



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Minutes
January 17, 2023**

Called to Order by Zella Oswald at 6:40 pm

Members present: Chris Timmons, Carole England (Zoom), Deb Cowing, Karen Rozeske (Zoom), Kathy Mills (Zoom), Pastor Dale, Ruth Koehly (phone), Zella Oswald

Members absent: Adam Tilly, Dale Brainard

Consent Agenda (needs a motion to approve and a second)

- Deb Cowing made the motion to approve, Karen Rozeske seconded.

New business items added to the agenda.

- Zella added The Lions Spring breakfast/ Spring Fling
 - Council approved to get this event on the calendar in May 2023.

Treasurer's Report: (See Annual Report). Reached Year End giving goal and Above and Beyond.

Pastor's Report:

Highlights Include:

- Advent/Christmas Services
- Midweek Soup Suppers/Holden Evening Vespers Children's Christmas Program
- Arne Rudenick Funeral
- Annual Meeting/Report preparations (Including Vision for Shared Pastoral Ministry)
- Worship/Sermon planning and preparation
- Jeanne Richard's return to accompaniment

Ongoing:

- Pastoral care and counseling
- Sunday/Wednesday worship planning/prep Weekly
- Wednesday Bible study planning/prep

Looking ahead:

- Planning for Lent (begins 2/22)
- Planning for new Church Council upcoming Spring Retreat

Committee Reports

Children's Ministry: Submitted by Joanna Kroschel Date of last meeting 1/16/23

Members Present: Chris Clark

- The Youth education continues Wednesday evenings in conjunction with The Table. The number of "Sunday School" aged kids range from 3-10 per week. SPLASH numbers range from 1-3 per week. Confirmation and SPLASH classes are being joined together while Carrie Stiles is in Tanzania.
- Joanna has ordered VBS curriculum and is working with Lily from the Preschool for this summer. VBS will probably be a week in July, during the day.

Old Business:

- St. Paul Lutheran Discovery Center update by Pastor Dale
 - The enrollment has now maxed out for the teacher to student ratio. More staff would need to be hired to increase the preschool size. Good progress!
 - Looking ahead to Wednesday February 15th at 5:30 the Preschool will Partner with the Intergenerational Table to make sandwiches and give them to the Sandwich Program in the cities. All are invited to help with this project.
- ELCA Strategic Ministry Covenant/Goals, Hopes & Dreams Discussion is tabled until the new council has been elected to evaluate the old goals and add new goals.
- Our contract with RISE cleaning group was ended on Friday, January 13, 2023. (See December 16 email Council meeting minutes). A cleaning spreadsheet will be made available for sign up to help do the weekly cleaning. So far, Zella Oswald and Steve England have offered to help clean. Pr. Dale and Melissa are also willing to spot clean as needed. The need for volunteers will be lifted at the Annual Meeting and in upcoming worship bulletin announcements.

New Business:

Paid time off discussion for Melissa Nelson

- The council proposed 2 weeks paid time off which is 48 hours of PTO.
 - Zella Oswald made the motion to accept this proposal. Deb Cowing seconded the motion. Council approved.

Annual Meeting Preparations:

- This will be a hybrid meeting. Chris T. will send out a link for those that will be attending virtually.
- Per past Annual Meeting practices, the Executive Committee will be seated in front of the congregation. The other council members will sit towards the front of the church.
- Kathy M. and Ruth K. will be signing people in using a list of names of voting members as they enter the sanctuary to make sure we have a quorum. Confirmed members only, can vote.
- Handling the AV part of the meeting will be Chris Clark and Tyler Kroschel.

Three items to be voted on are:

1. Vision of Shared Ministry
 2. Proposed Budget
 3. Elections of new Council Members and Synod Assembly Delegates
- A Quorum is necessary for the voting, which is 5% of our voting membership, according to the Church Constitution. There are currently 115 voting members.
 - Once the Annual Meeting is adjourned Pastor Dale will give a table prayer before the potluck.

Shared Pastoral Ministry Position

- The proposal will be presented as laid out in the Annual Report.
- Once approved, we notify the Synod. Bishop Lull and Assistant to the Bishop, Justin Grimm, are in favor and supportive of our proposal, and have guided us in crafting it. It can be targeted search, meaning we can request Carrie Stiles as our pastor candidate. Per the Synod's guidance, at this time, the targeted candidate (Carrie) cannot be named in printed publications, but can be named verbally in public. Once she graduates in May and is approved for ordination and is assigned to St. Paul Area Synod, we can then begin an expedited and abbreviated call process. At that time the Council will need to update our most recent Ministry Site Profile and appoint a Call Committee of six members (per our church constitution). Carrie would then be formally interviewed.
- The funds for this position for the second half of 2023 (\$15K) will be covered with the reallocation of the RISE funds, youth mission funds, Synod redevelopment funds and an expected increase in giving as our congregation grows. Looking ahead to 2024 we can expect at least another \$10K of redevelopment funds from the Synod and perhaps another giving appeal similar to Above & Beyond, if needed.
- Looking ahead, this position will be good for the church to grow, especially families with children in the education and focus on Youth Ministry.

Church Council is encouraged to go to the Conference Assembly and Synod Tool Kit for Congregational Leaders on February 25, 2023, 8:00 to 2:45 at Shepherd of the Valley, Apple Valley. Cost is \$20 per person, includes lunch.

Next Meeting: February 21, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

Devotions: Deb Cowing

Thank you to our outgoing council members. A job well done.

Adjournment: Karen R. made the motion to adjourn and Kathy M. seconded it. Approved by Council.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer