

Immanuel Lutheran Church

CLT Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2026

5:30 PM

Attendance

Present: Scott Kohrs, Kelle O'Neill, Dennis Rohlfing, Matt Ruengert, Bernie Tonjes, Nick Weber
Pastors: Pastor Schmieding, Pastor Bohlmann, Pastor Taylor
Business Mgr: Erik Burgdorf
Ex-Officio: Scott Huster

Opening of Steering Committee/CLT Crossover Discussion – Scott Kohrs

- Meeting Called to Order at 5:31 p.m.

Ministry Expansion Steering Committee Update/Discussion–CLT members along with Doug Kuhlmann, Christine Foshage, Laura Meyer, Nate Droste

- Doug Kuhlmann shared many best practices he has developed over the last several campaigns along with areas that he would strengthen or do differently next time.
- Laura Meyer provided an update on her review/engagement with three outside capital campaign companies to date: LCEF, Steier Group and American Philanthropic (aka AmPhil). Expecting formal proposals soon for the steering committee to review. Insight will be shared with CLT. A fourth option for raising funds is to bring it completely in-house and could be considered.
- Laura investigated options for a feasibility study but that can take up to 6 weeks. We have already identified our top 50 donors.
- Discussion/Questions to Doug and Steering Committee Members.
- CLT endorses Steering Committee to begin to inform our broader community of the plans for the campaign.

Steward Conversation – Lutheran High School-Doug Kuhlmann/Christine Foshage

- Doug presented on LHS updated Mission, Vision and Values
- LHS priorities and metrics were shared, along with strategic goals, planned campus improvements and financial statements.
- Enrollment numbers and trends were presented. They do not plan to grow over 500 students and are pleased with current enrollments.
- Mo Scholars Program was also highlighted.

Opening of CLT Meeting – Scott Kohrs

- Approval of agenda
 - Motioned/Seconded/Approved

Devotions – Erik Burgdorf

Review and Approval of Minutes – Scott Kohrs

- Review and Approval January 19, 2026, CLT Minutes
 - Motioned/Seconded/Approved

Ministry Expansion—Scott Huster

- Campus Expansion Update:
 - No additional report.

Executive Committee- Scott Kohrs

- No Report

Policy Review, Constitution, Bylaws Committee-Dennis Rohlfing, Bernie Tonjes, Debbie Wiegmann

- Policy Manual review is on-going. They will meet with Pastor Schmieding this month. The goal is to have the manual ready for the June Voters' Meeting.

Hospitality Committee/Team Report-Kelle O'Neill/Pastor Bohlmann

- Next CLT participation date: 4/26/26 @10:45 am. We will need at least 2 greeters and 3 café workers.
- No additional report.

Business Manager Report – Erik Burgdorf—

- Review of Financial Statements ending January 31, 2026
 - We are ahead of budget more than anticipated, and in a good position at this point in the year. Designated Gifts are increasing and Stock Receipts are up. We have a verbal pledge of \$250K for campus expansion so we have plenty of funds to begin phase 1 of demolition and SITE prep.
- Facilities:
 - Roof Repairs: Atrium Skylight repair set for February 23, weather permitting.
 - Rooftop HVAC Damage: replacement units have been ordered and covered by insurance funds. Will replace as they come in.
- Other Discussion:

- Two names needed for Investment Committee
- Ministry Expansion:
 - Capital Campaign Steering Committee continues to meet.
 - Design and Engineering: Phase 1:
 - February: Jim Droste submitting petition to Landmarks Board by 2/23/26)
 - March: Permit Hearing on 3/17/26
 - Summer 2026: Demolition & SITE preparation

Senior Pastor Report-Pastor Schmieding

- He had a wonderful experience at conference in Phoenix. Over 800 attendees. It modeled incredible, effective ministry. Hospitality was a big focus.
- Ash Wednesday is in two days. Lenten Devotional books will be available. Wednesday Lenten Services will be offered at 3:45 and 6:30 along with Lenten Dinners in between.
- “March Through Matthew” is an upcoming theme. Pastor Schmieding will publish a daily email that will focus on one chapter of the book of Matthew each day of the month.
- We continue to keep our membership information updated.
- Membership Changes for January/February will be presented next month to allow Emma to get acclimated.
- We continue to be grateful for God’s blessings at Immanuel.
- Pastor Hagan continues to improve and hopes to be back at work in March. Demo will begin on the bathroom in their home this week

Additional Staff Reports

- These reports provide a great deal of Information for CLT and are very much appreciated:
 - Vicar Steingraber
 - Pastor Bohlmann
 - Pastor Taylor
 - DCE Maggie Tritten
 - Music Directors-Andrew Schempf/Dr. Rachel Hahn
 - Head of School-Scott Huster

SLMT Coordination

- CLT-SLMT Coordination Report –Nick Weber, Amber Medrano, Scott Huster
 - No meeting occurred this week due to extenuating circumstances.
 - Shared position for Strings Instructor has been proposed for Immanuel, Child of God and LHS. Cost-sharing will be proportional.

New instructor expected to be with ILS 65% of the time.

Pastoral Support Committee-Jason Becker

- No report (absent)

Youth Ministry Committee-Matt Ruengert

- Family Action Team Meetings have been happening. Matt was invited to attend and plans to be at the March meeting.

Old Business – Scott Kohrs

- Acoustic Panels for the Fellowship Hall will be here by the end of the month. Pastor Taylor is working with Kirk Thaemert, Nate Droste, and Andrew Schempf.

New Business – Scott Kohrs

- Executive Committee has taken the lead on a search committee for a new Business Manager. The search committee consists of Scott Kohrs, Pastor Schmieding, Kim Babbit, Erik Burgdorf, Carolyn Cook and Jason Becker (Chair). Three qualified candidates have submitted applications so far.
- Dennis will be leading the committee for the new slate of CLT members. The slate committee will be: Dennis Rohlfing, Pastor Bohlmann, Matt Ruengert (nominated), Amber Medrano (nominated). Possible candidates to also serve from the congregation included: Diana Meers, Debbie Boyer, Dana Thomas, Natalie Angel, Paul Niewald.
 - Rohlfing, O'Neill and Weber are terming out for CLT as of 6/30/2026. Dennis is not eligible to run again. O'Neill and Weber are to share their intent with Dennis about another term.
- CLT Nominations for Synodical Offices for LCMS: Motion on the floor to nominate the slate; Seconded; Motion carries:
 - Dr. Joel Biermann for President
 - Rev. Richard Snow for First VP
 - Rev. Scott Schmieding, Regional VP
 - Two voting members: (Pastoral Representative) Rev. Matthew Bohlmann, and (Lay Member) Neil Sandfort
- Familiarize yourself with Ministry Expansion Talking Points created by Bernie Toenjes. Scott Kohrs to continue to keep CLT informed on discussions with Steering Committee.

CLT Education– Dennis Rohlfing

- Holding up the Prophet's Hand—Spiritual Warfare and the Church worker

Closing Prayer- Erik Burgdorf

Adjournment – Scott Kohrs

- Meeting adjourned—7:58 pm.