St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, October 19, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

- **Devotions & God Sightings** led Karen Rozeske
- **Meeting called to order** by Tyler Kroschel
- **Members Present:** Zella Oswald, Karen Rozeske, Jaime Fraley, Chris Timmons, Andy Stoyke, and via zoom Pastor Dale Stiles and Dale Brainard. Not present, Chris Clark.
- **Consent Agenda**
    - Agenda approved by Andy Stoyke and seconded by Zella Oswald. Motion carried.
    - Finance & Budget Reports: Chris Timmons shared this month's reports

As of September 30th, 2021	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	$136,471.00
Total Revenue	$168,709.34
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	$129,773.85
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	$177,725.85
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	$ -9,016.51
Mortgage Balance	$324,404.87
Edward Jones Balance	$43,628.67

- **Pastor's Report**:
    - 9/22 - Funeral at Mattson's Funeral Home (Ronald Ridge)
    - 10/3 - Our Global Mission Team hosted and we welcomed Tanzanian Pastors Msigwa and Nixon to our church for the morning worship and fellowship after.
    - 10/7 - Met with Jan Taylor and Dale Brainard to talk about Martha's Servers and Funeral procedures
    - 10/15 - Wedding for Lynn McCauley and Perry Peterson

- 10/18 - Began serving a three-year term as a member of the SPAS Iringa Committee
- weekly confirmation prep and meeting
- weekly adult Bible Study prep and meeting
- weekly sermon prep and worship planning
- weekly office administration, meeting and planning with Melissa
- conversations with SPLC Covid Response Team to determine evolving safe practices/procedures
- pastoral care and counseling
- baptism and pre-marital counseling
- calling on/visiting homebound members of SPLC
- continued planning for annual Stewardship appeal to kick-off 10/31 with commitment Sunday scheduled for 11/21
- discussing with other area ELCA congregations about partnering together to bring youth to the National Youth Gathering in Mpls next Summer. There is currently little or no interest in most of our local congregations. We will plan a joint congregational NYG information/interest meeting for any parents/youth who want to find out more. Stay tuned. Joanna K. asked if I would take the lead in coordinating/planning this.
- New office carpet install (Home Depot) will take place 10/25. All funds (above and beyond general fund giving) for this project were donated by members of SPLC. Thank you!

- **Children's Ministry**
  - four youth registered for S.P.L.A.S.H. We meet Sunday evenings in the youth room. Focusing on learning about Jesus. Students also spend a day each month creating puppet videos for Sunday School.
  - Confirmation meets on Wednesday nights in youth room. Studying themes of New Testament.
  - We have a handful of kids who are interested in going on a mission trip and/or attending the national youth gathering this summer. However, the trips closer to MN have very few openings left, and likely not enough for the number of kids we have going. The Covid team decided we should not do the craft retreat fundraiser at this time. We had already decided that the turkey bingo was not a safe option. With the fundraisers being limited and locations filling up, Brandy Timmons and I have suggested that we take our losses with YouthWorks and set up local mission opportunities next summer that will allow more kids to attend and not require the fundraising. I have asked Pastor Dale to take on the coordinating for the national youth gathering. He has been trying to coordinate with other area churches to pool resources.

- We will need to decide soon if we are going to do a drive through Nativity again this year.

- **Sunday School Ministry**
  - Have completed 5 SS lessons so far--Noah, Eve, Abraham, Jacob, and Joseph. Lessons start with a taunting video from Dr. H. embedded with clues about that week's biblical figure. The kids then solve clues to discover which artifacts are in the story. The lesson then ends with a mission from Commander Z. to thwart Dr. H.'s plans. The kids have enjoyed getting to be detectives and solve the riddles. Attendance has ranged from 5-10.

- **Visitation Ministry**
  - Cindy Gruett gave communion to Barb Hastings
  - Cindy called Roger Harmes & checked up on him
  - Zella talked with Dan Jaeb

- **Old Business**
  - COVID 19 Team Update - Working on moving worship inside more often as weather permits and best practices for serving communion for all in a safe manner.
  - Retreat Goals Review- Build on and increase local service opportunities- work on a mission of the month, and offer temple talks regarding the selected mission. We are also working on promoting intergenerational/congregational growth opportunities beginning with a church family campfire on Friday, Oct 29. Shared ministry experiences fits with our reaching out to other congregations to work on National Youth gathering. These are four goals that we are currently working on.
  - Preschool Update: Lakes Area Discovery Center (LADC) Board of Directors meets on November 9. We will know more about if we will be able to partner with them, after that meeting. This scenario would include a partnership with Faith Lutheran in Forest Lake. (this is another of the goals from council retreat).
  - ELCA Churchwide Grant: The Synod informed us that we were approved for a $20K grant from ELCA churchwide. This is a grant we were expecting when hiring Pastor Dale as a full-time, experienced pastor. We are grateful!
  - Nominating Committee: Tyler, Zella, Karen, and Jaime will volunteer to work on this committee. Four open positions will need to be filled in 2022: President and three members-at-large. We are looking for current active and engaged members who feel led by the Spirit to serve in this way. If interested please contact Pr. Dale or one of the Nominating Committee members.

- **New Business**
  - Second Annual Drive-Through Christmas Story Experience - The Council approved offering this opportunity again for a second year. Joanna and Tyler Kroschel will coordinate and will be reaching out to people for volunteering opportunities regarding this event.

    - Preliminary 2022 Budget and Pledges - Need to get pledge cards for Commitment Sunday on Nov 21st. Pr. Dale will talk to Melissa Nelson and Chris Timmons about this. Budget will remain very close to previous year, may need to increase for heating costs and city franchise fees.

- **Next Meeting** - Tuesday, November 16, 6:30 p.m. Devotions led by Chris Clark
- **Adjourn and Pray** - Karen R. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dale B. seconded the motion. Motion carried.