



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 29, 2023**

Gathered at 6:00 p.m. for Social Time

6:30 p.m. Devotion – led by Linda Welch. Shared thoughts on tithing and how God wants us to have a prosperous mind. Based on 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

6:42 p.m. Meeting Called to Order by President, Deb Cowing.

Members Present: Deb Cowing, Chris Timmons, Marc Marabella, Karen Rozeske, Kathy Mills, Kristina Stoyke, Linda Welch, Ruth Koehly, Pastor Carrie Stiles, Pastor Dale Stiles. **Members Absent:** Carole England

Consent Agenda:

- No new business added to agenda. Karen R. made a motion to accept Consent Agenda. Chris T. seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report:

Through 8/29/2023	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$ 154,681
Total Revenue	\$ 222,831
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$ 156,875
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	\$ 199,499
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	\$ 23,332
Mortgage Balance	\$ 216,844
Edward Jones Balance	\$ 40,999

Pastor Dale’s Report:

Highlights

- Annabel Lendt funeral - July 22
- July Picnic/Potluck Bible Study - July 26
- Guest Preacher, Lucas Byl - July 30
- Dignity for Daughters presentation at St. Stephen’s Lutheran, WBL - August 2
- Vacation - August 5-15. Thankful for Pr. Greg Wilcox filling in 8/6 and 8/13
- Iringa Committee Mtg - Aug. 21

- Met with Planning Committee for Synodical Women's Convention. Will be held at SPLC 4/27/24
- New Photo Directory Meeting - August 22
- Carrie's Ordination - August 25

Upcoming and Planning For

- Rally Sunday planning (including "Bridging the Gap" theme and matching appeal intro.)
- Stewardship Sunday - 11/12
- Commitment Sunday - 11/19
- "ENGAGE: Worship" monthly themes beginning 9/24
- Kick-Off of Faith Formation again on 9/13

Ongoing

- Pastoral Care and Counseling (including baptism orientations and funeral prep.)
- LADC monthly partnership and quarterly Board mtgs.
- Bega Kwa Bega Iringa Committee and Secondary Scholarship Committee meetings
- Attention to minor building maintenance needs and cleaning

Pastor Carrie's Report

Highlights

- Meet with Joanna and Pam to plan the "Kids Table" Faith Formation for preschool and elementary students
- Dignity for Daughters presentation - August 2
- Vacation - August 5-15. Thankful for time with family
- August Picnic/Potluck Bible Study - August 16
- Carrie's Ordination - August 25
- Playground- researching, securing funds, developing structure and expectations

Ongoing

- Preaching and Pastoral Care

Upcoming and Planning For

- Rally Sunday planning – Kathy M. said she'd look into free apples to hand out from Sunrise Apple Orchard. Linda W. will look into getting Dairy Queen coupons for free ice cream.
- Kick-off of The Table on September 13
- Contacting high school students and planning a gathering
- Attend Stewardship Kaleidoscope- September 25-27
- "ENGAGE: Worship" monthly themes- for intergenerational learning
- Installation with Pastor Justin Grimm preaching- October 22
- Looking at Milestones- first one will be Preschool and 3rd Grade Bible- October 29

Ministry Team Reports

- **Worship & Music:** Weekly planning (via email) with Jeanne, Kim and the worship team. One more outdoor worship (9/3), “Prayground” to be moved closer to front of church beginning Rally Sunday (will include a special blessing), “ENGAGE: Worship” monthly series to begin 9/24, Thank you to all involved in setting us for and leading outdoor worship this Summer.
- **Building & Grounds:** Marc M. and Pr. Dale removed wooden mailboxes from wall outside of sanctuary (was no longer used), removed TV from Toddler room and moved bulletin board to South wall per Miss Steffy’s request. TV will be hung in Sunday School room. Waste Management installed lock on garbage dumpster per our request. Marc M. has been stocking maintenance room with needed tools. AC unit for Music room was repaired by Andy N. and Marc M. Drinking fountain in preschool hallway has been turned on and adjusted, per teacher’s request.
- **Humble Bees:** Karen R. reported that they are making “Scrappy Quilts” to be given away as needed. They also made and presented to Carrie at her ordination a beautiful quilt.
- **Global Mission Team:** On hold until fall. TZ mission trip group filling out travel forms and preparing to purchase airline tickets.
- **Children, youth, and Family:** See Pr. Carrie’s report. In addition, Kristina S. reported that Carrie and she have talked about gathering the Sr. High youth together this Fall to evaluate what they want to do and begin making plans.
- **Altar Guild:** Karen R. reported that she and other continuing altar guild members have been training in some new members. Also, Brandy T. has notified Altar Guild that moving forward those assigned to Altar Guild on Sunday will also assist with serving Communion (Pr. Dale, Pr. Carrie, Worship Assistant, Altar Guild member). They also worked a lot on Carrie’s Ordination service, getting all the red paraments and decorations out.
- **Finance Team:** Chris T. and Pr. Dale reported that they met on 8/22 for an update. Next month FT and CC will begin 2024 budgeting talks.
- **The Table** – Pr. Carrie, Pr. Dale, and Deb C. reported that The Table will resume again on 9/13. The schedule will remain the same as last year except the Kid’s Table participants will end a half hour earlier (7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m.) as last year it got late for them. Pr. Carrie is working on making sure we have a crew to clean up after the meal each Wednesday night. Please let her know if you are willing to help in this way.

New Business

- **Solar Panels installed in our unused green space South of parking lot.** This was brought to our attention by Dave Haselbauer. Council agrees that Solar Panels for the church is a good idea and worth looking into but wants to table it until we have both our Church Land Exploration Task Force and Creation Care Team in place this fall to discuss and brainstorm.
- **2024 Budget Preparation** – begins next month. Just giving Council heads up to be thinking ahead about any suggested budget needs or changes.
- **Congregational Meeting Online Voting Option/Plan?** Deb C. was made aware of this by some other churches in our Synod who had been emailing about different Bylaw/Constitutional amendments/additions needed. If it’s something we feel we need to offer as a new norm moving

forward we will need to consider new constitutional/bylaw verbage prior to Annual Mtg in January. Tabled for now, but encouraged to think about it.

Ongoing Business

- **Bridge the Gap Appeal Discussion and Final Planning.** Four goals of the appeal were discussed. Bridge the Gap Sunday themes were discussed. Language and Goals were finalized and approved for distribution (brochure) on Rally Sunday, September 10
- **Church Land Exploration Task Force** tabled until next meeting. Tom Miller agreed to be involved with this group.
- **Church Sign Exploration Task Force** (look into grants and/or other opportunities) LADC willing to help cover the cost. Task Force will convene this fall. Will look for members to serve on it. Let Pr. Dale know if interested.
- **ELCA Strategic Ministry Covenant/Goals, Hopes & Dreams** – Karen R. made a motion to approve the goals. Chris T. seconded. Motion passed. Goals will be sent in to Synod and ELCA Churchwide Division for Domestic Mission as part of our redevelopment requirements. Updated goals will be put on our website and in ReFresh and ReNews.
- **Church Cleaning Plan/Update/Evaluation** – It's working. Will continue as is throughout the remainder of the Fall and will revisit at Annual Meeting in January. Have heard no complaints about cleanliness of church. Thanks to all who have helped!
- **Vision for Shared Pastoral Ministry Update**
 - Pr. Carrie's Installation – October 22. Pr. Justin Grimm preaching.
- **LADC Discovery Center (Preschool) update** – Fall Enrollment is looking good! We are currently 83% full capacity in our preschool. Last year at time we were 68% full. That's a 22% increase in enrollment in only one year! Due to enrollment growth they have added three more teachers.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, September 19, 6:30 p.m.
- Devotions: Pastor Carrie

Adjournment: Ruth Koehly made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Marc Marabella. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Pastor Dale (in Secretary Carole England's absence)