



**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

- **Devotions & God Sightings** led by Pastor Dale
- **Meeting called to order** by Tyler Kroschel
- **Members present** - Pastor Dale Stiles, Zella Oswald, Jaime Fraley, Chris Timmons, Andy Stoyke, Tyler Kroschel, and Dale Brainard (via Zoom). **Not present:** Chris Clark and Karen Rozeske
- **Consent Agenda**
Agenda approved by Zella Oswald and seconded by Andy Stoyke. Motion carried.
- **Finance and Budget Report:** Chris Timmons

As of October 31st, 2021	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$147,909.00
Total Revenue	\$185,396.84
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$158,467.69
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	\$211,747.69
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	\$ 26,929.15
Mortgage Balance	\$320,090.64
Edward Jones Balance	\$43,628.67

Pastor's Report: Highlights

- October 25 - New office carpet install! Appreciation to members who contributed.
- October 27 - National Youth Gathering planning/brainstorming mtg with area pastors
- October 29 - Church Family Campfire. Thanks to Jon and Darla Peterson for donating a portable fire pit.
- November 4 - Met with LADC to measure preschool rooms and assess any potential bldg code/licensing needs.
- November 9 - North Conference (SPAS) pastor's gathering @Zion Lutheran, Chisago City

(Pastor's Report cont'd.)

- November 9 - Church Finance Team mtg. Preliminary 2022 Budget draft.
- Pastoral Care/Counseling - calling on and visitation of homebound members.
- Regular COVID-19 positive case assessment and congregational response to it.
- Weekly worship visitor follow up
- Weekly confirmation class planning and Wednesday night classes
- Weekly adult Bible study planning and Wednesday classes
- Weekly music and worship planning and sermon prep.
- Weekly office administration and meeting with Melissa
- Looking Ahead
 - Thanksgiving Eve worship - Nov. 24
 - Weekly Advent mid-week worship beginning Dec. 1. Theme: SACREDADVENT. Will include Holden Evening Vespers.
 - Drive-Thru Nativity - Dec. 12, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Tyler and Joanna Kroschel coordinating)
 - Sunday School Christmas Program - Dec. 19, 9:00 a.m. (Holly Maeckelbergh/Carrie Stiles coordinating)
 - Christmas Eve worship - Dec. 24, 4:00 p.m. One service.

Children's Ministry: The Sunday school kids are now being dismissed after communion. Plans are underway for the Christmas program with a Google doc sent out to parents to see which kids are interested in speaking parts. The program is scheduled for Dec. 19th. SPLASH is continuing to meet Sunday evenings in the youth room. We spent some time learning about Martin Luther and are now learning the books of the Bible. Joanna and Tyler have started planning for the Drive Thru Nativity on Dec. 12 from 1-3pm. The dress rehearsal will be the 11th. The goal is for the confirmation aged children to do the majority of the roles, but we will also need some adult volunteers. Brandy Timmons and Angie Lundblad are coordinating a local summer mission trip experience for the teens. More information will come at a later date. An informational meeting for the national youth gathering was this past Sunday at Fish Lake Lutheran in Harris. We are joining forces with multiple local churches for this experience.

COVID Response Team:

The COVID Response Team met via an email thread on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 15-16, 2021. Joanna K. initiated the conversation with four questions: 1.) Can we add additional communion servers to speed up communion distribution during worship? 2.) When should we return the hymnals and Bibles back to the pews? 3.) Is sanctuary social distanced seating enough room if additional families begin to join us in worship? 4.) Do those with speaking parts at Drive-Thru Nativity need to be masked or not? After hearing from all Team members, our response is as follows:

Until more people volunteer to serve as worship assistants, communion serving will remain the same. Pastor Dale will continue to announce the need during worship

announcements. Reformation Sunday and All Saints Sunday were two big (and thus, lengthy) services. Moving forward services should be average length again and Sunday School students will continue to be dismissed after communion so they can be sure to get started on time. A minimal number of Bibles and hymnals will be placed on a rolling cart in the back of the sanctuary. Pastor Dale will announce that those are available for any who desire to use them during worship, and will ask they be returned to the cart after worship. Sanctuary social distanced seating is still adequate within the sanctuary space. It was noted that there are still several openings near the front (including the choir space) and in other spaces throughout. Also, if families can be mindful of seating together and where designated, that will open up additional space as well. Between the sanctuary and narthex (overflow), if needed, space for regular Sunday services and Christmas Eve should be available. Audio and visual should be adequate from the narthex seating, if needed. No masking is necessary for outdoor Drive-Thru Nativity speaking participants

Keenagers:

Per Zella Oswald: We met at Village Inn on November 10 and had a good turnout of 15. We had a lot of fun visiting and laughing.

Visitation Ministry:

- Fran and Dave have visited Arnie Rudnick
- Fran and Claudia have visited Josie Peterson
- Cindy has visited Pat Crawford, Dee Wilkerson
- Cindy and Zella are going to see Barb Hasting and Arnie Next week.

Old Business

- COVID 19 Team Update - (see COVID Response Team update above) Stay cautious with current events. Will ask confirmation students for assistance in Sunday service and revisit our lists for people to help with service at the next council meeting.
- Synod Grant Funds: We need to review the requirements for the grant. Tyler will forward requirements to all Council members and we'll review via email.

New Business

- **Janet Miller, Executive Director of Lake Area Discovery Center** joined us via Zoom to answer questions about potential partnership with our church. Highlights include:
 - June 1, 2022 is an optimistic goal for opening preschool.
 - We would be a sister site to Faith Lutheran, Forest Lake. The first partnership of LADC of its kind!
 - Most likely will need to hardwire smoke detectors in each room leased. This would be an estimated \$1000 expense that LADC would pay half of.
 - Any necessary building improvement expenses would be split 50% between LADC and St. Paul Lutheran. A security system for the preschool while preschool is in session would need to be added. LADC would fund this improvement 100% since it is not a capital improvement and not a requirement but helpful for families to feel comfortable. Our current

playground is in need of expansion and improvement as well. LADC expects that the entire expense of this will be paid by grant money received and set aside by LADC. expanding for the ill cover the costs fully.

- LADC will also need storage space which will likely be upstairs in the area already used for preschool storage.
 - There is a rent adjustment program that is new to LADC and if the revenue is higher than projected for each year, 20% would be given back to the church.
 - There will be a staff of 7 for the preschool program.
 - Every partnership with a church LADC will want to do 3 outreach programs with the church along with VBS.
 - LADC will prepare a service and lease agreement for the council (and an attorney) to look over. The lease is one that all of the partner churches have to agree upon if changes are suggested, there are currently 15 other partners that have already looked over the lease and signed it. When approved, our Council President, Tyler Kroschel, will sign it.
 - A new sign for the preschool would be a split cost with LADC, unless we just use a new printed banner to hang over our existing preschool sign, that would be paid in full by LADC.
 - The Council voted to name the preschool, “St. Paul Lutheran Discovery Center.”
 - If church members have questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to Pastor Dale or a council member.
- **Advent offerings** will be donated to the Good Neighbor Fund, Tyler made a motion for this to be our charity this year and Dale seconded the motion, motion carried. [UPDATE] Pastor Dale made a motion via email on 12/1/21 to designate all the Advent midweek offerings to the general fund. The Thanksgiving Eve offering has funded the Good Neighbor Fund for 2022 with an offering of \$745. Karen R. seconded the motion. Motion passed.
 - **Nominating Committee** - Current list of members agreeing to serve beginning Jan. '22
 - President - Zella Oswald (for one final year of her two-year term)
 - Vice President - Karen Rozeske
 - Treasurer - Chris Timmons
 - Secretary - Jaime Fraley
 - Member-at-Large - Dale Brainard
 - Member-at-Large - Ruth Koehly
 - Member-at-Large - Kathy Mills
 - Member-at-Large - Adam Tilley (committed initially to only one year)
 - Member-at-Large - Deb Cowing
 - **Preliminary Budget Discussion 2022** plans - waiting for pledge cards to determine final budget for 2022.

- **Remind committees** that you are liaison for to please prepare Annual Reports
- **Blood Drive needs to change to April** per request from Red Cross.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, December 21, 6:30 p.m. Devotions led by Chris Clark

Adjourn & Pray - Chris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pastor Dale led us in the Lord's Prayer.

