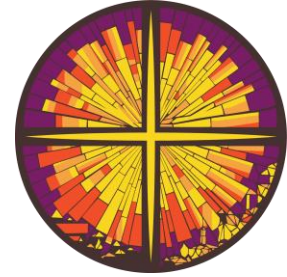


# St. Paul Lutheran Church

## Church Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 6:00 p.m.



**Social Time** - 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Devotions** - Christina

**Call to Order** – Christina called to order at 6:15

**Roll Call – Present:** Christina Fashner, Pastor Dale Stiles, Pastor Carrie Stiles, Bruce Spangler, Jamie Hyrkas, Kimberly Bahls, Steve Greseth, Thomas Stoyke, Chris Timmons. **Absent:** Carole England

**Consent Agenda** – Christina motioned, Bruce seconded

### Affirmations

- Music program participants
- Pastor Dale and Carrie, for the very natural and authentic feel during services and in all interactions
- Deb Cowing on all the meals she has done for the Table!
- Cleaners for December through February- Domonique and Jeff Palmer, Bruce and Nancy Spangler, Emily Stegner, the Stoyke family, Linda Welch, Fritz Wheatley
- Myron for leading the grounds and grace group
- All the grounds and grace group members
- Katie Edwards for leading Souper Bowl Sunday

### Treasurer’s Report

<b>Through 1/31/2026</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>General Fund Offering</b>	<b>\$19,391</b>
<b>Total Revenue*</b>	<b>\$23,535</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$25,410</b>
<b>Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)</b>	<b>-\$1,875</b>
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Edward Jones Balance</b>	<b>\$61,563</b>

### Pastor’s Reports (Attached)

### New Business

- **Acknowledgement & Welcome of Incoming Council Members** - *Bruce Spangler and Jamie Hyrkas*
- **Assign Council Members as Liaisons** to Committees and Teams
  - Humble Bees – Pastor Dale and Carrie
  - Alter Guild – Chris Timmons
  - Building and Grounds – Steve and Jamie
- **Report on February 14 Synod Conference Assembly** - Pastors, Christina, Kimberly
  - Started the process of electing a Bishop. 10 candidates were put forward.
- **Select a Council Spring Planning Retreat date** (have your calendars ready!)
  - Meeting was scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>. Jamie to look into possible hosting.
- **April 26<sup>th</sup> is the celebration of the mortgage payoff and release from redevelopment**

### **Action Items** *(Per our May 2025 planning retreat.)*

- Select new action items aligned with the 2025 strategic ministry and mission goals.

### **Ongoing Business**

- **Line of Credit UPDATE.** Following congregational approval on August 10, 2025, the Council has authority to utilize a line of credit of up to \$50,000 for routine monthly expenses only and as needed. \$30,000 has been drawn to date. The Council continues to monitor and manage this line of credit carefully. Treasurer Andy Buccanero and Chris Timmons will provide monthly updates on any activity, balances, and interest to ensure transparency and accountability. Chris and Andy will provide an update at this meeting regarding whether any additional funds have been drawn, and if so, in what amount, as well as how much has been paid back. The line of credit will continue to be accessed only when needed.
  - **No principal has been paid on the LoC at this point. We have paid \$106.88 in interest.**
- **Church Property Vision Team – Update.** The Church Property Vision Team remains in a holding pattern until Spring 2026.

**Ministry Team Reports** - The following individual reports will not be reviewed. Council members are encouraged to review the Pastor's reports and/or reach out to the respective liaisons for any questions or additional information regarding what's happening within them.

- **Creation Care Team** (Pr. Carrie)
- **Worship & Music** (Pr. Dale/Pr. Carrie)
- **Building & Grounds/Grounds & Grace** (Steve G./Jamie)
- **West of 55 Senior Group** (Carole E.)
  - Bingo was a big hit. Many white elephant gifts were shared.
- **Safety Response Team** (Pr. Dale/Bruce)
  - Work started on emergency policies and procedures.
- **Humble Bees** (Pastor Dale and Carrie)
- **Children, Youth, and Family** (Pr. Carrie/Christina F./Thomas S.)
  - Pastor Carrie created Lenten activity bags for families with children.
  - Mailed packages to college students (Harper and Christina)
- **Altar Guild** (Chris T.)
- **Congregational Care** (Kimberly)
- **Hospitality** (Christina)

### **Next Meeting**

- **Tuesday, March 17**
- **Devotions:** Kimberly to do devotions

### **Adjournment**

- Christina made a motion to adjourn, Jamie seconded at 7:32pm

### **Lord's Prayer**

## Pastor Dale Stiles Report – Monthly Highlights, January/February 2026

### Recent Highlights:

- **Sunday, January 25** - Annual Congregational Mtg & Potluck - ran very smoothly, thanks to preparation of Church Council and all who helped with the potluck.
- **Saturday, January 31** - Sue Heffele Funeral
- **Thursday Lament & Hope** gatherings - completed four of these weekly opportunities.
- **February 8** - Souper Bowl Sunday (Food Shelf Drive) - We met/exceeded our goal! Thanks, everyone!
- **February 8** - Guest Pastor, Emily Rova-Hegener (Carrie and Dale at Conference Diving Championship in IN.)
- **February 13** - Discovery Center Grandparent & Special Friend Day/Valentine Party
- **February 14** - Synod Conference Assembly, Christ the King New Brighton - 6 voting delegates attended. Thanks!
- **February 15** - ENGAGE: Lutherans! Cross & Resurrection - Great attendance and participation. These services continue to be well received by many.
- *It has been a challenging month for Pastor Carrie and me as we have sought to faithfully respond to the ongoing injustices, acts of violence, and attacks affecting our immigrant neighbors. We have been discerning how best to address these realities in light of our Christian faith and our commitments within the ELCA, while also creating space for prayer, conversation, and pastoral care for members of our congregation who are especially impacted or struggling.*

### Looking Ahead:

- **Ash Wednesday, February 18** - Worship with Imposition of Ashes
- **Lenten Midweek Soup Suppers and Services** - begin February 25
- **Vacation** - March 9-14 (Tobie's National Diving Championships in Evansville, IN)

### Ongoing Ministry:

- **Weekly & Monthly Groups/Teams:**
  - *H.E.A.L. Grief Group*
  - *Vocal Choir*
  - *Grounds & Grace Men's Group*
  - *Church Safety Response Team*
- **Church Maintenance** – Coordinating needed repairs and facility upkeep, especially related to LADC ● **LADC Chapel**
- **Social Media** – Regular updates and announcements
- **Worship Leadership** – Weekly worship planning and music coordination
- **Sermon Preparation** - weekly (when preaching) consideration of preaching texts, commentaries, and current events.
- **Pastoral Care** – Home, hospital, and crisis visits; counseling and support
- **Redevelopment Pastors Gathering**

## **Pastor Carrie's Monthly Report - February 17, 2025**

### Appreciation-

- Deb Cowing on all the meals she has done for the Table!
- Cleaners for December through February- Domonique and Jeff Palmer, Bruce and Nancy Spangler, Emily Stegner, the Stoyke family, Linda Welch, Fritz Wheatley

### Highlights

- Lenten planning-for worship, devotional book, mentors, and family Lenten Kits
- Leading prayer stations at family march/event and then praying with people in vigil following Alex Peretti's death
- Grandparent's Day with toddlers from the preschool
- Lament and Hope evenings

### Ongoing

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- Worship planning
- Wild Faith and Wild Explorers
- Spiritual Direction group meetings
- The Synod Prayer Team
- Cleaning organization
- Confirmation Mentors
- Chapel with the preschool
- Stewardship for All Seasons
- Youth Retreat on March 27-28
- Beginning to plan Vacation Bible School
- Women's Retreat in April
- Easter Hop- event for kids with LADC families and staff on April 4