

Windsor United Church of Christ Council Minutes,
September 9, 2025

Present: Dwight Mueller, Caitlin Mountford, Pastor Tammy Martens, Lori Newlun, Nancy Nader, Mat Stack, Joan Rice

1. Opening Devotional: Pastor Tammy Martens
2. Minutes of the August 19 meeting were approved as submitted.
3. Treasurer's Report: Dwight shared some figures from a draft of the Profit and Loss statement. Revenue is ahead of schedule and expenses are at or below the budgeted amount. We have reached over half of our fund-raising goal. 5th Sunday offerings have totaled over \$18,000.
4. Moderator's Report:
 - Dwight reported there was a bat in the basement. A service was called to do an assessment but their estimate was too high. The Trustees will keep an eye on the situation.
5. Pastor's Report:
 - Confirmation starts tomorrow night. There is a potential for 8-9 students. They will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.
 - At 8:45 on September 14 and 21, the adult ed class will continue "Connecting through Storytelling". In October, the focus will be on interpreting the bible. There will most likely be another option, perhaps a weeknight, for those who can't make it on Sunday morning.
 - On November 16 Rachael Bauman, Associate Conference Minister, will provide updates during the adult ed time.
 - On November 23, Manuel Raminger will meet with the adult ed class and will also preach. Manuel runs the Ethical Trading Company.
 - Tammy will be gone on October 12.
 - The topic for the 5th and 6th graders will be Justice Journey, learning about homeless youth.
 - Tammy will be attending a workshop entitled Prophetic teaching in a Plaid Parish (politically divided congregations).
 - Wonderings: how to build the 8:45 adult ed time. She is looking for a team to help.
 - The WI Conference offers grants for new ministry ideas. The grants can be up to \$5,000.
 - On September 28, there will be a 5th Sunday get-together at 8:45. Mat Stack will share the expense portion of the budget as a kick off to the Stewardship campaign. Mat will also be available after church to meet with those who are unable to be there at 8:45.
6. Music: David wasn't able to attend, but Tammy shared his report.
 - They are reviewing church phone lines and working to cut unnecessary ones.
 - The use of iPads in worship has been successful.
 - Moving to one service has shown many benefits.

- There is ongoing work to improve the website.
- This Fall, a women's choir will be formed.

7. Old Business

- Updates to the Constitution were discussed. Luann has reorganized section D. Three issues remain and were discussed:
 - o The Treasurer is currently not a voting member.

Caitlin moved that the Treasurer be made a voting member of Council. Lori seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- o The Constitution currently makes no provision for tie votes. This was discussed.

Mat moved that when a Council vote is tie, the motion will fail. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- o There was discussion on changing the Technology Ministry Team to a committee overseeing all things related to technology.

Lori moved that we change the Technology Ministry Team to a Technology Committee without representation on the Council. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- There was discussion on how proposed changes to the constitution should be shared with the congregation. It was suggested that proposed revisions should be sent out in November or early December for review before the Annual Meeting.
- The 2026 Budget was discussed. Mat shared a draft of a document with the expense side of the budget. Expense increases include: Caitlin's salary, Trustees expenses, and mortgage. Kala's salary is less than budgeted for this year.

Joan moved that we accept the proposed budget expenses as presented except for increasing the Christian Ed budget to \$2,000. Caitlin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- The Trustees are working on the mortgage application. It will be sent to Wings and Cornerstone.

8. New Business

- Constitution changes covered above.
- A letter from a member of the Congregation was discussed. The letter expressed concern about the content of the adult Sunday School class (Reading the Bible Again for the First Time by Marcus Borg). Tammy and the Executive Officers met with them and had a productive conversation.
- Other: The November Council meeting date will be changed to the 3rd Tuesday, November 18.

9. Committee Reports

- Board of Trustees: covered above

- Stewardship: Luann was unable to attend, but has shared a letter about this year's campaign for Council's review.
- Technology:
- Missions:
- Worship: They are making plans for the Fall season. There was a successful baptism and the introduction of iPads to choir members. Offering will continue to be collected during the service. They are discussing the options for increased security during services.
- Christian Education: There was a teacher meeting in August. Teachers felt well-prepared. There are 33 students registered, including 2 new children. Five 3rd graders will receive their bibles this Sunday. They have received another donation toward the cost of materials and there will be another craft day scheduled.
- Congregational Life: There are currently 218 active members. The outdoor service and the gathering at Octopi were both successful. Treats were served after the Fugere baptism and after the first day of Sunday School. There may be a meet and greet in October and Hanging of the Greens on November 30.

10. Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: October 14, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Rice