

Council Meeting: October 14, 2025

In Attendance: Pastor Shaw (via zoom), Joan Simons, Ken Ritt, Austin, Monica

Meeting called to order at 7:09pm

The meeting opened with prayer led by Pastor Shaw.

Minutes from the September meeting accepted as written.

Financial Treasurer Report—Ken

Please refer to attached.

Financial Secretary Report—Monica

Please see attached.

Elder's Report—Austin

Please see attached.

Attendance is slightly lower in the month of September. Communicants are increasing. It is nice for children to be in attendance.

Live views on Facebook and YouTube discussed. Facebook: 9/7-186 viewers; 9/14-144 viewers; 9/21-120 viewer; 9/28-217 viewers. YouTube: 9/7-11 viewers; 9/14- 18 viewers; 9/21-5 viewers; 9/28- 6 viewers. See to have a lot of viewers from other countries.

Pastor's Report—Pastor Shaw

Pastor has been to four home visits this past month. Three home visits were to the King Family.

Teaching the Small Catechism has been progressing slower than planned. Pastor requested approval from the Council to purchase 8 more copies of the Small Catechism. Council has approved of purchase.

Upcoming plans: Pastor Ricky will be leading services on October 19, 2025. Pastor discussed feedback on Pastor Ricky's service. At this time, Pastor Ricky is scheduled to assist until December. On Average, it is costing church approximately \$650 for Pastor Ricky to lead service to include travel and hotel. Options for non-communion service discussed if visiting Pastor is not available. Pastor Shaw has also discussed possibility of asking a colleague at Resurrection to assist with services on occasion.

October 20th-24th Pastor Shaw will be out of town for a training. Pastor Shaw plans to be back to attend Oktoberfest and will be bringing his mother.

November 2, 2025, Pastor Shaw will be out of town and will be finding a Pastor to cover service due to it being All Saints Weekend.

November 10-14th is Pastor Shaw's Anniversary. Pastor Shaw will provide service on November 9, 2025, and will leave for his Anniversary trip after service. Pastor Shaw will have his office hours on the following Thursday and Friday.

Upcoming Liturgical times: Will return to Divine Service 3 for Reformation. Pastor Shaw developed a second play list for DS3 entitled "Reformation."

Advent/Christmas will have Thursday night services. Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00pm. Pastor Shaw asked if there will be a service for Christmas Day. Plan will be to have service at Peace on Christmas Eve and invite congregation to Christmas Day service as Resurrection in Clayton.

Additional Topics: Pastor asked how many Portals of Prayer are typically ordered; Council answered "10." Discussion regarding the cookbooks was held and an idea was proposed that the church have a potluck, and people had to pick a recipe from the cookbook, "Heavenly Meals."

Discussion held regarding the suggestion of having Bibles available to the congregation. What version of the Bible will be used: The ESV or the New King James. Decision made to use the ESV. Pastor Shaw confirmed that there was no concern expressed regarding the current practice of using inserts in the Bulletin. Plan is to order enough for two copies for each pew and to have a few extra copies. Decision made to table purchasing Bibles for now and observe the trend of the congregation to determine if they will be used during service. Discussion held about possibly removing insert.

Pastor Shaw shared that the District website has a webinar on how to use the property to service your community. It is entitled "Beyond the Walls: Innovated Uses of Real Estate in Ministry. Pastor Shaw is not sure if the webinar is going to be useful for our church but stated that the webinar is free if anyone is interested in watching.

Prayer Requests: Pastor Shaw has a total of five reconciliation cases at this time. Pastor Shaw requested prayers while he balances his duties at Peace and Resurrection.

TIM Report:

Growth of Programs:

Outreach to Community

No new updates at this time.

The Tutoring Group is on hold at this time. No partnerships have been made with the schools at this time.

What other partnerships can Peach participate in? Discussion about partnership with the YMCA. The program to assist with food has been stopped at the YMCA. There may be other organizations we can with whom we can partner. Joan hopes to learn about more resources during the LIFT meeting.

Transition Team ideas were discussed. Trunk or Treat ideas from the Transition Team were presented. Council members are willing to assist with ideas presented by the Transition Team.

Points of Focus

Heritage: Topics presented by the Transition team include having youth activities, a children's sermon, and CPH bulletin inserts for children. Miranda's children are currently the only children

coming to the service. Council feels that children belong in the service. Pastor Shaw and Council in agreement with ordering CPH bulletin inserts.

Another topic presented was regarding food and fellowship. We do this already with 5th Sunday celebrations. Transition Team also mentioned bringing back Easter Brunch after service, a live Nativity, singing carols at local nursing facilities. Additional food ideas mentioned included a soup Sunday or a general potluck once a month, possibly on a day other than Sunday. We used to have monthly potlucks, but it fizzled out after a while. Proposal made to re-instate potluck meals but not on a monthly basis. Idea presented to correlate potluck with holiday or special occasions.

Mission: Both the Council and Transition Team are very excited about outreach opportunities. Pastor Shaw would like the two teams to come together to discuss outreach ideas and incorporate the congregation.

Leadership: Pastor Shaw would like to have informal leaders. The Transition team only has three active members at this time. Mike and wife have not been reachable by phone, email or snail mail at this time.

Connections: Transition team discussed ways to highlight our location and advertise who we are. Ideas include the banner idea to advertise special events. Pastor Shaw would like teams to discuss this together. Another idea is regarding the sign outside the church and adding the statement "Save by Grace." Pastor Shaw suggested removing his name from the sign to make more room for the statement. Council in agreement with changing the sign.

Transition members also suggested the idea of Project Connect. It is a Lutheran Hour Ministry with pamphlets. A \$250 Thrivent Grant has been secured and the start up kit is \$325. The start up kit includes a 3-tiered rotating stand and an initial supply of cards. This leads a \$75 gap that Pastor Shaw asked approval for Council to cover. Pastor feels that this kit can be mobile and be taken to the fair or other locations to share information about our church. Council members approved contributing the \$75 to assist with obtaining the kit.

Another project suggested was church participation in animal adoption events. The church would open up the parking lot to a local animal shelter for an adoption event which in turn allows us to open the church and provide information. Council agrees to set up a pet event next year around October 4, 2026, for the Feast Day of St. Francis. Yard sales were also suggested as a means to share information about the church.

Trustee's Report—Bill

Refer to attached document.

Bill contacted William Conley to clean up the back of the church prior to Oktoberfest. The work is almost completed as of 10/14/25. Cost will be approximately \$225.

Fellowship/Outreach Coordinator Report:

Pastor Appreciation Day was celebrated on October 12, 2025. Pastor Shaw stated he feels very appreciated.

Oktoberfest will be on October 25, 2025. Joan was able to get \$250 from Thrivent Action Team and \$50 gift card from Food Lion. Food Lion cards cannot be used to purchase alcohol but will assist with cost of food and some door prizes. Tent Rentals from Outdoor Rec are \$25 each. Bill and Joan will pick up the tents on Friday prior to Oktoberfest. Rented Grill is \$50 from Great Sauces and Rugs; the agency will deliver and set up the grill and will pick it up on Monday after Oktoberfest. Joan and Ken will bring some lawn games to include lawn darts and corn hole.

November 29, 2025, will be Hanging of the Greens. Plan is to decorate the trees for Advent and eat pizza.

November 30th is the next 5th Sunday celebration. Joan is thinking the theme will be "Pie Fest." Joan will send an email regarding the event, and she is requesting everyone send their favorite hymn so she can make a playlist.

Midweek Advent Services will be starting. There will be a Soup and Sandwich supper prior to service at 6:00pm and worship service will start at 7:00pm. Joan will start advertising in November.

Chamber of Commerce activities: Monica, Joan and Pastor will be attending a LIFT event on November 18. Austin and Joan will attend LIFT event on November 11.

Wreathes Across America: Thrivent has granted \$250 to assist with cost of wreathes and church will also have a fundraiser to assist. Joan has T-shirts for everyone. Joan wants to add Peace Lutheran to the Thrivent shirts. Joan will ask Lydia to assist with this.

Joan got another box of blessing bags worth \$250. United Way is requesting assistance with their winter shelter that is only open if temperatures drop below 32 degrees. Joan felt that we could make some blessing bags and deliver them to the United Way when they are needed or to provide to homeless in the community.

Campus ministry options discussed for Wayne Community College and possibly Mount Olive.

Sister congregations in Wilson, Kinston and Havelock have been invited to attend our Oktoberfest event.

Old Business:

Discussion held regarding reviewing the Constitution and the By-laws.

New Business:

Worship music and travel pay. Monica is requesting a break from playing so she can worship. Monica is in agreement to play the Introit. Music will be provided on the computer. Monica is not going to accept payment.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on December 7. The elections will be for Vice-President, Treasurer and Sunday School Intendent. The yearly budget will be discussed at this time as well. Congregation will also have the opportunity to review the church constitution. Pastor Shaw will ask the District to approve our amended Constitution.

Ken will have the 2026 Budget to review for next meeting.

Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00pm will be the next meeting date.

Closed meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 8:49pm