

MN Lutheran Via de Cristo Metro Council Minutes
April 27, 2025

Director Carol Hellen called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Members Present: Carol Hellen, Brian Rath, Kirstin Gonzalez, Kim Heilmann, Jonathan Heilmann, Joe Remley, Brenda Brown, Stephanie Baeder, Steve Carlson, Suellen Dickhausen

Members Absent: all in attendance

Opening Prayer Carol Hellen

Welcome to Peggy Olivier – Ultreya chair Position

Each council member offered a brief description of their position + duration of time on council

Carol called for corrections to March Metro Council Minutes – no corrections offered. Suellen to contact Janine Schimmelman for March minutes to be posted to the MN VDC website.

Metro Council Service survey: In response to the survey to continue in Metro Council Services Wayne Mayer (Ultreya's) and Pete McCloy (Trailer Supplies) have requested to step back from council. Many thanks to Wayne and Pete for their dedication and willingness to serve VDC over the years in this way!! If you see them be sure to extend a thank you for their time and commitment!

VDC Fundraiser/Auction – Sat April 26, 2025 at LCM church in Fridley

Many thanks to Brian Rath. His detailed planning and delegating made for a successful event and to Veronica VanPelt for producing flyers/getting the information out to the public which helped promote this event. Special thanks to Paul (kitchen detail), Kate (dining room detail) and Lori Ritt (silent auction detail) along with 17 wonderful volunteers who all made this event work smoothly. Clean-up was efficient and the evening finished by 7:30pm. Many hands make light work!!

53 total folks (49 pd dinners)

\$353.31 paid to Paul for kitchen usage

\$48.65 paid to Kate for paper-ware

\$833.04 VDC cleared

\$1,263.00 raised from the silent Auction

Total amount raised for VDC: \$2,246.00

Future Consideration for next year's fundraiser/Auction: Council wants to continue this yearly event.

Brian hopes to begin looking into this to find a different church location for next year. Lori Ritt is stepping down from the silent auction chair position but has expressed interest to help on the committee next year.

Co-ed Weekend – August 14-17, 2025, Emmanuel Lutheran in Princeton

Rector: Thank you, Bob Everhart, for stepping into this role. Rector training completed Tues 4/22/25.

Leadership and full team training dates are being reviewed with anticipated training's mid-May.

Calls for leadership are underway; if anyone is interested in working Team, please contact Bob, thank you.

Co-ed Weekend – Jan/Feb 2026

Rector has been identified. Announcement to be made mid-summer, thus allowing space for Bob to recruit team for the August weekend.

Concern - scheduling team over holidays

July 1, 2025 is set target date for confirmed weekend site. Council is working to provide future weekend information prior to the August closure.

5th Sunday Out and About

The intention of these Sunday's is for VDC visibility and awareness.

The hope is to have something in May and one on the 5th Sunday in June. (March 30th was not attainable)

Carol has offered to head this up for the first one, with hope it will all come together as we move forward.

Thoughts are to connect with the church VDC 4th day community prior to the Sunday connection. Sunday may include a "3" minute announcement, song, entry way display, information handouts, visible 4th -day community.

Future Planning

- a) October 4th Day Community Gathering: Church? Break-out topics?
- b) Brian to expand calendar - anticipated VDC Calendar for 2026-2027
- c) Please let executive council know if anything needs to be added to the agenda for our next meeting.

Committee Reports

Music – Brenda Brown

North Council purchased blue song books which are available. Brenda to connect with the lead musicians with hope to make a spread sheet with typical songs used on the weekends. If requests rise for other songs, we need to verify they are CCLI OK.

Brian shared that a company in California still produces blue song books, but do not ship them. Someone would have to drive out to pick them up. It would be over five thousand dollars to purchase these books. Kim offered – we could pay for a shipping label and have UPS deliver them.

Ultreyas – Peggy Olivier

Peggy spoke with Midway church's VDC liaison, Mary Amdahl, regarding having an Ultreya the 4th or 5th Saturday in June. Peggy will reach out to liaisons of various churches to get more churches involved with hope to strengthen connections of our 4th Day communities.

Liaisons – Joe Remley

Joe will provide Peggy with a list of known liaisons. Carol stated we have about 35 at this time.

Joe has a letter ready to send out to 10 churches with hope to find/enlist 10 more liaisons.

If council members know the liaisons of their church, please send info to Joe in his email. Thank you.

Palanca – Stephanie Baeder

There have been wall Palanca requests from various parts of the world. Stephanie has sent out 18 of these.

Allocations – Kim Heilmann

No news update.

Site Selection – Jonathan Heilmann

No news update.

Trailer/Supplies - open

Pete will continue to house the trailer on his property. He will no longer assume trailer inventories or provide transporting of the trailer to/from weekend sites. Thank you, Brian, for graciously accepting responsibility to transport the trailer to/from the upcoming August weekend site.

Metro Council Positions – changeover will take effect May 1, 2025

Director: Brian Rath

Past Director: Carol Hellen

Director – Elect: Needed – Requirements: Past Rector or Rector Eligible (a good understanding of what happens on Team and weekends) Brian is actively in search for someone to step into this position.

Thank you, Carol, for your services as our Council Director. We appreciate what you have done for us – keeping us on track and honoring our time.

Carol would like to thank you all for showing up and partaking in this. We are a TEAM, not any one person carries the load!

Next Metro Council zoom Meeting: May 18th (3th Sunday) evening at 7pm. Watch for a zoom link from either Carol or Brian.

Motion to adjourn at 7:47pm

Closing Prayer – Brian Rath