



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 6:30 pm**

- **Devotions & God Sightings**
- **Meeting Called to Order** by Tyler K.
- **Members Present:** Pastor Dale Stiles, Zella Oswald, Jaime Fraley, Tyler Kroschel, Chris Clark, and Karen Rozeske and via zoom Dale Brainard. Not present: Chris Timmons and Andy Stoyke
- **Consent Agenda:** Agenda approved by Zella Oswald and seconded by Karen Rozeske . Motion carried.
- **Finance and Budget Report:** No report. Chris T. not present

<b>As of January 9, 2022</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
General Fund Offering	\$184,508
Total Revenue	\$230,205
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$183,549
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	\$247,485
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	\$ -17,280
Mortgage Balance	\$307,067
Edward Jones Balance	\$49,447

**Pastor's Report:**

In summary, the last month has been busy with planning and leading Advent Sunday and Midweek, and Christmas services. Additionally Melissa and I have been working hard on compiling information for and preparing the Annual Congregational Written Report to have ready for the Annual Congregational Meeting. I want to thank Team Leaders for getting their written reports in as quickly as they did. It helped a lot! Also, I've been working on a deficit reduction campaign idea that will be shared with the Council and hopefully be approved and ready to introduce at the Annual Congregational Meeting. Adult Bible study has resumed on Wednesdays and we are studying the basics of the Lutheran faith, entitled Lutheranism 101. Confirmation was set to resume again on January 12, but due to some positive COVID cases among our class and other scheduling conflicts we canceled and will resume on January 19

instead. These things have consumed most of my time in recent weeks, however I continue with on-going pastoral care needs as they arise, including mostly phone visits and occasional in-person visits. I'm wary of the omicron variant which has limited some of my face-to-face visits. Speaking of omicron, the COVID Response Team has not met as the safety mitigation practices that we have had in place still are sufficient for protecting us from omicron. We continue to mask while in the building and during worship, while still being able to sit safely distanced in the sanctuary. Our average worship attendance is 55 which is a manageable number of people for safe social distancing. We continue to monitor the pandemic as days/weeks go by. I'll be gone this coming Sunday, January 23 for a gymnastics meet in Las Vegas. Pastor Marla Amborn, recently retired from Immanuel Lutheran in Almelund, will be leading and preaching that day. Kathie Marabella will be assisting. I want to thank again all of the amazing volunteers who continue to step up to get things done. From worship/communion assistants to members of the visitation team. From Altar Guild and to all who helped decorate and take down decorations for Christmas and Advent. Indoors and outdoors, our people are so good at tending to the needs of our congregation. I appreciate you all! I am now moving into planning mode for Lent and Easter and will have more to say about that next month. I'm thankful for each of our outgoing council members and look forward to working with a new council beginning in February. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. - Pr. Dale

**Children's Ministry:**

Sunday school has met once since Christmas break. SPLASH met once as well. Confirmation has not met as there have been kids out with Covid and other activities. They will hopefully begin again this week. I've been reading through some free VBS curriculum to determine if we should go that route or continue with the GROUP programming that we've been using. I also sent out a survey to the St. Paul Lutheran families to determine which week we should have VBS this summer. I've gotten replies from about half of the families so far. The annual plant sale fundraiser date has been set for Saturday, May 7. -Joanna Kroschel

**COVID Response Team:**

The COVID Response Team has not met recently and has nothing new to report. We have not met as we feel our current and ongoing safety mitigation practices that have been in place since October, continue to be sufficient even in light of the surging omicron variant. We continue to mask while in the building including during worship and sit socially distant still. Our average worship attendance is 55 which allows for safe social distancing in our sanctuary space. We continue to encourage hand sanitizing/washing and staying home if not feeling well. Hymnals and pre-sealed communion kits continue to be available for those who wish to use them. Our current communion serving practice will continue indefinitely. Thank you again for your patience, understanding, and grace.

### **Old Business:**

- **COVID 19 Team Update** - Please see the updated meeting notes and we are continuing our current practices.
- **ELCA Strategic Ministry Grant Funds** - We received a letter from the ELCA that the church will receive a check for \$13,333.36 as grant money that will be dispersed between Feb. and Sept. of 2022.

### **New Business:**

- **Blood Drive update**, still waiting to hear a final day that we can schedule the blood drive.
- **Annual Meeting Assignments:** Zella O. and Karen R. will be doing member check in and counting of votes. Andy S. will do set up of tables. Chris C. and Chris T. will do sound and technology. Tyler K. will do the agenda and president's report. Jaime F. will do the meeting minutes. Karen R. will confirm the quorum of voting which is 5% of active membership. Chris T. will do the finance report and budget presentation. Pastor Dale will have the new church council member biographies and pastor's report. We will need to send a link out in ReFresh and ReNews for the meeting for people who would prefer to join the meeting online.
- **Deficit Reduction Fundraiser** - "Above and Beyond" will be introduced as New Business at Annual Mtg.
- **New Members Received** - Tom and Yvonne Hendrickson, Linda Welch, Wendy Krona, and Pastor Dales Stiles. Zella O. made a motion to approve and Tyler K. seconded. Motion approved.
- **Out-going Members of Church Council Recognized** - Tyler Kroschel, Chris Clark, and Andy Stoyke

### **Next Meeting**

- Date & Time: Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m.
- Devotions: Zella Oswald

**Adjourn & Pray:** Chris C. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen R. seconded the motion. Motion carried.