

# Trinity Lutheran Church Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

*December 11, 2025*

### *Church Council Roster and Other Official Attendees:*

Y	Terry Bockelkamp *** (2027) <i>Secretary</i>	Y	JR Bolig (2027)	Y	Carol Howell *** (2027)	Y	Bob Klien *** (2026)
N	Bill Oehler + (2027)	Y	Todd Rehder *** (2027)	Y	Dee Smith *** (2026) <i>Vice President</i>	Y	Nelson Stauffer** (2027) <i>President</i>
	(vacancy) (2027)		(vacancy) (2027)		(vacancy) (2026)		(vacancy) (2026)
Y	Heather Klien <i>Recording Secretary</i>		*** <i>Serving a 3rd</i>		** <i>Serving 2<sup>nd</sup> term</i>		+ <i>non-voting appointment</i>

**1. OPENING PRAYER:**

The meeting was opened with prayer by Todd Rehder.

**2. RECOGNITION OF OTHER PERSONS PRESENT:**

Jim Davis of Davis, Gregory, and Kyle was present at 6:15 PM to give a short recap of the insurance policies their company could offer in comparison to Guide One Insurance. The meeting proceeded again after Mr. Davis left the building.

**3. SPECIAL DISCUSSION TOPIC FOR THE CHURCH COUNCIL:**

Todd reviewed the proposed church budget for 2026 with the church council. JR objected to the youth director receiving a salary in 2026 after having been employed as such for many years. Dee objected to dismissing any paid person at Trinity. Carol and Terry agreed. Nelson asked JR if he wanted to make a motion to continue his idea and he said he did not after he heard from the church council.

Todd and Nelson went over the agenda for the Trinity Congregational meeting set for Sunday, December 14, 2025, immediately following the 10 AM worship service.

**4. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY:**

The minutes of the Church Council from November 13, 2025, were presented by Heather Klien. The minutes were accepted as presented with a motion made by Terry and seconded by JR. All were in favor and the minutes were accepted as written.

**5. REPORT OF THE TREASURER:**

The Report of the Treasurer for November was not available as no church treasurer has been acquired at this time. Heather provided a statement of the bank and investment balances as available. Carol made a motion to accept the financial statements and Dee seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Heather stated that the Clarks Summit Volunteer Fire Department was looking for their semi-annual donation. She stated that Trinity has always given fifty dollars since she has been here. Todd made a motion to donate fifty dollars to the Clarks Summit Fire Department. Terry seconded the motion.

All were in favor and the motion carried.

Heather also stated that a Christmas card was received from Bishop Dan Seblo and staff.

Finally, Heather explained the email she received during the previous week from Thrivent's grant department stating a donation of \$15k was deposited in the general checking account. The grantor would be announced to the church within two days. Later that afternoon, the Meyers from MO. were listed as the donors. Heather told Nelson she thought the deposit was put in the wrong church's account. Upon further investigation, and after several calls to Thrivent, the deposit was indeed put into the wrong account. The funds were mailed back to Thrivent after confirming the deposit was indeed in our church's account.

## **7. REPORTS OF THE MINISTRY TEAMS:**

### **a. Worship Ministry Team:**

Todd stated that after speaking to Suzanne Bolig, the head of the Worship Committee, the December 28<sup>th</sup> worship service will have the history of Christmas hymns in lieu of a sermon.

### **b. Education Ministry Team:**

- Heather stated that the preschool had two new students register for the half-day four-year-old program.
- Heather stated she would be picking up the gift cards for the teachers next week.
- Heather said the Sunday school's "Angel Tree" project was wrapped up the week after Thanksgiving. All twenty-five gifts were accounted for and delivered.
- Heather said that she and Bob put together the downstairs Christmas tree and the kids will decorate it next week.
- Terry shared that she has been reading Christmas books to the preschool kids and she will read to the Sunday school kids before Christmas.
- The Women of Trinity will meet again on December 13<sup>th</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **c. Service and Outreach / Witness and Fellowship Ministry Team:**

- Meals on Wheels led by JR Bolig currently has nine stops. JR is working on the January Meals on Wheels volunteer schedule and he will get it to Heather soon.
- Dee stated that she and Cheri Graboski are visiting all shut-ins monthly.
- Terry stated that ten to sixteen people have been attending the weekly exercise classes for the "Fun for Seniors" program. She also shares upcoming events such as the wreath making class, silly bingo, and a potluck luncheon.
- Dee stated that the Prayer Quilt Ministry has donated 174 blessed quilts.

### **d. Support Ministry Team:**

- Peter Lewis will continue to plow the snow, remove snow from the sidewalks and salt this winter. Peter has been informed to submit his liability documents from his insurance company so Heather can submit them to the church's insurance carrier.
- Nelson will replace the fluorescent lightbulbs as needed in the preschool.
- The organ will be tuned on Dec. 15, 2025.
- Cintas did the annual fire inspection. The invoice is expected next week.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Nelson addressed the supply pastor concerns. Pastor McGettigan has agreed to serve as a supply

pastor one time a month through the first quarter of 2026. He is scheduled accordingly. Todd will continue to fill in where a supply pastor is not available. Nelson has spoken to two Other pastors who are interested in serving as supply pastors. He will get the contact info to Heather so she can reach out and schedule them as they are available.

- b. "Kids Shopping for Kids" wrapped up last week. Dee was able to have her kids shop for seventy-five children served by the Salvation Army. She received donations from members of Trinity as well as grants from six friends at Thrivent who requested grants for this purpose.
- c. (Dee has completed the Hazelton Home collection for 2025. Members of Trinity brought in items and donated them for the gift exchange at the home on Christmas morning.
- d. Dee did not have any updates on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for September of 2026.
- e. Todd updated the council on the new website creation. Cathy Sheffler has agreed to lead the large task.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS:

- Terry requested that Mindy Hill, the exercise teacher, be able to host a monthly Breast cancer survivors meeting downstairs in the gathering hall once monthly seven months a year (mid fall through late spring). Terry is a member of this group and would be at the church to set up, clean up, and lock up. Dee made a motion to allow this group to meet one time monthly on Wednesdays during the Requested months. JR seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- Terry inquired about the same teacher, Mindy Hill, hosting a yoga class for kids One time monthly, downstairs in the fellowship hall. Mindy would be charging for This class. Dee made a motion to charge the director \$50 monthly for a once-a-month class that would last one hour from 4-5 PM, day of the week to be decided. Mindy must provide the church with a copy of her liability insurance and a copy of all her clearances before she may begin teaching at the church. Mindy Hill needs to share the day of the week that the classes will take place each month. Terry must be present to lock and unlock the building. Also, Mindy Hill must care for any clearing of the walks or parking lot as needed.

JR seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried provided Mindy provides her documents.

**10. ADJOURNMENT and LORD'S PRAYER:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bob and seconded by JR. The motion carried.

The meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Klien  
December 16, 2025