



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Gathered at 5:30 p.m. for Social Time

Called to Order at 6:03 by Vice President, Karen Rozeske

Devotions: Led by Christina F. Based on Psalm 42 and how it has spoken to her in the midst of her and her family's grief and depression following Brian's passing. It is one of many lament psalms which speaks of desperation and defeat in the midst of our longing for the peace and presence of God. She concluded with a prayer. Thank you, Christina!

Present: Christina Fashner, Kimberly Bahls, Karen Rozeske, Linda Welch, Kristina Stoyke, Pr. Carrie, & Pr. Dale

Absent: Andy Buccanerro, Deb Cowing, Chris Timmons, & Carole England

Consent Agenda:

- Motion to accept Consent Agenda: Motion made by Christina F., Seconded by Linda W. Motion carried.

Affirmations:

- Melissa Nelson in the Church Office for her unwavering efficiency, dedication, and the bright smile and joy she consistently brings to her role. Thank you, Melissa!
- Deb Cowing and Alex (Mrs. Steffy's son) for painting the new Kinderstart room. It looks great!
- We are grateful to Dave Haselbauer and Marc Marabella for their ongoing dedication to our church property and grounds, including the installation of the new dishwasher and parking lot weed control, and to Jerry Nelson for his work on fixing the parking lot light timer.
- Zella Oswald for weeding the flower beds around the Discovery Center entrance. Thank you, Zella!
- Brandy Timmons for decorating and updating the bulletin boards in the narthex. They look fresh and great! Thank you, Brandy!
- Matt Rauner and Christina Fashner for their work on repairing the walls and painting the new youth room and Kid's Table room.
- Melissa Nelson, Kathie Marabella, and guest pastors who all covered worship and office needs while Pr. Carrie and Pr. Dale were traveling (TZ and Vacation).

Treasurer's Report: As of the end of July our bottom line is -\$18,496.74. If that trend were to continue, we will end the year \$31k in the red. The budget we approved at the annual meeting had us \$21k in the red. We have money in emergency savings to cover the \$21k shortfall. If we end the year with a 31k shortfall we will need to pull funds from our Building and Grounds fund to cover expenses. The difference is due to lower giving received in the Summer months than we needed in order to make our budgeted revenue. At the end of July overall general fund giving was \$11.6k below budget. The annualized number we report in the bulletin was considerably lower at the end of July (-\$22k). Typically, giving increases in the Fall again as members catch up in their giving. We hope and expect this to be the case again this Fall.

Through 07/31/2024	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$ 123,397
Total Revenue	\$ 163,009
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$ 144,219
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	\$ 181,515
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	-\$ 18,506
Mortgage Balance	\$ 164,839
Edward Jones Balance	\$ 46,866

Pastor Dale's Monthly Report

Highlights Include:

- July 13 - Don Juelich funeral
- July 17-31 - Tanzania Trip
- August 5 - Tanzania Sunday
- August 10-17 - Family vacation

Upcoming:

- September 8 - Blessing of the Backpacks
- September 15 - Bridge the Gap and Rally Sunday and Fun Family 5K
- September 18 - Fall Programming (The Table and Wednesday Adult Bible Study resumes)

Ongoing:

- Working on getting three new church sign designs/bids (Twin City Sign, DeMars Sign, ThinkDigital)
- Working on getting Youth Room space prepped and ready for LADC to move in. Created new youth space in two Sunday School rooms.
- Coordinating church maintenance repairs/needs when/as needed.
- Social Media updates and announcements
- Weekly worship and music planning
- Pastoral care and counseling (includes visiting homebound/hospitalized)
- Synodical Committees (Iringa and BKB Post Secondary Scholarship)

Pastor Carrie's Monthly Report

Appreciation

- Matt Rauner and Christina Fashner for their work on the new Youth Room and Kid's Table Room.
- Melissa Nelson, Kathy Marabella...all those who covered things at church when we were gone
- Matt Rauner (and his crew) for painting the water stains on the sanctuary ceiling above the altar.

Highlights

- Tanzania Trip and the service following Sunday
- Vacation- We went with extended family to Yellowstone and

Ongoing

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- HEAL group-has been on hold this month
- Spiritual Direction group-meet once at the beginning of August

Upcoming and Planning For

- Planning for The Table and theme-SHAPED by God's Promises
- Planning for the 5K
- Touching base with families about fall and the 5K
- The Table meals planning
- Revisiting cleaning with three month rotation
- Thinking a once a month ministry for families of Pre-K
- Possible book discussion for the fall?

New Business:

- **Finalize and approve new church sign design and set congregational meeting.** The final sign design is from BMS Signs and Printing in Blaine. The final price is \$23K. LADC has already paid half. Community Business funding invitations for the church portion will be sent out by Pr. Dale. The Fun Family 5K will also bring in funds for the church portion of the funding. A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, September 22, immediately following worship for the purpose of showing the design, explaining the church portion funding, and sharing the amount committed and remaining. An invitation will then be made for church members to contribute towards the funding. Funds can also be used from our Building and Grounds Fund. The congregational meeting will be announced in print and verbally at least two weeks prior to the meeting date of September 22. An image of the final design will be included in the printing and digital (ReFresh & ReNews) announcements.
- **The Table meal planning.** Holly Maeckelbergh has informed us that she will be unable to plan and prepare meals for The Table during September and October. Pr. Carrie will talk to Holly and coordinate meal planning for those six weeks.

Action Items:

- **5K action (COMPLETED):**
 - Deb C. and Carole E. will handle registration.
 - Deb C. and Pr. Carrie will plan the route. They plan to walk it on Aug. 21.
 - Pr. Dale has designed a t-shirt graphic. Pr. Carrie is working on getting shirt sizes and ordering.
 - Kimberly B., Christina F. and Karen R. will provide snacks and water (bananas and gummy bears)
 - Melissa N., Christina F. and Pr. Dale are working on advertising and promotion. Posters are available for church members to take and hang up throughout the community.
- **Hospitality (ONGOING)** – Christina F. and Linda W. are talking about this. Christina has created a draft of a half page flyer and business cards for church members to hand out to friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc. A QR code will be include on these materials for people to access quickly our website

and contact info. Christina will be added to our church premium Canva account so she can work on design options.

- **Painting of the new youth rooms (ONGOING):** Christina F. and Matt Rauner have painted the new youth room and Kid's Table room. Christina will be coordinating the painting of a new mural in the Kid's Table room that will include input from the children. Thank you, Christina!
- **Painting of the new LADC room (Kinderstart) (COMPLETED):** Deb C. and Mrs. Steffy's son, Alex, painted the new Kinderstart room. Thank you!
- **Speakers to be put in the narthex (ONGOING):** For any worshippers needing to step out of the sanctuary during worship and/or for overflow worship seating as needed. Chris Timmons will look into this action item. NO REPORT.
- **Reimagining the current Cry Room (ONGOING)** in the sanctuary into a Prayer Room (for Prayer Team use, weekly individual meditative prayer space and pastoral prayer/counseling space, etc) Kimberly Bahls and Carole England will be looking into this action item beginning in the Fall. NO REPORT.

Ongoing Business:

- **Bridge the Gap UPDATE:** There are 3 more Bridge the Gap Sundays. The next one is September 15. \$23,000 has come in to date. We are well on pace to complete this match (and more!) by September 2025.
- **LADC Discovery Center (Preschool) UPDATE:** Enrollment is at 84% full. New metal lockers will be installed (LADC expense) in the preschool hallway to meet a new state licensing code.
- **Church Sign UPDATE:** (See New Business above)
- **Church cleaning UPDATE:** Our cleaning volunteer, Beth F., has had to take a leave due to a shoulder injury. Pr. Carrie will be inviting church members to sign up again for another three month cleaning rotation.

Ministry Team Reports:

- **Creation Care Team** (Kristina) – Meetings will resume in September.
- **Worship & Music** (Pr. Dale/Pr. Carrie) - covered in Pastor's report
- **Building & Grounds** (Pr. Dale) – New dishwasher is being installed by Dave H. and Marc. M. A permit is being applied for to make sure install meets state licensing requirements per LADC's needs. Dave H. sprayed the weeds in the parking lot. Jerry N. repaired the timers on the parking lot lights.
- **Senior Group** (Carole E.) – Seven attended the Rockin' Hollywoods concert at Harmony In The Park in Lindstrom on August 7. Next event is Wednesday, September 18 – Lunch and Laughter including Jeopardy Game.
- **Humble Bees** (Karen) – Will resume meeting in September.
- **Children, Youth, and Family** (Pr. Carrie/Kristina/Christina) - covered in Pr. Carrie's report
- **Altar Guild** (Kimberly) - No report
- **Finance Team** (Chris/Andy) - No report

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, September 17, 6:00 p.m.
- Devotions: Kimberly Bahls

Adjournment 7:31 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Kimberly Bahls and seconded by Kristina Stoyke. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Pastor Carrie and Pastor Dale (in the absence of Secretary, Carole England)