

**Fairbanks Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2015**

In attendance: Pastor John Van Haneghan, Mark Huffington, Tom Alton, Jerry Zellmer, Mike Cook, Vanessa Jackson, Jim Lewandoski, Ruth Carson.

1. Devotions – on the history of the celebration of Christmas by Pastor John
2. Call to Order – 7:14pm.
3. Approval of Agenda – adding Boy Scout request to New Business. Move to accept. Jerry Seconds. Motion carries.
4. Approval of November Council Meeting Minutes – Vanessa moves to approve as amended, Mike Seconds. Motion Carries
5. Financial Report
 - a. Consecration Sunday Commitments
 - b. 2016 Budget (meeting’s Focus)
 - i. Much discussion about ways to lower expenses based on current giving and projections on giving indicated by consecration Sunday pledges. We are looking to cut at least \$40,000. \$80,000 is a safer number. There are not many places to cut and we were only able look at the possibility of cutting approximately \$30,000. We need to all be in prayer over the budget.
6. Pastor’s Report – handed to council.
7. Ministry Report
 - a. Property Ministry – hot water downstairs has been put in so that we can have hot water without having to have the heat on.
 - b. Constitution Ministry – no update.
 - c. Mutual Ministry – Ruth will need to meet (Vanessa will assist) with music staff prior to final budget decisions.
 - d. Stewardship Ministry suspended until January.
 - e. Education Ministry - suspended until January.
8. Old Business – suspended until January.
9. New Business
 - a. Boy Scouts would like to use 750+ square feet of meeting space once a week and 75 square feet of dedicated storage space. Jim motions to talk to the boy scouts and negotiate something. Jerry second. Motion carries.
 - b. Ministries Annual Reports Due January 10, 2016.
 - c. Cindy Olsen has resigned from the Thrivent Volunteer coordinator position. Council thanks her for her wonderful, diligent service.
10. Merry Christmas to All and to All a Good Night.
11. Adjourn – Mark motions, Ruth seconds. Adjourned at 9:10pm.
12. Closing Prayer.