



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 19, 2023**

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

**6:30 p.m. Devotions** - led by Pastor Carrie. Thoughts and discussion on Genesis 32:9-13, 22-30. Struggling with God and how God changes us.

**6:50 p.m. Meeting Called to Order** by President, Deb Cowing.

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

**Consent Agenda:**

- New Business added: Deb asked question about Council member term limits and endings of present council member's terms per the church's constitution.
- Karen Rozeske made the motion to accept Consent Agenda. Ruth Koehly seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- No report due to Chris's absence (quarantined with COVID)

**Pastor Dale's Report:**

**Highlights:**

- Rally Sunday, September 10 - Kick off of Bridge the Gap. Great energy. Great worship attendance. Much positive interest in BTG appeal and celebration. The Congregational art project also received well. Very good participation. Thanks to all involved in planning.
- LADC Partnership Meeting, September 14 - All is going well. Enrollment is up to 87% full for this fall and program year. They are looking into expanding the playground to wrap around the Southeast corner of the building. They have a preschool parent who has offered to professionally excavate pro bono for us! Nothing decided yet, but in the works. We are going to begin nightly cleaning of the preschool bathrooms. Their staff has been doing it. They should not be as it is not part of their responsibilities. Typically the hosting site provides the cleaning. Volunteers will be lined up to do this.
- Tanzania Mission Trip UPDATE - working currently on booking flights. Waiting to hear back from the travel agent about the possibility of getting a group rate. Still sixteen members participating!
- Pr. Carrie and I attended the Lutheran Social Service Gala and Celebration of Changing Lives on September 16. We gave a donation on behalf of St. Paul Lutheran.
- Christina Fashner's baptism - September 17
- The Table kicked off on September 13. Great turnout. Great food. Great energy.

**Upcoming:**

- Budget planning
- Bishop's Theological Convention, Brainard - October 15-17
- Pr. Carrie's Installation - Sunday, October 22 (Pr. Justin Grimm preaching)
- Stewardship Sunday - November 12 (stewardship letter and commitment cards mailed Out week of 10/29.
- Commitment Sunday - November 19 Ongoing:

**Ongoing:**

- Weekly worship and music planning
- Pastoral care and counseling
- Synodical Committees (Iringa and BKB Post Secondary Scholarship)

## Pastor Carrie's Report:

### **Highlights:**

- Rally Day Art project-thanks to Lucy Stoyke for all her help
- Playground-kick-off
- First night of The Table
- Met with Janet and Lily from preschool and begin to plan partner events

### **Ongoing:**

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- Preparing for Table curriculum

### **Upcoming and Planning For:**

- Table service project
- High School students on Wednesday night- Bible Journaling
- Attend Stewardship Kaleidoscope- September 25-27
- "ENGAGE: Worship" monthly themes- for intergenerational learning
- Installation with Pastor Justin Grimm preaching- October 22
- Harvest Festival with LADC- October 26. Watch for more info.
- Looking at Milestones- first one will be Preschool and 3rd Grade Bible - October 29

### **New Business**

- Initial 2024 Budget Discussion tabled until Chris T. can attend
- Term limits question: Per our Constitution: *C11.03. No elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.* More than two consecutive terms are allowed but NOT IN THE SAME OFFICE. Current Council Members term ending dates: **Terms ending in January 2024:** Ruth Koehly - Member at Large, Marc Marabella - Member at Large, Kathy Mills - Member at Large, Chris Timmons – Treasurer, Carole England – Secretary, Karen Rozeske - Vice President. Everyone is eligible to serve another two year term if they'd like (*Except Chris, This is his second term for Treasurer. He could re-up for another term in another position.*) **Terms continuing through January 2025:** Deb Cowing – President, Linda Welch - Member at Large, Kristina Stoyke - Member at Large.

### **Ongoing Business**

- **Church Sign Exploration Task Force:** (Look into grants and/or other opportunities) LADC is willing to help cover the cost. Linda W. will make contact with someone she knows for information on signs. Possibly previous members of this committee will share information they might have and/or volunteer to help on this Task Force. Once ideas and suggestions and cost estimates are established they will come to the Council with recommendations.
- **Church Land Exploration Task Force:** Tom Miller and Neil Gatzow and Marc Marabella and Tyler Kroschel were named and might be interested in serving on this task force. Once research is finished, and ideas and suggestions are established they will come to the Council with recommendations.
- **Creation Care Team:** Pastor Carrie, Chris and Kim Clark will lead up this team. Looking into environmental stewardship, such as recycling, solar panels, plastic and Styrofoam usage and much more. Once ideas and suggestions are established they will come to the Council with recommendations.  
**A motion to approve** the formation of the three new teams was made by Deb Cowing. Seconded by Karen Rozeske. Motion approved. There will be a Bulletin announcement to seek interest in these teams.
- **Church Cleaning Plan/Update/Evaluation:** The basic cleaning plan is working with no expressed concerns. In January we may look at another plan to pay someone for basic cleaning and small maintenance. Pastor Dale has been working on this and has ideas.
- **Bridge the Gap Matching Fund Update:** as of today, 9/19, donations received are \$1,650.00
- **ELCA Strategic Ministry Covenant/Goals, Hopes & Dreams:** Everything we are doing accomplishes something listed on our Strategic Ministry and Mission Goal, Hopes & Dreams list.
- **LADC Discovery Center (Preschool) Update:** Discussed in Pastor Dale's Report.

## **Ministry Team Reports**

- **Worship & Music (Pr. Dale/Pr. Carrie)** - Pr. Carrie's Installation 10/22, ENGAGE: Worship 9/24
- **Building & Grounds (Marc Marabella/Pr. Dale)** - Mounted two flat screen TVs to rolling stands and replaced Narthex TV with larger TV from preschool room. Adjusted drinking fountain in preschool hallway. Brandy Timmons polished brass posts in Narthex. Cleaned out Sunday School room to be used for Kid's Table. Andy Norwig repaired the thermostat connection in the Music Room (No AC - Now working!) Thanks, Andy!
- **Humble Bees (Karen Rosezke)** - made baptismal quilt for Christina Fashner 9/17. They are working on a quilt to be auctioned.
- **Global Mission Team (Ruth Koehly/Pr. Dale)** - On hold indefinitely at this point
- **Children, Youth, and Family (Pr. Carrie/Kristina Stoyke)** - The Table resumed 9/13. Sr. High program discussion of doing Bible Journaling on Wednesday evenings.
- **Altar Guild (Karen Rozeske)** - Working with the new people and some are ready to do the work by themselves.
- **Finance Team (Chris Timmons)** - No Report
- **The Table (Pr. Carrie/Pr. Dale)** - Resumed last Wednesday, 9/13. "Tell Your Story: Of God's World in Community" is the theme. Meal Prep, Serving, and Clean up went very smoothly. Thanks to all engaged in this ministry. Last week there were 48 in attendance with a \$155 donation.

### **Next Meeting:**

- Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.
- Devotions: Carole England

**Adjournment:** Deb Cowing made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Karen Rozeske. Motion passed.

### **Closed with the Lord's Prayer**

Submitted by Carole England, Church Council Secretary