Unofficial

ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS, WHEATON, KANSAS 66521

Voters' Meeting - Sunday, October 12, 2026

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The October 12, 2026 Voter's meeting was called to order by Chairman, Bruce Abitz, at 11:20 am. Pastor DeGiovanni led the meeting with a prayer. There were 16 members present.

James Revell moved we approve the July minutes and treasurer's report. It was seconded by Dennis Schwant and approved by voice vote.

Old Business:

Lights in Sanctuary Chairman Abitz reported bulbs had been replaced and there are additional on hand if needed.

Noise in Sound System- Chairman Abitz explained the buzzing noise in the speakers is a result of the sound system.

Handrails Chairman Abitz said this project is still planned to be completed by Lee Steinmeyer.

Organ Fund Donation Chairman Abitz told church members the anonymous donor said these funds could be used for a sound system and/or an organ.

Windows James Revell reported that he had contacted Leo Finan to review the window project. He explained each window would be $1000 per window with additional cost for trim. He was waiting for a bid, but had not received one. He said the project would be messy and it would be necessary to cut the siding, which is old and no longer available for be replaced. Chairman Abitz provided the additional bids received-

1) Pella windows (best quality)- $26,500, includes installation
2) Tall Grass- $15,000 + $12,000- $15,000 additional for installation
3) Midland- $36,000, includes installation Chairman Abitz asked for recommendations from the voters.

Some pros and cons were discussed. Some questions were asked about the use of parsonage after the pastor's retirement and tax status. Chairman Abitz said this would be addressed when the time was here. After discussion, Chairman Abitz announced a family has offered an anonymous donation to cover the cost of the window installation. Loring Kufahl made a motion to accept the family donation for installation of the Pella windows. Ireta Schwant seconded the motion. It was approved by hand vote. Chairman Abitz said it would take 10-12 weeks for installation.

New Business:

Budget- Housing Allowance Pastor has requested an increase to $5500 on the housing allowance due to increased costs. James Revell moved we increase the budget to $5500. It was seconded by Tom Kasten and approved by voice vote.

Budget-Missions Chairman Abitz explained the breakdown of the $4000 budget in current year with the additional missions going to our Youth Group. After discussion, James Revell made a motion to keep the Missions budget breakdown the same. It was seconded by Dennis Schwant and approved by voice vote.

Nominating Committee Chairman Abitz reported for the committee they are working on completing a ballot for January.

Constitution Change Pastor explained that at the Synodical Convention in July a constitutional change was made by re-writing the procedure for special meetings to be held to simplify the process. The constitution change requires congregational approval by ¾ the congregations. Lee Steinmeyer made a motion to approved the constitutional change. It was seconded by Bobby Matzke and approved by voice vote.

Reformation Sunday speaker Pastor said the circuit speaker for Reformation Sunday (October 25th this year) is supported by congregations with the suggested amount based on each congregation's weekly attendance. From our assessment, this amount would be $40. Pastor is recommending an increased amount of $75 since he did not attend the circuit meeting and these congregation funds were not used. Loring Kufahl moved the congregation contribute $75 to the speaker fund. It was seconded by James Revell and approved by voice vote.

Reports

Pastor's Report A written report was submitted.

Ladies Aid Linda Falk thanked everyone for their help with the church supper. She explained we are expecting a full refund for the chicken since we were shorted two pans of product and ran out during service. Chairman Abitz shared impressive historical information his mother, Florence Abitz, had kept from a church supper past; possibly in the 70's. 429 people were served, 80 chickens were dressed, 100# ham, 150# potatoes, 50# cabbage, etc.

Announcements

Thanksgiving Day service will be at 10am.

The Children's Christmas Program will be moved to the Sunday before Christmas, December 20th, during morning church service due to program leader, Jenny Donnelly, not being available on Christmas Eve and the small number in Sunday School.

A Candlelight Service will be held on Christmas Eve with communion. The time is to be determined.

There will be no church service on Christmas Day.

James Revell made a motion for adjournment. It was seconded by Loring Kufahl. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:56 am

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Depew,

Recording Secretary