



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Gathered at 5:00 p.m. for Social Time

Devotions, Council Member Introductions, and New Member Welcome led by Pastor Carrie – Pr. Carrie read a poem from our congregational Lenten daily devotional book, from this upcoming Thursday, Feb. 22. Entitled, “Listen To The Leaves” by Steven Charleston. “Hear your names written on the wind” was the theme of the poem.

5:55 p.m. Meeting Called to Order by President, Deb Cowing

Members Present: Deb Cowing, Chris Timmons, Karen Rozeske, Kristina Stoyke, Christina Fashner, Linda Welch, Kimberly Bahls (virtually), Andy Bucanerro, Pastor Carrie Stiles, Pastor Dale Stiles. **Members Absent:** Carole England.

Consent Agenda:

Motion to accept the agenda as written by Karen Rozeske, Seconded by Christina Fashner. Motion carried.

Affirmations:

- Matthew Rauner for stepping in and directing the choir while Fritz was out with Covid. Also to Tyler K. who filled in for Fritz in the bell choir!
- All of our members (specifically trained first responders/medical prof.) who assisted Ellsworth L. with his health concerns during worship.
- Our church members who continue to volunteer to clean the church on a rotating basis, including: Fritz W., Linda W., Emily S., Kroschel family, Christina F., Kathie and Marc M., Deb C., Carole and Steve E., and Prs. Dale and Carrie S.
- Kim Clark for her beautiful musical/photo offerings during worship and the upcoming Lenten season.
- Brandy T. and Nova K. for cutting out the leaves and the string for our Lenten Healing Trees.

Treasurer’s Report: Chris T. and Treasurer Andy B., are working together to transition Andy fully over to Treasurer. Chris reports that our financial numbers look good at this point and right on target with where they should be.

Through 1/31/2024	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$ 14,180
Total Revenue	\$ 18,513
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$ 16,909
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	\$ 22,237
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	\$ -3,724
Mortgage Balance	\$ 193,403
Edward Jones Balance	\$ 46,866

Pastor Dale's Report

Highlights Include

- Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck - Jan. 28 - Very well run, good participation, good attendance (49).
- ENGAGE: Worship - The Kyrie (Jan. 7)
- Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14
- LADC Board Mtg - Feb. 15
- Planning Lenten, "Once Upon A Tree" series.
- Proofing Final Congregational Directory - onto printing!!

Upcoming

- Lenten Sundays and Midweek Worship/Soup Suppers
- Holy Week services (Maundy Thurs/Good Friday/Easter)
- Sunday, April 7 - New Member Sunday
- Sunday, April 14 - Tanzania Sunday
- Sunday, April 21 - ENGAGE: Worship - The Benediction
- Earth Day Worship (Date TBD - end of April? Early May?) Creation Care Team deciding this.

Ongoing

- Coordinating church maintenance repairs/needs when/as needed.
- Weekly Table and Afternoon Bible Study prep and planning
- Still awaiting final church directory proof for review
- Social Media updates and announcements
- Weekly worship and music planning (Stewardship, ENGAGE Lent, Bridge the Gap)
- Lead chapel for Discovery Center Tues/Thurs every second and fourth wk/mo
- Pastoral care and counseling
- Synodical Committees (Iringa and BKB Post Secondary Scholarship)

Pastor Carrie's Report

Highlights

- Faith Club Book Study had 9 participants
- "ENGAGE: Worship" the Kyrie
- Cancer care kits service project

Ongoing

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- Preparing for Table curriculum
- "ENGAGE: Worship" monthly themes-on hold in Lent
- Creation Care Team initiatives
- Changing to glass communion cups
- Promoting Bible camp
- SEEDS Camp-June 14-16 (Week-end camp for grades 1-4)
- Youth Camp - July 7-12 (Sunday-Friday camp for grades 5-9)

Upcoming and Planning For

- Children, Youth and Family meeting - VBS planned for
- Planning worship for Women of the ELCA convention in April
- Planning Lent, mentoring for confirmation youth, and first communion
- Group spiritual direction in Lent
- Visit to Temple Israel in Minneapolis on April 5 (sign up in narthex beginning this Sunday)
- Cleaners for March, April, May have been scheduled (Timmons, F. Wheatley, L. Welch, E. Stegner, C. Fashner, Englands)

New Business

- **Assign New Council Members as liaison to various Teams/Committees**
 - Andy (Finance), Kimberly (Altar Guild), Christina (CYF/Bells)
 - Continuing members: Karen (Humble Bees), Chris (Bldg/Grounds), Carole (Global Missions), Kristina (CCT/CYF), Deb (The Table), Linda (Church Sign Task Force)
- **Update Signatures at Bank (Chris T.)** – We have not updated our signatures at the bank in recent years. This needs to happen. Chris will coordinate the process. Thank you, Chris! The following needs to happen.
 - Remove Tyler Kroschel (past president) and Andy Stoyke (Past Vice-President) as a signatory to the checking accounts and as an individual who can access the safety deposit box
 - Add Deb Cowing the elected President, should be added as a signatory to the checking accounts and for access to the safety deposit box
 - Add Karen Rozeske the elected Vice President, should be added as a signatory to the checking accounts and for access to the safety deposit box
 - Remove Christopher Timmons (past treasurer) from all accounts, online access will stay as is for Bookkeeper functions.
 - Add Andrew Bucannero the newly elected treasurer to all accounts, along with online access to all accounts, and add a debit card in Andrew's name for general fund checking.
 - Deactivate Christopher Timmon's bank card for general fund checking.
 - Karen R. made a motion to make the necessary credit card and bank signature card changes. Chris T. seconded the motion. The motion passed. Thank you, Chris!
- **Upcoming Synod Toolkit for Leaders – Who is planning to attend?**
 - Saturday, February 24, Faith Lutheran Church, Forest Lake
 - Deb Cowing, Christina Fashner, and Pr. Dale will attend and report back at next month's meeting

Ongoing Business

- Pr. Carrie explained the Church Cleaning Schedule is set for March – May. Continuing the weekly rotating cleaning schedule. Cleaners for next rotation include: Timmons, Englands, C. Fashner, L. Welch, F. Wheatley, E. Stegner.
- Bridging the Gap matching fund appeal is at \$10,598. We are 35% of way towards our Two-year appeal. Plans are being made for our End of Appeal Celebration Event (catered meal/entertainment) on 9/6/2025.
- ELCA Strategic Ministry Goals, Hopes & Dreams – Handed out to new Council members to review and will discuss at next month's meeting. Also we will consider dates for our Spring Council Retreat at next month's meeting.
- LADC Discovery Center (Preschool) – Current enrollment 84% full. 2024/2025 enrollment so far 61% full.

- Church Sign Exploration - ON HOLD – Linda W. and Pr. Dale will begin some preliminary research.
- Church Land Exploration - ON HOLD – Andy B. has some interest and connections as he is a member of the Wyoming Economic Development Authority.

Ministry Team Reports:

- **Creation Care Team:** (Kristina Stoyke) – Team met on Sunday, February 18. Decision was made to switch to glass communion cups instead of throwing away all the plastic (non-recyclable) cups on a weekly basis. Thank you to Claudia N. for researching this for us. Linda W. is going to look into getting glass cups donated (or purchased for minimal cost) from another local church.
- **Worship & Music:** (Pr. Dale & Pr. Carrie) – Lent is underway. “Once Upon A Tree” theme has begun. Ash Wednesday was good. Midweek worships begin this Wednesday. Grateful for the choirs, praise team, worship assistants, Jeanne, Janelle, Altar Guild, Ushers, Greeters, Sound, and everyone involved in making worship happen each week.
- **Building & Grounds:** (Pr. Dale) – Marc M. replaced seven bulbs in one of the preschool rooms, hung new gender-neutral signs on preschool bathrooms. We are awaiting to hear when our LED bulb replacement will happen.
- **Humble Bees:** (Karen Rozeske) – There will be two quilts available for raffle beginning soon on Sunday mornings. Drawing will take place Sunday, April 7, the Sunday after Easter. Tickets will be \$5 or 3/\$10 and placed in a jar for the quilt one wants to receive. All proceeds from the raffle will go towards “Bridge the Gap” appeal.
- **Global Mission:** (Carole England & Pr. Dale) - ON HOLD
- **Children, Youth and Family:** (Pr. Carrie, Christina Fashner, and Kristina Stoyke) – Summer Dates have been set for VBS (June 17-21) and Bible Camp (SEEDS June 14-16, Youth Camp July 7-12). A CYF meeting will be scheduled soon.
- **Altar Guild:** (Karen Rozeske) - No new report
- **Finance Team:** (Chris Timmons) - ON HOLD until more interest in Team. Will promote again.
- **The Table:** (Pr. Carrie, Pr. Dale, Deb Cowing) – The Table will resume after Easter.
- **Senior Group:** An interest meeting was on Jan 31 with 16 people coming together for sandwiches and sharing ideas. Then our first “field trip” to Cambridge to see the play “Something Rotten” was on Feb. 11. Nine people attended.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, March 19, 5:30 p.m.
- Devotions: Christina Fashner

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Karen Rozeske, Seconded by Christina Fashner. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Meeting ended at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Pr. Dale (with input from others, in Carole’s absence)