



September Meeting Minutes 2025
Prepared for: Hope Strategic Planning Council
Prepared by Tuesday Williams
Date of Meeting: September 19, 2025

Members Present

Amy Cooley Higgs, Associate Pastor
Bob Benedict, President
Michael King, Director of Finance
Evan Finley, SPC Member at Large
John Davis, SPC Member at Large
Augusta Stephens, SPC Member at Large
Tuesday Williams, Recording Secretary

Members Absent

Krister Ulmanis, Interim Senior Pastor
Amy Poirier, Director of Leadership
Wally Bishop, Director of Facilities

Call to Order

The Strategic Planning Council meeting was called to order at 7:03pm

Opening Prayer

Bob Benedict

Meeting Minutes Review

- **Approval of August Meeting Minutes - August 19th, 2025**
 - **Augusta Stephens moved to approve, Evan Finley seconded**
 - **All in favor, none opposed, motion passes unanimously**

President's Report - Bob Benedict

- Executive Session - Personnel Topic
- Call Committee Update
 - Reviewing resumes now for new senior pastors
 - First interview next week - Monday 9/22/25

Senior Pastor Report - Pastor Krister Ulmanis

- Personnel Update
 - Church Business Administrator - discussed in executive session
 - Child Care Coordinator - number of hours for the position
 - 5 -10 hours allowed in the contract
 - Has been doing additional hours for office work which was not included in the actual job description
- HopeFest
 - Thank you to Brittany Caron for taking on leadership role this year
 - Event was a success and additional thank you to scouts for providing tours of the new trail
 - Summary of event provided to SPC by Brittany
 - Start planning sooner
 - Maybe preregister to get better headcount
- Book Study
 - Started Sept. 11th - morning 10:00 am and evening 7:00pm
 - *"Book By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism"*
- Worship
 - Back to regular schedule
 - Congregational Meeting Nov. 16th
 - Discussed possibly doing one service for that Sunday
- Worship Attendance - August 2025
 - 3rd: Blended: 99 on-site, 56 on-line
 - 10th: Blended: 87 on-site, 50 on-line
 - 17th: Blended: 115 on-site, 64 on-line
 - 24th: Blended: 121 on-site, 58 on-line
 - 31st: Blended: 82 on-site, 66 on-line
 - Avg: Blended: 101 on-site, 59 on-line

Financial Report - Michael King

- Finance Report for August 2025
 - Net Income - relatively poor month, red light
 - Loss of about \$17,600 when projected a loss of \$11,400
 - Year to date

- General giving down 15%
- Sitting at \$15,000 to the good currently with the Antioch gift included
- Need to do more to increase general fund giving
 - Hoping the Stewardship Campaign will bring in more before end of the year

Stewardship Report - John Davis & Evan Finley

- Reviewed document for Stewardship for All campaign
- Feedback from our coach was that we were very ambitious with our goal for the ask and our goals were not specific enough
 - Worked on refining these goals
 - Talked about the timeline for rollout of 2026 campaign
 - Discussion about brochures from other churches and what they have produced in the past
- 2025 Gift will come AFTER this push

Next Meeting

- October 21st, 2025 at 7:00pm

Closing

- Close out in Prayer
- Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm