

Council Meeting: April 7, 2026

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

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

The meeting opened with a selection from Ephesians led by Pastor Shaw and then with prayer.

Minutes from the March meeting approved with corrections.

Financial Treasurer Report—Ken

Please see attached document.

Ken reported the heating bill has increased

Total expenses explained

Financial Secretary Report—Monica

Please see attached.

Monica shared total amount collected from the Noisy Collection, Easter Lillies and Lent Meals

Elder's Report—Austin

Please see attached charts.

Austin reports that the last three months have shown a record low on attendance.

There was an increase in attendance on Palm Sunday and on Easter.

Virtual Report: There was record high on March 8 on YouTube.

Virginia's son had surgery and has been added to the prayer list.

Miranda and family have recently purchased a house in Grantham. Miranda's mother-in-law is currently in town.

Pastor's Report—Pastor Shaw

Pastor Shaw visited Bill and Dot King on March 8th and 29th and completed home communion.

Pastor Shaw visited Eileen on March 26th and completed home communion.

Bible study continues to focus on the Small Catechism.

No new Baptisms

No new Members

Upcoming Plans:

Pastor Shaw will be at Resurrection on April 12, 2026.

Pastor Shaw will be working at Peace Lutheran on April 13, 2026. He will be out of town on April 14-18. He will plan to stop in Jacksonville to attend that church's 60th Anniversary celebration.

There will be a meeting with Pastor Yared on April 21st; meeting will most likely be via Zoom.

SED Regional conference will be held in Charlotte on May 2; all are welcome to attend.

May 3-5, Pastor Shaw may have to travel to Erie to assist son with belongings as school semester will be concluded.

Pastor Shaw was invited to attend the National Day of Prayer in Goldsboro on May 7th. More details to come.

The Circuit 13E gathering will be on May 12 , 2026

RLC weekend will be on May 17th.

Pastor Shaw will be travelling to New York with his mom on May 18-20th.

Peace Dates will be May 21-23.

Upcoming Liturgical Dates:

Easter 2-April 12—Service will be led by Austin and will be a non-communion service.

May 14th (Ascension)

May 17th (Easter 7)

May 24th (Pentecost) (Red)

May 31st (Trinity Sunday) (White)

June 7th starts the season of Green

TIM Report:

Growth of Programs:

No changes at this time

Outreach to Community

"Lunches at Peace" link as been changed to allow people to join without a waiting room. Pastor Shaw has not been able to monitor the last few weeks. Sharon and Marianne have been regular attendees.

We continue to contribute to the Buzz Newspaper. Pastor Shaw will adjust the next article to include the name of the church, not just Pastor's name.

Military Friendly

No new changes. Had a new visitor (Joshua) on Easter

Discussion about a possible letter writing campaign.

Points of Focus

Heritage:

No change

Mission:

No change.

Leadership:

Pastor Shaw will be working with SED on the Constitution and By-law changes. Discussion held regarding Church Property rights.

Connections:

No new updates.

Discussion held regarding possibly thinning out the tree line to increase visibility of the church from the highway.

Future:

Update regarding President Harmon's Zoom meeting discussed further with Joan's agenda

Discussion held regarding the possibility of church closure. Property rights further discussed.

Trustee's Report—Bill

Old Business:

The front of the church needs to be painted. Bill will complete.

Blinds from the office/classroom side of the church were discussed. Joey Slovensky will be installing once purchased.

The lighting for the parking lot will be installed on June 5, 2026 by Duke Energy

Additional street lighting has been requested and a work order has been generated by the City Engineering Department.

New Business:

Joan discussed power washing the church and sidewalk. Council in agreement.

Fellowship/Outreach Coordinator Report: —Joan

Fellowship:

March 29th 5th Sunday Celebration: will be provided by Janet Elton and Family

Upcoming 5th Sunday Celebrations:

May 31; August 30, November 29

Outreach Opportunities:

The Soup Kitchen will continue to be a source for donations.

LIFT group through the Chamber will have a lot of opportunities for involvement in the coming year. Next meeting is March 4 at the Chamber of Commerce.

The Single Airmen program.

Sharing space with home school co-ops and/or start-ups

Getting involved with Campus Ministries.

Joan discussed possibly collaborating with congregations in our Circuit to assist with outreach and ministry opportunities.

Old Business:

Approved changes to the Constitution have been filed.

5th Sunday Celebrations will be on 5/31: theme may be a Baby Shower/Sprinkle; August 30 and November 29

New Business:

Call process discussions continue. At this time there are 4 courses of action that can be taken: (1) Request a full-time call candidate. (2) Request a second TIM assignment, (3) consider a Dual Parrish with Kinston. Pastor Shaw feels that the Kinston church will support this idea; (4) Closure

These options will need to be presented to the Congregation. Pastor Shaw is requesting a month to work on the possibility of a Dual Parrish. Will also be working on a call list by the next meeting.

The church profile will need to be updated to be provided to those on the call list.

The Congregation will be asked if anyone would like to participate in the call process.

Pastor Shaw will discuss possibility of the Kinston Pastor to lead service at Peace a few Sundays in preparation of a possible Dual Parrish.

Council in agreement for Joan to purchase paper towel dispensers for the restrooms. They are \$20 each on Amazon.

May 7, 2026, at 7:00pm will be the next meeting date.

Closed meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 8:11pm

