Shout out.

Abee spoke about creating a document for either nominating or maybe someone would like to serve on Sunday as Usher, Greeter, Communion, Reader, Coffee Host or maybe has interest in one of the Commissions.

Allison brought up the list of Commissioners and Commission Members Ballot – 2025. She wanted to make everyone aware that there are a lot of people who will be finished with their term in February and to ask them if they would consider staying longer or if they know someone who would like to serve.

Allison also brought the Annual Meeting to Jim and suggested that we talk to the accountants earlier and perhaps it won't be such a hurry-up situation with the numbers so if anyone wanted to review

them, they had an adequate amount of time. The Annual Meeting will be held on February 1, 2026. The Book and numbers have to be available 10 days prior to the meeting. Renae suggested we move it to a week prior to the meeting. Jim will contact the accountants. There was a suggestion of an extra meeting in November just to approve the Budget.

Larry Hall contacted Allison about replacing the projector in the sanctuary. Larry has spoken to someone from the congregation who was having problems seeing what was on the screen. It was purchased in 2005. Then upgraded in 2010. It is now 15 years old and the technology has gotten much better over the last several years. The is just under \$4,000.00, installed. Larry will be putting together a proposal and get it to us. Michael Hendren offered to help.

Old Business: Mike Bruen spoke about targeting prayer on our Bulletin, his suggestion is to make it cumulative, ongoing. Allison suggested a new heading, maybe "Specific Prayer" so everyone will know what it is about. Michelle asked for any information to be emailed to her.

Allison wanted to remind everyone of "All Saints Day". She has reached out to Larry Hall. He will go through all of the pictures and Michelle will add it to the Bulletins in October and also the Newsletter.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Jim Vinsand and seconded by Michael Hendren

Next Council Meeting will be October 9, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Submitted by Michelle Hendren