



**Title: Church Council**

**Policy #: 48**

**EXPIRES: When Replaced**

**ISSUED BY: Church Council**

**SIGNED:**

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## 1 History

| VERSION | DATE APPROVED | UPDATED BY      | PURPOSE FOR CREATION/UPDATE           |
|---------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.0     | 1/19/21       | STEFANIE TRAKEL | SET GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH COUNCIL |
|         |               |                 |                                       |

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## 2 Scope

This policy is part of St. Paul Lutheran Church's organizational policies. This policy applies to the Church Council.

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## 3 Policy

The Church Council shall be installed during a worship service as close to July 1<sup>st</sup> as possible.

The Church Council shall convene regularly and upon the request of any one of its members. Meetings will be open to the members of the congregation except when an executive session is officially announced by the President. Executive sessions will only be used when the subject matter is related to litigation, personnel or contemplated real estate transactions.

The Church Council shall follow all duties as outlined below.

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## 4 Procedure

### Meetings

1. The agenda for the meetings shall be jointly set by the President, Director of Church Administration and the Senior Pastor, and allow for walk in items.
2. An accurate record shall be kept of all Church Council proceedings.

### Duties

The members of the Church Council shall devote themselves to prayer and God's Word so that they may provide vision, leadership and direction in the following ways:

1. Grow in their relationship with Jesus through regular study of the Word and prayer.
  2. Use their combined gifts to ensure that the congregation:
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- Remains on course biblically (2 Timothy 3:16; Ephesians 4:11-16);
  - Remains true to fulfilling our mission and purposes (Proverbs 29:18; Matthew 28:18-20);
  - Is shepherded, cared for and protected (Acts 20:28-31; 1 Peter 5:1-4)
3. Be responsible for establishing and reviewing policies necessary to direct the overall ministry program of the congregation for the building of Christ's Kingdom.
  4. Approve the major ministry and strategic initiatives of the congregation.
  5. Appoint subcommittees or teams to accomplish its objectives. (i.e. capital improvement projects, audits etc.)
  6. Authorize the Ministry Staff to administer the day-to-day ministry of the congregation in accordance with its own policies and directives and those established by the congregation through its Voter's Assembly.
  7. Encourage the Ministry staff in their work through prayer, word and action and provide for the spiritual and physical health and welfare of the Ministry staff and their families.
  8. Monitor and address unresolved church discipline issues.
  9. Be responsible for receiving and acting upon, if necessary, feed-back and/or complaints from members of the congregation regarding all aspects of its ministry in accord with the guidelines of Matthew 18:15-20.
  10. Be faithful stewards of the congregation's offerings, maintaining the financial integrity of the congregation.
  11. Assume custody and control of the corporate property of the congregation, such as lands and buildings, and the equipment thereof, (it may enter into contracts relating thereto; it may buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or otherwise convey or dispose of the property of the congregation, provided, however, that a resolution authorizing such acts shall first have been adopted by the congregation in a properly announced and convened meeting);
  12. Insure the property of the congregation against loss and damage;
  13. Prepare the annual budget and submit it to the congregation for adoption;
  14. Have authority to spend no more than one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) of the operating expense budget for the current fiscal year on any single project related to the repair or capital projects of the church property, and on any other project not approved in the congregational budget related to the duties described above. Any projects exceeding this limit are subject to Congregation approval."
  15. Direct the calling of special meetings of the Voter's Assembly as requested by the pastor(s) or voting members.
  16. Appoint members to fill unexpired terms of members of the Church Council.
  17. Fulfill the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees for the congregation as this term is used in Chapter 187 of the Wisconsin Statutes.
  18. Be available for any additional functions which the Voter's Assembly may confer on it.

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## 5 Forms

None

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