St. Paul Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 15, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

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

Devotions – Jamie – A reflection on James 1:19 encouraging to listen, to be patient, and to offer grace when/as needed. Thank you, Jamie!

Call to Order & Roll Call – Matt R. and Kimberly B. not present.

Consent Agenda - Any New Business Items to add to agenda? Jamie's proposal to modify portions of the Church Constitution. Chris and Bruce moved to consent to agenda

Affirmations – Jamie for his work on prayer wall. Attendees at the Mission Support dinner. Volunteer church cleaners. Chris and Andrew organizing fantasy football. Humble Bees ongoing contributions to college scholarships from quilt raffles.

Treasurer's Report

Through 8/31/2026	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	$159,405
Total Revenue	$202,395
Total Expenses	$191,859
Net Revenue	$10,536
Edward Jones Balance	$69,720

Pastor's Reports

Pastor Dale's Report – Monthly Highlights, August/September 2026

Recent Highlights:

- **Eliza Garding baptism** - August 23
- **Synod Mission Support Dinner** - August 24 - SPLC was recognized for completion of Redevelopment.
- **Last Outdoor Worship and Blessing of the Animals** - August 30
- **Discovery Center Partnership Meeting** - September 2
- **Executive Committee Meeting** - September 3
- **John Peterson Funeral** - September 9
- **Rally Sunday** - September 13
- **Bishop Justin Grimm Installation** - September 13

Looking Ahead

- **The Table RESET begins** - September 16

- **Stagecoach Days Booth** - September 19
- **ENGAGE: Symbols of Faith** (Luther's Rose) - September 20
- **Steven Greseth baptism** - September 20
- **Time & Talent Fest** - September 20
- **Nora Jo Stiles baptism** - September 27
- **2026 Fall Stewardship Campaign** - October 25 - November 22
- **Fall Fest & Chili Cook-Off** - October 28

Ongoing Ministry:

- **Weekly & Monthly Groups/Teams:**
    - *Monthly H.E.A.L. (**H**ope and **E**ncouragement **A**fter **L**oss) Grief Group - five regular attendees*
    - *Vocal Choir (starts up again on September 27)*
    - *Grounds & Grace Men's Group (starts up again on September 26)*
    - *Church Safety Response Team (on hold)*
- **Church Maintenance** – Coordinating needed repairs and facility upkeep, especially related to LADC
- **LADC Chapel** - off for the summer
- **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

Pastor Carrie's Monthly Report - September 15, 2026

Appreciation-

- All the help with the games on Rally Sunday and handing out ice cream.
- Tyler and Joanna Kroschel and Christina and Andrew Fashner who represented us so well at the Mission Support Dinner.
- Bruce and Nancy Spangler and Connie Bahnemann and Tony who cleaned all summer long.

Highlights

- Mission Support dinner and getting to tell our story
- Preaching at Wapo Boat-in Worship on Sunday, August 23
- Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, August 30
- Installation of Justin Grimm as St. Paul Area Synod on September 13

Ongoing/Upcoming

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- Spiritual Direction group meetings
- The Synod Prayer Team
- Synod Fall Theological Retreat Planning
- Cleaning organization
- Reimaging The Table and Faith formation for children and youth-confirmation, Wild Faith, Wild Explorers, Splash
- Joyful Noise-new children's choir starting in September
- Leading Woman's Bible Study Overview on September 19
- Baptisms of Steven Greseth and Nora Stiles in September

New Business

- Jamie presented an example of how to **amend Church Constitution to meet evolving committee/team structure of the congregation.** No changes are proposed at this time. Will continue to discuss at future meetings.
- **Receiving of Andy Buccannero's Letter of Resignation as Council Treasurer** - The Council formally received and filed the written resignation of Andy Buccannero as Church Council Treasurer. Andy's resignation had previously been accepted, and the Treasurer position has since been filled. No further action is needed.
- **2027 Annual Operating Budget** - The Executive Committee met on Thursday, September 3, to begin drafting the congregation's 2027 Annual Operating Budget. Chris T. presented an initial draft of the proposed budget to the Church Council for review, feedback, and consideration. The Executive Committee is in favor of the initial draft and recommends that the council review it as the starting point for further discussion and development of the 2027 budget.

Ongoing Business

- **Church Check Signer Updates** - Chris T. informed us that all requested changes to the church's authorized check signers at the bank have been approved and are now in effect. Chris Timmons is no longer an authorized signer of church checks. Moving forward, the authorized check signers will be the Church Council President and Vice President. The current authorized signers are **Christina Fashner**, President, and **Carole England**, Vice President.
- **Line of Credit Repayment Plan** - The Executive Committee met on Thursday, September 3, to discuss a repayment plan for the church's Line of Credit. After discussion, the committee agreed to budget $1,500 for Line of Credit interest payments in the 2027 budget. For the time being, principal payments in 2027 will be made using special designated gifts received for the Line of Credit. To provide an additional opportunity for members to support repayment of the Line of Credit, a designated giving option for the Line of Credit will be included on VANCO as well as on the 2027 Annual Giving Commitment Cards.

Action Items - Review the following three action items from our renewed Strategic Ministry and Mission Goals:

1. **Expanding Fellowship and Congregational Life:** Christina F. has continued to publicize the opportunity for occasional hobby and skill-sharing workshops designed to strengthen relationships and encourage members to share their gifts and interests with one another. **To date, three members have volunteered to lead workshops: Chris Timmons** on jam making, **Myron Carpenter** on automobile maintenance, and **Darla Peterson** on making rosettes. The team will now **begin scheduling these skill-sharing sessions** and will continue encouraging additional participants and workshop leaders.
2. **Hospitality and Congregational Care:** Christina F. has continued coordinating the congregation's participation at **Wyoming Stagecoach Days on September 19.** The congregation now has enough volunteers to staff the church booth, and Christina has been working on the display and booth setup. Pastor Dale has ordered a full-color tablecloth featuring the church logo and name from Rapid Press in Forest Lake. The tablecloth will be available for use at multiple church and community events throughout the year. Christina has also been collecting donated items to use as prize giveaways at the booth. **In addition, Christina presented a proposal** on behalf of the Hospitality Team **for establishing a formal Welcome Center in the church narthex.** The proposal is brought to the council for consideration

as the team continues its work of strengthening hospitality and helping members and visitors feel welcome and connected.

3. **Stewardship and Long-Term Sustainability:** Carole E. and the organizing team, Arlie Post and Brandy Timmons, continue to promote the Time & Talent Fair following worship on September 20. Information has been shared with church committee, team, and group leaders, and the team is hopeful for a strong response and participation from the congregation. Brandy T. created a beautiful bulletin board promoting the event.

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/Jamie) – Jamie has some retaining wall block to donate to the church to possibly be used around the pollinator garden.
- **West of 55 Senior Group** (Carole E.) - Carole has events planned throughout the fall including mini-golf at the Taylors Falls Drive-In and White Elephant Bingo.
- **Safety Response Team** (Pr. Dale/Bruce)
- **Humble Bees** (Pr. Dale/Pr. Carrie) – will begin their Fall Quilt Raffle on October 18
- **Children, Youth, and Family** (Pr. Carrie/Christina F./Thomas S.)
- **Altar Guild** (Chris T.)
- **Congregational Care** (Kimberly)
- **Hospitality** (Christina)

Next Meeting

- **Tuesday, October 20**
- Devotions: Bruce

Adjournment & Lord's Prayer- Jamie to adjourn. Carole second