

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Attendees: Pr Kyle Backhaus, John Rische, Paul H Ten Pas, Jeff Berg, Tom Splittgerber, Jim Weber, Bob, Mehre, Stefanie Trakel & Chad Berke

Excused: Donna Felch & Michelle Zuengler

Guest/s: Thomas Walkenhorst

Topic	Discussion	Action	Responsible Party
Call to Order		President Tom Splittgerber called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.	
Opening Prayer		Pr Kyle opened with a devotion and prayer	
Worship Ministry Update	Mary Ann has stepped back from being the choir accompanist, we have hired Piper Vetting as her replacement. Thomas continues to adopt the usher scheduling and planning from Sharon Roehrborn and thanks her for her years of service to this ministry. Thomas is working on reinvigorating Praise Teams, developing new backgrounds and service items, developing drama presentations/skills, and looking to a potential outdoor worship for spring 2023. Recent successes include worship at LHS and the Lutheran Fiesta. Thomas appreciates his choir and praise team members, youth band is restarting and he's working with Savannah on the Sunday School Christmas Musical. Struggles include work life balance, recruiting/absences, lack of passion and being mindful of time during worship. Thomas hopes to find enough volunteers that he could step out of preforming with Praise Teams and spend more time directing and guiding them. He loves encouragement and feedback!	The Council thanked Thomas for his willingness to serve wherever is needed and his obvious passion for St. Paul.	
August Secretary Report		A motion was made by Jim Weber to approve the August Secretary's Report. Paul H Ten Pas seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	

August Treasurer Report		A motion was made by Paul H Ten Pas to approve the August Treasurer Report. Chad Berke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
2022-23 Housing Allowances	Discussion was held.	A motion was made by Jeff Berg to accept the Housing Allowances as presented. John Rische seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
2022-23 Mission Partner Scrip Support	Discussion was held.	A motion was made by John Rische to accept the Home Mission designations as follows: Concordia Lutheran Seminary Reforma Dominican Republic - \$1,000 Helping Kids - \$500 Guatemala Mission Trip 2024 - \$500 Youth Mission Trips - \$1,000 Hispanic Ministry - \$1,500 Upper Room - \$500 Jim Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
Phone System Upgrade Project	Our current phone system is 27 years old, which includes our paging system. Parts are no longer available. Three vendors submitted quotes. O& W Communications was chosen.	A motion was made by Bob Mehre to approve phone system in the amount of \$12,000 from Capital Improvement. Jim Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	Stefanie Trakel
Tuck Pointing Project	Our building has a significant amount of exterior cracks that need repair. Three vendors submitted quotes. Eernisse Chimney Repair and Tuck Pointing was chosen. This project will occur in spring.	A motion was made by Chad Berke to approve tuck pointing project in the amount of \$8,000 from Capital Improvement. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Sealing of the church will be done afterwards. That pricing is being updated and will be approved at a later date.	John Rische Jim Fasse
Policy #9 – Volunteer Appreciation	The policy currently allows for \$5 per year per volunteer for appreciation. The Council will increase this to \$20 per volunteer and to allow for exceptions with proper approval.	A motion was made by Paul H Ten Pas to approve policy #9 with the noted changes. Chad Berke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	Stefanie Trakel
Policy #10 – Travel Reimbursement	The Council will increase the per diem rates for meals to meet current inflation.	A motion was made by Jim Weber to approve policy #10 with the noted changes. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	Stefanie Trakel
Constitution Update	In follow up to a member request during the last Congregation Meeting, a revision has been made to the Constitution to allow for emergency meetings.	A motion was made by Chad Berke to recommend to the Congregation the Constitution revision regarding emergency meetings. Bob Mehre seconded the	Stefanie Trakel

		motion. Motion carried unanimously. This will be presented at the next Congregation Meeting, which is not scheduled at this point.	
Policy #44 – Emergency Repair Policy	The current policy allows for the Council to approve up to 3% of the budget without Congregation approval for emergencies. This is not enough, given recent emergencies that have occurred.	Paul H Ten Pas will rewrite this policy and present it at the October Council Meeting. It will require Congregation approval.	Paul H Ten Pas
Activity Sponsorship Request – Day Trip to Fireside Theater	Jan Dankwardt has requested the church sponsor a day trip to the Fireside Theater to see White Christmas. There will be no cost to St. Paul.	A motion was made by Paul H Ten Pas to approve the Fireside Theatre trip. Chad Berke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
Activity Sponsorship Request – Day Trip to Fireside Theater	Aaryn Feile has requested the church sponsor another mission trip to Guatemala in August 2024.	A motion was made by Bob Mehre to approve the Guatemala Mission Trip for 2024. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
Parking Lot Update	Excavation should be completed this week, with paving anticipated for next week. Superior will then need to return to finish the landscaping.		
Stained Glass Window Update	We hit a few snags, but the windows are almost ready for install. Jim Fasse stained the frames already. They should be installed in the next couple weeks.		
Worship Center LED Lighting Update	The LED lighting was installed today!		
Worship Center Dimming Panel Update	The dimming panel is on order but will likely take a couple months. In the meantime, the altar lights that were not working have been temporarily wired to allow them to turn on again! All information has been submitted to our insurance company for a claim.		
Staff Update	We have been very busy hiring 5 staff over the past 6 weeks or so! Director of Children's Ministry, a childcare assistant teacher, the choir accompanist and two nursery staff.		
Volunteer Needs Committee	Pr Kyle reported that various ministries with volunteer needs will be highlighted during services in October and November. This includes short videos, current volunteers at kiosks and weekly news write ups.		
Elder Team Update	The Elders are working with Pr Kyle on inactive members. They also assessed Small Group feedback. They are regrouping with John now taking over as Head Elder. Recently they have been manning the St.		

	Paul parking lot during worship services to help direct people to LHS.		
Senior Pastor Report	Savannah has been in place for almost a month. She is quickly getting up to speed in her ministries. We have learned she will not be eligible for a call once she graduates. She would need additional classes for non-profit administration, which she will not be doing. This is not a problem, she will just remain as a regular employee. Pr Kyle will begin PLI Senior Leader classes in October. A large majority of the cost will be covered by the Seibert grant. There are 19 people signed up for AIM this Fall. Midweek Bible Study begins next week. Pr Kyle is serving on the Hispanic Steering Committee and the LHS Board.		
Lay Leader Connect	The Council will be discontinuing Lay Leader Connect, where Council Members stand in the back of church to gather feedback.		
Website	Church Council and Elders were missing during the website conversion. These are being added.		
Adjournment	The Church Council Meeting will be Tuesday, October 18 at 6:30 pm. Council Members are asked to read chapters 1 & 2 in the Joining Jesus on His Mission book.	A motion was made by Chad Berke to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm. Seconded by Jeff Berg. Motion carried unanimously.	
Closing Prayer		Chad Berke closed in prayer.	