

**St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church (SSLC)
Council Meeting | February 28, 2026 at 12:00 PM**

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Youth Rep
Neil Brown	Lucy Austin	Gail Felton	Sophie Taylor
Sarah Kolb	Kerri Brittingham	Christy Hooker	Margaret McCurdy
Stephen Lunsford	Bill Galardi	Nick Kean	
Matt Martin	Roy Windham	Bobby Martin	
Betsy McCall	Lance Young	Richard Shealy	

Executive Committee:

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer
Matt Martin	Stephen Lunsford	Sarah Kolb	Mary Keisler

Pastor: The Rev. Jason Antley, The Rev. Ralph Hill

Staff: Tonya Reynolds, Susan Wilson, Shannon Burnett

Absent: Sophie Taylor, Margaret McCurdy, Mary Keisler, Lance Young

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Pastor Jason. The council met at Camp Kinard during the annual Council Retreat.

Devotion/Prayer: Pastor Jason

Consent Agenda: January Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Neil Brown to approve the consent agenda. Bill Galardi seconded the motion. The council members unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Reports:

- a. Pastor Jason Antley
- b. Pastor Ralph Hill
- c. Shannon Burnett – Director of Family Life
- d. Julie Tworzyanski – Preschool Director
- e. Susan Wilson – Director of Music/Organist- no report
- f. Tonya Reynolds – Parish Administrator
- g. Mary Keisler– Treasurer/Finance

Election of Council Officers: Pastor Jason opened the floor for nominations of the following:

Council President- Matt Martin was nominated. Roy Windham moved to close the nominations and vote. It was unanimous to close the nominations. Council voted unanimously to make Matt Martin the President of Council.

Secretary and Treasurer- Sarah Kolb and Mary Keisler were nominated. Bobby Martin moved to close the nominations and vote. It was unanimous to close the nominations. Council voted unanimously to make Sarah Kolb the secretary and Mary Keisler the treasurer.

Vice President - Stephen Lunsford was nominated by Matt Martin and Tonya Reynolds. Neil Brown moved to close the nominations and vote. It was unanimous to close the nominations. Council voted unanimously to make Stephen Lunsford the VP of Council.

Discussion Agenda:

Old Business

- 1. Organ Task Force - Susan Wilson** – The organ task force met on January 18th. They are still in the exploratory phase of identifying the church's needs for the new instrument. Dr. Fishell has drafted a letter to be sent to potential builders. Mike Ward has been approached to consult on preparations for fundraising for the project. He will meet with the task force to better understand the needs and to get on the front lines of messaging for fundraising.
- 2. Crosswalk Update – Lance Young via email** - Lance has been in communication with Lori Campbell with SCDOT. They have met and discussed SCDOT's assistance and guidance with potential state level funding, short term safety measures that could be implemented to keep children safe at the crosswalk and recommended next steps to make this project happen.
- 3. Quorum Update – Pastor Jason** - Council has discussed changing the quorum in our church constitution. In order to change the quorum needed, it would need to be communicated 30 days advanced notice to be considered in time for the February 2027 meeting.
- 4. Parking Lot Update- Matt Martin** – The council is still moving forward with using the Park Mobile app. The council discussed: what is the goal of charging for parking and how will the parking app be implemented and enforced? The church is still in conversation with local restaurants for exclusive use of parking spots for their employees on predetermined days and times.

New Business

- 1. Pastor Ralph Request – Matt Martin** – It has been requested that the salary and housing allowance for Pastor Ralph to be updated for tax purposes. The change will be made in the spending plan and noted in the budget. This has to be voted on by council. Bill Galardi made a motion to approve and Bobby Martin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by council.
- 2. John Hyatt Request – Pastor Jason** – John Hyatt of Shotokan Karate has asked about using the SSLC gym and facilities for a multiday event for his karate business. After a brief discussion, the council denied the request.
- 3. Monthly Love Offering – Pastor Jason** – Pastor Jason asked the council to consider changing two of the monthly love offerings to support outside ministries in the Lutheran community. He proposed changing the September and May love offerings from music ministry and youth and children's ministry (which are covered currently in the church budget) to outside ministries. The motion was made to switch the love offerings for those months to Lutheran Disaster Relief and

Lutheran Retreat Centers of SC (SSLRC). Stephen Lunsford seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by council to make the change.

- 4. New Item – Council** – Summer office hours were implemented last year for the church staff and the council would like for this **to** continue annually for the church staff. Matt Martin made the motion to make the summer hours – Memorial Day through Labor Day – closing at 12:00 on Thursdays repeating annually. Stephen Lunsford seconded the motion and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

Next meeting: Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 12:30.

Matt Martin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Stephen Lunsford seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Kolb on April 9, 2026