

LWVMC General Membership Meeting January 20, 2026, 11:30 am
Faith Lutheran Church and Zoon Minutes

Present In Person: Sue U., Amy D., Lynda L., Peggy M., Sandy M., Lauren U., Patti B., Carolyn M., Randy L., Karen H., Arlene A., Mark T., Nancy S., Lynn B., Karen R., Kim D., Steve D., Francesca R., Tom V., Connie S., Toni D., Stephanie S., Lynn N., Sandy N., Eileen P., visitor Megan McKenzie
Present on Line: Terri P., Cheryl W., Dee Ann K.P., Diane F., Steve H., Carole B., Esther R., Diane M., Linda W.

Amy called the meeting to order at 11:32 am.

Members introduced themselves.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the December 16, 2025, General Membership Meeting were approved.

Leadership Team. Amy reported on a meeting with LWVWA Presidents, led by Karen Crowley, President of the LWVWA. There are 2900 members in the state. The National Convention is in June, 2026, in Columbus, Ohio, and will focus on democracy and voting rights. A questions came up from the membership on League action to take people to the drop boxes to submit ballots. There is no statewide League effort, but it is permissible to take people as citizens.

Dee Ann reported on the follow up to the concern raised at the November General Membership Meeting regarding a donation from LWV Mason County to a political candidate.

The PDC Website showed a contribution of \$250 to a candidate for Shelton City Council. The sister of the candidate (who was involved in the campaign) was contacted and she said she was not aware of this.

Dee Ann filed a complaint with the PDC. The PDC contacted the candidate directly and he said this was an error. The contribution was not from the LWV Mason County. He corrected it on the PDC Website. Dee Ann also reported the outcome to Karen Crowley, LWVWA President.

The Washington League Council will be June 6 and 7, 2026, at the SPSCC Lacey Campus. Members need to register to attend.

Treasurer's Report. Patti B. reported healthy balances in the checking account, education fund, and CD. All members received the Treasurer's report in an email. Balances as of 12/31/25: Checking \$9635.36, CD \$1184.79, Education Fund \$7631.52, Total \$18.452. 67.

The Boot was passed to collect contributions to Faith Lutheran Church for the \$100 meeting space donation.

Member Services. Lynn B. reported the next League 101 training Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at the Shelton Timberland Library.

Voter Services. Dee Ann reported the kick off meeting is set for January 26, 2026, Zoom at 10am.

Eileen reported a visit to Mary M. Knight High School Civics Class of Todd Plaisance.

Advocacy. Amy reported Lobby Week is January 26 to 29, 2026, at 6:30 to 7:30 pm. The Legislative Session began January 12, 2026. The Legislative Newsletter is sent Sunday evenings with recommendations to support League bills. The League is attempting to set up meetings with the 35th LD Representatives Travis Couture and Dan Griffey and Senator Drew MacEwen. Lynda named some bills in particular interest to the environment: Bottle Bill, SB 5502 and HB 1607, League's position is PRO. CON on SB 5906.

Programs. Kim D. is organizing the February General Membership on Immigrant Support. The May 19, 2026, meeting will be on Censorship. Amy sought ideas for March and April. Peggy J. will reach out to Sheriff Ryan Spurling about the Sheriff's Bill.

Storytelling Update. Peggy M. reported the next focus will be on the Growth Management Act of Mason County and the originators on the team.

Observer Corps. Peggy M. has completed the directory of all public meetings in Mason County. The list is available on the Website. Initial focus in on PUD 1 and 3 and the Port of Shelton, but observer corps members can choose any group to follow. Members should fill out the observer corps form to collect experiences. Randy reported two openings on the Mason County Planning Commission. Amy announced a LWVWA Zoom training on persuading people January 20, 2026, at 6:30 pm.

Study on the Economic Health of Mason County Update study will be postponed.

Amy adjourned the business meeting at 12:05 pm.

First speaker was Steve Duenkel, Mason County Auditor. He presented the Verified Voter Project which will be implemented at the April 28, 2026, Special Election. This is in response to RCW 29A.40.111. Instead of verifying votes by signature, this pilot would require a driver's license or state ID number and date of birth. It is 100% voluntary. The data collection is by the county and the Secretary of State. He provided written information to members.

Second speaker was David Lund, Criminal Justice Specialist, from the Washington Secretary of State. He shared how Civics Education helps people returning from incarceration reconnect with and engage in their communities. There was a change in Washington voting laws in 2022,

opening up voting options for the incarcerated. He appreciates the League book "The State We're In." He would appreciate a partnership with the League.

Amy adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Perfrement

Secretary