St. Paul Lutheran Church

**CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES • April 22, 2025**

**Call to Order**: President Tom Splittgerber called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**Opening Prayer**: Pastor Kyle Backhaus

**Secretary’s Report - Minutes of December 2, 2024 Congregation Meeting**: *A motion was made by Shelly Strains and seconded by Bob Mehre to approve the Secretary’s Report from the December 2, 2024 Congregation Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.*

**March 2025 Treasurer’s Report**: Donna Felch presented the financial reports. Nine months into the year we have a deficit of $59,992. Giving is 2% lower than last year at this time and significantly lower than budget, which is concerning. Expenses are underbudget by over $48,000, which is good. The Council will be sending a letter to all members to create awareness that the decrease in giving will have an impact on next year’s budget and ministry as we move into the future. Dedicated accounts were reviewed and are strong, as a reminder these are earmarked for specific things and cannot be used for the operating budget. The Endowment fund has had significant growth. *A motion was made by Margaret Hand and seconded by Dave DePagter to approve the March 2025 Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Nominating Team**: Thank you to those that served on the nominating team this year: Donna Felch, Michael Timm, Nicole Dollevoet & Jake Baus.

**Election results with terms beginning July 1, 2025 were as follows:**

**President:** Tom Splittgerber

**Member-at-Large:** Chad Berke, Mark Buffington & Michelle Zuengler

**Endowment Team:** Tom Leibham & Rita Ten Pas

**Congregation Concerns**:

***Columbarium Update:*** Excavation is scheduled for May 5, the units are in Chicago ready for us. We have sold 11 niches and have at least 2 more sales anticipated this week.

**Adjournment:** *A motion was made by Bob Mehre and seconded by Gail Weber to adjourn the Congregation Meeting at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Closing Prayer**: Pastor Adam Wolfe

Attendance: 54