

Council Meeting: August 5, 2025

In Attendance: Pastor Shaw, Joan Simons, Bill Simons, Austin Becker, Ken Ritt, Monica Edwards and Kim Mury via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

The meeting opened with prayer led by Pastor Shaw.

Minutes from the July meeting accepted with corrections.

Financial Treasurer Report—Ken

Please see attached documents.

Stamps purchased.

Treasurer report matches Financial Secretary report.

Samaritans Fund discussed.

Outreach Funds discussed.

Maintenance/Lawn Care bill went up from \$110 to \$220.

Financial Secretary Report—Monica

Please see attached.

Elder's Report—Austin

Please see attached.

Average attendance has increased. This month had the highest average attendance since March 2025.

Communicants increased.

Pastor's Report—Pastor Shaw

Pastor Shaw will be scheduling times to do home communion with Bill and Dot King.

Baptisms: Nothing new to report

Pastor Shaw is preparing for Bible Study starting September 6. Catechisms will need to be ordered.

For Pastor Shaw's personal calendar: Pastor Shaw was asked to chaperone a group of middle school boys with Resurrection Church on a field trip to Grandfather Mountain.

Aug 17: Pastor Shaw will be taking a colleague/Retired Pastor to lunch.

Divine Service 1 will be used starting on September 7, 2025. Monica to provide the musical accompaniment with some changes.

Pastor Shaw plans to add more teaching elements into his sermons.

There will be a Circuit Pastor gathering/forum on August 12.

The Circuit is seeking volunteers to attend the convention in Phoenix. The Circuit will have the final pick of attendees.

Driving partners' project: Monica shared she will be Sharon's driving partner. This project will be an ongoing discussion.

Discussion held about how the Council can share the overall financial picture with the Congregation. Ken shared that the financial snapshot is typically shared at the annual Congregational meeting.

Discussion held about how to improve communication with the members of the Congregation. Pastor Shaw feels we need to over communicate with the members of the Congregation. Discussion held regarding reinstating the newsletter.

Discussion held regarding possible avenues for outreach. It was suggested that we could open the church to the community for use for varying support groups, educational groups, tutoring groups, etc. We would need church volunteers to be present while groups were at the church. Council is in agreement as long as the outside groups agree to respect the Holy areas of the church.

Joan will go to the Chamber of Commerce LIFT meeting on August 6, 2025.

Transition Report:

The first series of the Bible Study, starting on September 7, 2025, will be focused on the Small Catechism. Pastor Shaw would like to encourage congregational members to attend. He anticipates this topic will take approximately 8 weeks to complete. Bible study will take place at 0900-0945.

Outreach to Community

Pastor Shaw will communicate with the Council as to when the Samaritan Fund is used. So far, he has a \$150 and \$100 gift card to Walmart gift card.

"Military Friendly" is the goal for August.

Point of Focus: Heritage. Pastor Shaw would like to use people's memories to assist with writing the history of the church.

Sept. 7 Challenge: Bring a friend to church.

Pastor Shaw confirmed no need to change the current leadership structure with the Council.

Pastor Shaw discussed ideas to form a Transition Team. The duties of this team will be to look at the vision of the church. He would like the team to consist of at least 3 members who are not currently on the Council. He feels the council should include at least one long-term member. Wanda was presented as a suggestion. The transition team will also assist with future connections.

Trustee's Report—Bill

Refer to attached document.

Old Business: Windows will be ordered through Goldsboro siding. They will take 2-3 weeks to be delivered. Bill is awaiting an invoice.

Roger Nesti has almost completed painting.

Bill has found a leak in the shed that needs to be re-sealed. Siding on the shed may need to be replaced in the future.

Fellowship/Outreach Coordinator Report:

July 27m the congregation said goodbye to Kevin and Teddy.

August 12 is the Circuit Meeting help at Peace Lutheran Church. Joan will be assisting with setting up and preparing lunch for approximately 12 people.

November 29: Hanging of the Greens in church in preparation for Advent.

November 30: Pie and Hymn fest.

Discussion held regarding when to hold a Reformation celebration: Tentative date is October 26, 2025.

December 14 is Wreaths across America

Joan plans to attend LIFT meeting with the Chamber of Commerce on August 6, 2025.

Joan would like to partner with the Goldsboro YMCA to "Feed the Hungry" and get the congregation to provide donations. The Council is in agreement.

Old Business:

Additional Elders and Duties are tabled.

Lutheran Service builder was discussed. Pastor Shaw reached out to fellow Pastor Rebau to discuss Lutheran Service Builder as he was a contributor to designing the program. Pastor Rebau informed Pastor Shaw that the Service Builder would be a waste of funds for Peace Lutheran Church. Pastor Rebau has also presented himself as a possible candidate to be called due to recent changes in his life since the last call, including the passing of his mother. He may be a candidate for call in April/May.

New Business:

Discussion held about how the Council lets members of the congregation know where their tithes and offerings are going. A QR code has been developed so that congregation members can access all reports, accept the financial reports and any other sensitive information.

For next meeting, the Council is being asked to review the Constitution and By- laws.

The Pastor Discretionary Fund will now be known as the Samaritan Fund. Limits and Restrictions reviewed.

Pastor Shaw will be keeping a record of who gets financial assistance and how the money is disturbed using the 5 Ws.

Discussion held about auditing financial records. Accountability discussed. It was suggested that 2 church members (one council member and one non-council member periodically review financial records.

Discussion held about possibly holding a garage sale to fund raise for the church and making ourselves known in the community.

A Thank-you note will be sent to Pastor Williamson for the picture donated to the church.

Wednesday September 10, 2025, at 7:00pm will be the next meeting date.

Ken will not be able to attend the next meeting.

Closed meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 8:18pm