



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 19, 2024**

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

**Devotions:** Led by Christina Fashner. “The Peace of Wild Things” by Wendle Berry

**Called to Order** at 5:34 p.m. by Deb Cowing

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

**Consent Agenda:**

- Look at date for Annual Spring Council Planning Retreat
- Motion to accept Consent Agenda: Kimberly Bahls and Seconded by Karen Rozeske. Motion carried.

**Affirmations:**

- Thank you to everyone who made and served soup during our Lenten Wednesday night worship.
- Thank you to those members who greet and make visitors feel welcome. Keep up the good work.
- Thank you to the mentors for our confirmation youth during Lent: Kim Clark, Christina Fashner, Joanna Kroschel, Tyler Kroschel, Dave Nordhausen, Fran Nordhausen, and Zella Oswald.
- Thank you to Tyler Kroschel for leading the Lenten Wednesday night worship while Pastor Carrie and Pastor Dale were gone.
- Thank you to Dave Haselbauer for all that he did to get the church equipped with LED lighting. The final invoice shows that nothing is owed.
- Thank you to Kim Clark for the beautiful offering of music and video during the Lenten services.
- Thank you to all the people involved in St. Paul Lutheran’s Music Ministry. Including Jeanne Richards and and Janelle Albee for their talent in supplying special music, the Bell Choir (Joanna!), The Adult Choir (Fritz!), and the Worship Team.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Chris T. and Treasurer Andy B., are working together to transition Andy fully over to Treasurer.

Through 02/29/2024	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$ 26,674
Total Revenue	\$ 35,562
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$ 34,986
Total Expenses (after mortgage payment)	\$ 45,642
Net Revenue (after Mortgage payment)	\$ -10,080
Mortgage Balance	\$ 188,679
Edward Jones Balance	\$ 46,866

## **Pastor Dale's Monthly Report**

### **Highlights Include:**

- Saint Paul Area Synod Toolkit and Conference Assemblies - Feb. 24 (Pr. Dale, Christina F., and Deb C.)
- LADC Monthly Partnership Mtg - Today, March 19 (Site is currently 84% full. 39 total enrolled. This is really good!)
- Lenten "Once Upon A Tree" series has been well received. Grateful for all involved in planning and leading.
- Church Directories have arrived!
- LED Light project (Thanks to Dave H. for coordinating)
- TZ Trip planning - Commissioning service is July 14, travelers and stoles made by Karen Rozeske. Group is gone July 17-31, 2024

### **Upcoming:**

- Holy Week services (Maundy Thursday/Good Friday/Easter)
- Sunday, April 7 - Baptism and New Member Sunday (one family so far planning to join)
- Sunday, April 14 - Tanzania Sunday
- Sunday, April 21 - ENGAGE: Worship - The Benediction
- Sunday, April 28 - Creation Care Sunday Worship
- Looking ahead to Summer Outdoor worship schedule

### **Ongoing:**

- Coordinating church maintenance repairs/needs when/as needed.
- Sunday evening Choir Rehearsals
- Afternoon Bible Study prep and planning
- 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 Monthly Report**

**Appreciation-** All the mentors who met with our confirmation youth during Lent: Kim Clark, Christina Fashner, Joanna Kroschel, Tyler Kroschel, Dave Nordhausen, Fran Nordhausen, and Zella Oswald

### **Highlights**

- Group spiritual direction-a group of 5 (looking at how to continue)
- Creation Care Team initiatives-glass communion cups and LED lights
- First communion: for Alexia Fashner, Karlee Krona, and Meredith Rauner

### **Ongoing**

- Preaching and Pastoral Care
- Preparing for Table curriculum
- "ENGAGE: Worship" monthly themes-April 21 will be "The Benediction"
- 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)
- Church Cleaners for March, April, May

### **Upcoming and Planning For**

- Holy Week worship planning
- VBS: June 17-21
- Planning worship for Women of the ELCA convention April 27 (Pastor Carrie is the Chaplain)
- Planning Lent, mentoring for confirmation youth, and first communion
- Visit to Temple Israel in Minneapolis on April 5
- Planning Creation Care Sunday- April 28

### **New Business**

- Evaluate Synod Toolkit and Conference Assembly 2/24 - Pastor Dale, Deb Cowing and Christina Fashner attended.
  - Christina reported one of the workshops was on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention. She talked about NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). It was suggested she speak with our parish nurses, Joanna Kroschel and/or Jamie Fraley to partner or work with on bring more awareness to our congregation. May is Mental Health awareness month and the month of September is Suicide awareness month. Pastor Seth Perry from Elim Lutheran in Scandia is a good local reference person on the topic of Mental Health.
  - Pastor Dale and Deb Cowing reported on workshops that included Volunteers in the community, ARK, Acts of Random Kindness (intergenerational), Birthday packs for foster Kids, Best uses of space within the church building, Visitor friendly, foster Community and affirmation of what we do.
  - The Conference Assembly elected a new Dean, Pastor John Klawiter, from Faith Lutheran in Forest Lake
- Evaluating Strategic Ministry and Mission Goals - Tabled until the upcoming Council Planning Retreat

### **Ongoing Business**

- Church Cleaning Schedule update from Pastor Carrie - The schedule is set through the month of May.
- Bridging the Gap matching fund appeal is at \$16,000. ( End of Appeal Event - 9/6/2025).
- ELCA Strategic Ministry Covenant Goals Hopes & Dreams - Tabled until the Council Retreat.
- LADC Discovery Center (Preschool) update: The former youth room will begin to be changed into a preschool room during the month of July and will be ready for use by Sept. 1.
- Church sign Exploration Task Force - Linda W. and Pastor Dale are working on this. Linda will check again with Rapid Press for a bid. Pastor Dale will be contacting DeMar Signs again. Prices and suggestions will be compared for what is best for St. Paul Lutheran. LADC will assist in expense of a new sign.
- Church Land Exploration Task Force - Andy B. is a member of the Wyoming Economic Development Team at the City of Wyoming and shared with us some initial findings that will help our Church Land Exploration Task Force in considering options. Pr. Dale will convene this group in the near future to begin considerations of potential use of our available land (11 acres/6 buildable). Thank you, Andy!

## Ministry Team Reports

- Creation Care Team (Kristina) - No report
- Worship & Music ( Pr. Dale & Pr. Carrie) - Working with music teams for the Lenten and Easter services.
- Building & Grounds (Pr. Dale) - The dishwasher needs replacing with the preschool paying for half of the price, and potentially Martha's Servers can cover a portion, as well. The kitchen needs a deep cleaning. Linda W. and Emily S. have offered to do this.
- Humble Bees (Karen) - The quilt raffle is going good with the drawing on April 7. One quilt made by the Humble Bees and a fleece blanket (donated by Dee Wilkinson) are available.
- ON HOLD - Global Mission Team (Pr. Dale)
- Children, Youth, and Family (Pr. Carrie/Kristina/Christina) - working on VBS at the present time
- Altar Guild (Kimberly) - no report. Kimberly will check with Brandy T. before the next council meeting. Brandy has Holy Week and Easter preparations under control.
- Finance Team (Chris T. and Andy B.) working together on the transition completely over to Andy B.
- The Table (Pr. Carrie/Pr. Dale/Deb C.) Working on Feed My Starving Children Event (4/10), Adopt a Highway and a potluck on April 24 for the final Table of this season.
- Senior Group (Carole E.) Plans for a Lunch and Learn on April 2nd with a potluck and a presentation from Don Hudon, member of St. Paul Lutheran, for movement in Seniors as we age. Looking into May with a Service Project at Zion Lutheran in Chisago City to help with their community dinner on May 6th.

## Next Meeting

- Tuesday, April 16, 5:30 p.m.
- Devotions: Deb Cowing

**Adjournment:** 7:15 p.m. motion to adjourn made by Deb Cowing and Seconded by Christina Fashner. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Carole England, Council Secretary