

Shepherd of the Valley and First Lutheran Churches

Joint Council Minutes

November 17, 2025 met in person

Members in attendance is listed on the attached page.

The meeting was called to order by Dan at 6:00 pm.

Pastor opened with the reading of Psalm 98.

- Presidents' updates: First Lutheran:
 1. Feed back for the congregation is all positive
 2. Hoping to see the numbers of attending people to Sunday services to grow.
 3. Planning the building of our strengths to grow together.
- Sheperd of the Valley:
 1. Ms. Dale Anderson, the new custodian, and husband were presented to the congregation on Nov. 16th.
 2. Planning for Pastor Leslie Installation on 11/30/25, annual SOTV Christmas party on 12/12/25, hanging of the greens and putting up Christmas tree on 11/29/25. Details for of these activities is in Steve's report, hanging on the kiosk.
 3. Looking forward to the Christmas service at First Lutheran and Joint Service on 12/28/25.
- Reviewed the Letter of Agreement for ministry elect Leslie Aska to serve as pastor.
- Pastor workload report – Reviewed the summary of Pastor's weekly hours and percentage of time spent at both congregations. Detailed breakdown is available but overall sense is approximately 45% at First and 55% at SOTV. Concerns expressed by Pastor, finances: impact of long-term deficit spending, SOTV mortgage expense, First % of budget used for building and Pastoral workload.
- Financial review and treasurers' updates. Treasurer, Phil Smalley, confident balance out will occur. First Lutheran expenses up slightly but not concerned at this time. A Compensation move for Pastor to start in January.
- Program year, Worship and Calendar discussion.
 1. Ash Wednesday, February 18, 26, 4:30 pm at First and 7:00 pm at SOTV. No sermon , a more prayerful service including readings, ashes, and communion.
 2. Church schedules for Simple Suppers prior to Easter is being planned.
 3. Maudy Thursday: full service at 7 pm at SOTV, at 4:30pm at First.
 4. Good Friday: SOTV strip the altar, 6:00 pm.

- New business: Important dates to remember:

1. Next single council meeting for SOTV, December 16th. at 6:30 pm.
2. Next joint council meeting to be on February 17th at SOTV, 6:00 pm

Motion to adjourn by Kevin, 2nd by Phil. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Pearson