



## **Our Goals, Hopes, and Dreams**

### **Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Wyoming, MN**

*As we continue to grow in faith, service, and community, the following goals reflect the shared vision of our congregation, shaped through prayer, discernment, and conversation at our 2025 Annual Church Council Planning Retreat held at Pastor Dale's and Pastor Carrie's home on Sunday, May 1 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

#### **New and Updated Ministry Goals**

##### **1. Strengthen Worship and Faith Formation**

- a. Establish a regular **Children's Noisy Offering** ("Children's Change for Change"), possibly monthly or on 5th Sundays.
- b. Continue to **enhance weekly worship** through expanded music and leadership opportunities and seasonal/intergenerational engagement.

##### **2. Expand Fellowship and Congregational Life**

- a. Form new **interest-based fellowship groups**, potentially including (but not limited to) these member-suggested ideas: Fantasy Football League, Co-ed Softball Team, Pickleball, Volleyball, photography.
- b. Launch a **Men's Group** in Fall 2025 for devotion, meals, and hands-on church projects.
- c. Explore forming a formal **Women's Group**, such as a Women of the E.L.C.A. chapter, to build on the strength of current informal gatherings.
- d. Revisit plans to form an **A.R.K. (Acts of Random Kindness)** group to organize and inspire small, meaningful service actions.

##### **3. Serve and Support Our Wider Community**

- a. Plan an annual **clothing donation and giveaway** for those in need, potentially led by the Creation Care Team or in collaboration with our Mobile Food Truck ministry.

##### **4. Build and Strengthen Leadership Teams**

- a. **Hospitality Team** - To focus on welcoming visitors and new members, organizing fellowship events, enhancing congregational outreach, and helping integrate new people into the life of the congregation. Additional responsibilities would include: marketing and visitor acknowledgement (includes coordinating Stagecoach Days involvement, use of weekly/optional

name tags, creating visitor welcoming protocol, cards, handouts at church & in community, bringing in new members, etc.)

- b. **Congregational Care Team** - To provide support and care for members in times of need through visits, calls, cards, meals, and ongoing prayer. This team will also foster connection among homebound and aging members. This would include: visitation, prayer shawl ministry, card ministry, prayer team, individual/group spiritual direction, faith integrated yoga (Yogadevotion), etc.
- c. **Revised Global and Local Missions Team** - To identify, coordinate, and lead both local service projects and global mission support efforts. This team will encourage the congregation's ongoing engagement with justice, service, and evangelism beyond our walls. This would include: (Mobile Food Truck, Homeless Kits, Tanzania/Bega Kwa Bega, ongoing Missions of the Month, etc.)

### Updated Measurable Goals (to be reviewed by May 2026)

- **Increase Congregational Membership by 15%**
  - Goal: 30 new members
  - From 201 to **231 total members**
- **Increase Average Weekly Worship Attendance by 20%**
  - Goal: From 100 to **120 average attendees**
- **Increase Participation in Small Groups, Committees, and Teams by 25%**
  - Goal: From 40 to **50 active participants**

### Mortgage Payoff Appeal Goals

As our mortgage gets closer to getting paid off, these additional and ongoing priorities will continue to guide our stewardship and planning moving forward:

- **Staff Pay Increases** - For staff who lead, support, and inspire our congregation, helping us to attract and retain gifted individuals dedicated to our vision of being a welcoming, caring, and healthy community of faith.
- **Rebuilding Our Savings** - Rebuilding and strengthening our financial reserves not only will ensure stability for our current ministries but also will prepare us to respond with confidence and flexibility to future opportunities and needs. By rebuilding our savings, we can continue to support our mission and growth for years to come.
- **Investment in Facilities and Facility Staff** - We are committed to ensuring our church remains a safe, beautiful, and welcoming space for worship, fellowship, and outreach. To support this, we will hire a part-time custodian to oversee building and grounds maintenance, ensuring that every visitor and member feels at home in our space. This investment in both our facilities and facility staff reflects our dedication to sustaining and enhancing our church home for all who gather here.

- **Expanding Outreach Beyond Our Walls** - As part of our commitment to sharing Christ's love, we will expand our outreach and evangelism even further beyond our walls. This includes supporting additional local organizations, addressing urgent community needs as they arise, strengthening our partnerships in Tanzania, and increasing our support of the St. Paul Area Synod.

We give thanks for a faithful, generous, and visionary congregation.  
With God's help and your continued engagement, we look forward to all that lies ahead!

***“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine...” — Ephesians 3:20***