



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 17, 2024**

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

Called to Order at 6:10 p.m. by President, Deb Cowing

Devotions: Led by Pastor Carrie. Pastor Carrie took the group through a prayer activity leading us to a relaxed stage of mind by the water with our feet feeling the warm sand between our toes. After doing a breathing exercise we were led to make a circle around ourselves and keep what is important and needed by us individually inside the circle. Outside the circle we put all the unneeded things in our lives.

Present: Andy Buccanerro, Deb Cowing, Chris Timmons, Carole England, Christina Fashner, Karen Rozeske, Linda Welch, Kristina Stoyke, Pr. Carrie, and Pr. Dale

Absent: Kimberly Bahls

Consent Agenda:

- New Business added -The boy scouts are requesting consideration and approval to build a shed next to the existing church shed.
- Motion to accept Consent Agenda made by Karen Rozeske, Seconded by Christina Fashner. Motion carried.

Affirmations:

- Pastor Carrie and Pastor Dale for all the work they did on the first annual Family Fun 5K.
- A thank you to all those who helped to make the Family Fun 5K so successful - both volunteers and participants
- Thank you to Matt Rauner and Christina Fashner for painting the new Kid’s Table and Youth Rooms.

Treasurer’s Report: Chris T. and Treasurer Andy B., continue to work together to transition Andy fully over to Treasurer.

Through 08/31/2024	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	\$160,026
Edward Jones Balance	\$46,866

Pastor Dale's Monthly Report:

Highlights Include:

- August 21 - LADC Board Mtg (Zoom)
- August 29 - Discovery Center Open House
- September 1 - Last Outdoor Service of the Summer
- September 2 - First Day of Preschool (coffee and donuts for parents)
- September 7 - Miah Rae Fessenden baptism (offsite)
- September 8 - Blessing of the Backpacks
- September 10 - Exec. Comm. Mtg - Year-to-Date 2024 budget discussion
- LADC Quarterly Partnership Mtg - September 12
- September 15 - Lucas Robert Hendrickson baptism
- September 15 - Rally Day and Family Fun 5K!

Upcoming:

- September 22 - Congregational Mtg (Church Sign)
- September 28 - Wild Faith for Littles (Pr. Carrie)
- September 29 - ENGAGE Worship - The Creeds
- September 29 - New five-week Book Study begins
- October 13 - New Member Reception (potentially seven new members - four family units)
- October 15 - 22 - Vacation

Ongoing:

- Generating interest in and donations for our new church sign (letters/phone calls/visits)
- Visiting with potential new members
- Coordinating church maintenance repairs/needs when/as needed (especially as relates to Discovery Center)
- 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)
- North Conference Rostered Leaders Gathering (monthly) - Next month the meeting will be here at St. Paul Lutheran Church

Pastor Carrie's Monthly Report:

Appreciation-

- All who helped make the 5k so successful- both volunteers and participants
- Matt Rauner and Christina Fashner for painting the new Kid's Table and Youth Room

Highlights

- The 5K
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- Last Outdoor worships

Ongoing

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- The Table and learning for all ages
- HEAL group was on hold and will start up again on 2nd and 4th Thursdays

- Spiritual Direction group meeting once a month
- Organizing meals for The Table
- Organizing cleaning for preschool bathrooms and church cleaning

Upcoming and Planning For

- Visitor and New Member Outreach
- Planning book study “I think you are wrong (but I am listening)” by Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers
- Wild Faith for Littles begins on Saturday, September 28 (1 ½ hours, 9:00-10:30)
- Begin planning for Mission Trip-summer 2025
- Fall start up for Creation Care Team in October
- Begin planning for Advent

New Business:

- **Discussion of the new sign** and the Congregational meeting on Sunday September 22. The preschool has given \$11,000 toward the sign with the congregation responsible for the remainder amount. Our portion is \$12,000. We have received \$7,950 from members, visitors and the profit of the 5K. This leaves \$4,050 remaining balance as of 9/17/24.
- **The Executive Committee** is working on year-to-date 2024 and preliminary 2025 budget planning and will bring recommendations to October 8 Council Mtg.
- **Discussion of the Boy Scout’s proposed new shed** on the church property. More information will be needed on the size and location of the shed. Chris Timmons will look into the insurance of the shed. Further discussion tabled until October 8 Council Mtg.

Action Item Follow-Up

- **Family Fun 5K** was a success with 77 participants and profit of \$1650. For an activity being done a first time everything went great and probably nothing would be changed when this is done again.
- **Hospitality** - Christina F. and Linda W. A poster has been created to be displayed in the church and around the community. Business cards are designed and will be printed off site. These can be used by anyone in the congregation that would like to carry them and hand out to friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc. Christina has been added to the church premium Canva account so she can work on design options. A welcome packet was started but decided to wait until a group of at least 5 members can attend the Faithful Innovation Program offered by Luther Seminary in May 2025.
- **Painting of the new Youth Room and The Kid’s Table Room** has been painted by Matt R. and Christina F. Christina is also looking into a new mural or a tree painted up onto the ceiling with little tea lights on it in the Kid’s Table Room including input from the children.
- **The new LADC room (Kinderstart)** has been painted by Deb C. and Mrs. Steffy’s son, Alex. The room is complete and ready to use. Enrollment for that room was not enough in time for Fall, so for now room is being used by teachers for breakout time and nap time.
- **Chris Timmons was looking into speakers in the narthex** so anyone who stepped out of the worship service can also hear it in the narthex. There is a concern of an echo and those in the sanctuary would hear that sound from the narthex. Instead it was suggested to put a computer in the Library and the facebook stream could be played on the library TV. This will hopefully begin Sunday September 22.
- **Reimagining the current Cry Room in the sanctuary into a prayer Room** (for the 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. Tabled.
- **Chris Timmons will look into the Insurance** of a potential shed for the Boy Scouts.

Ongoing Business:

- **Review new SPLC Strategic Ministry and Mission Goals.** Tabled until next month.
- **Bridge the Gap UPDATE** - \$25,518 has been received, 85%. Discussion of continuing Bridge the Gap if matching funds are received sooner than completion of BTG appeal in September 2025. Discussion also about next emphasis/appeal be to pay down the mortgage sooner.
- **LADC Discovery Center (Preschool) Update:** 79.8% full as of date. One opening that if filled would give the church a Partnership Enrollment Bonus of an extra \$2,500 a year. New church sign will help with boosting enrollment. Ongoing social media marketing also boosts enrollment. Spread the word!

Ministry Team Reports:

- **Creation Care Team (Kristina):** Looking into a pollinator grant for spring planting of a church pollinator garden.
- **Worship & Music (Pr. Dale & Pr. Carrie):** Switching back to Apostles' Creed and to ELW Setting Four beginning September 22.
- **Building & Grounds: (Pr. Dale):** LADC is planning an upgrade to the Toddler playground at a cost of \$25,000. LADC covers this cost. There is a tree in the playground that needs to be taken down. Will check with church members to see if there are any contacts or recommendation of tree removal companies. The gutters on the southside of the building above the playground have now been cleaned. (Pr. Carrie) We are back to volunteer cleaners. Pastor Carrie has the next 3 months filled.
- **Senior Group: (Carole E.):** The final 4 months of the year are planned for once a month activity. September: Pastor Dale's Birthday and Jeopardy, October: a trip to the Apple Orchard with pie back at the church, November: a progressive lunch combined with an abbreviated bible study, December: Pastor Carrie's Birthday along with Christmas Trivia.
- **Humble Bees (Karen):** They are working on a quilt for another raffle in November
- **Children, Youth, and Family (Pr. Carrie/ Kristina/ Christina):** No report, see Pr. Carrie's report.
- **Altar Guild (Kimberly):** Pat Miska will soon be completing her service on the Altar Guild. We are grateful for her and her service to SPLC in this way.
- **Finance Team (Chris/Andy):** No report, see the Treasurer's report

Next Meeting:

October 8, 6:00 p.m. (Note date change)

Devotions: Carole England

Adjournment 7:30 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Deb Cowing and seconded by Christina Fashner. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Carole England, Council Secretary