

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Board of Directors Minutes

## September 13, 2023

### **2023 St. Paul's Board of Directors:**

Zac Huffman, Bernice Prescott, Cyndie Dixon, Carol Cook, Judy Tribby,  
Madonna Howard, Patrick Dugan

Present: Zac Huffman, Bernice Prescott, Cyndie Dixon, Carol Cook, Madonna Howard,  
Patrick Dugan

The meeting was called to order by Zac and Bernice opened with prayer.

The minutes of August 9, 2023 BoD meeting were presented and approved.

The Treasurer's Report of August, 2023 was approved as presented.

August Budget Status: **86.62%** of goal (offering verses goal)

- Offerings YTD: \$114,860.97; under goal by **\$17,748.71**
- Expenses YTD: \$71,704.31; under budget **\$60,905.37**
- Overall YTD: all income minus expenses **\$43,156.66**
- 2023 budget: \$193,764.25; \$3,726.24/wk needed to meet budget

Pr. Teklu's Memorial Fund now contains \$15,700.00. On August 29, 2023 Zac met with Fidelity to finalize the papers for the Teklu Memorial. The first monies, \$2500.00, will be awarded to an Ethiopian student entering the ministry on September 18, 2023. The name of the recipient will be released in the October newsletter.

A second account has been established combining two LCEF notes that are reaching maturity.

On September 13, 2023, the church purchased a Money Market account through Fidelity in the amount of \$289,556.02. As of today, September 13, 2023, the interest rate was 4.59%

Further work continues to establish a Financial Team. Presently that team consists of Zac, Chad Muntz and Jerry Kane. The team monitors investments to continue the solvency St. Paul's. It was suggested that an Investment Policy Statement be drafted.

### **Pastor's Report - Vacancy Pr. Stephen Mentz:**

Pastor began the Adult Forum on Sept.10 by introducing Luther's "Small Catechism". Seventeen members attended.

### **Our Circuit Visitor is:**

~Pr. Matt Hilpert, Galilee Lutheran, Pasadena, MD  
808-347-2876 (M), 410-255-8236 (O)

## **Open Items from Last Meeting:**

1. The church calendar needs improvement. Our goals include sending a download link to the congregation, adding events to the member page on the website and keeping everything updated with meaningful events, e.g., Trunk-or-Treat. It was suggested that the slides shown immediately before worship remain on a loop rather than show a countdown to worship.

## **Current Agenda Items**

1. *The Strategic Plan:*  
Strategic Vision Refresh with a focus on 2023 activities will be reviewed at next week's Ministry Meeting.
2. *Calling a Pastor:*  
Under the guidance of the SED and the LCMS Manual, we continue the process of "Calling A Pastor". The "Congregational Profile" is complete and was sent to congregation on September 13, 2023. The next step is to submit the required documentation to SED, after which, we will establish a "Call Committee". BoD members may serve in this capacity. The following members were recommended: Bernice, Jerry, Diane, and Patrick. We would like to include younger people and have the committee consist of an odd number of members. Zac will ask various people.

### ***St. Paul's PBG – Policies:***

#### **2.9.2. Selecting a Pastor**

The Board of Directors or President shall appoint a call committee who shall manage the selection of a new pastor in accordance with The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Southeastern District. The District is responsible that the Pastor be qualified and effective.

3. *Streaming Video & Audio:*  
The Worship Service streaming has been set up in the nursery but the sound has not yet been installed.
4. *Education - Outreach - Worship Updates*
  - Sunday school resumed September 10, 2023. This includes Sunday School for children, Youth Group and Adult Forum.
  - Trunk-or-Treat is scheduled for Sunday October 29 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 pm.

- The Worship Team meeting was held Sunday, Aug 27, 2023 after service.
- CCCC monthly specified food donations continue.
- The Shut-in care bag outreach program continues. It was suggested that Thrivent Action Plan cards finance this project.

5. *Lutheran World Relief:*

In recent months, the members of St. Paul's have contributed school supplies for School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Some other supplies were purchased with Thrivent Action Plan cards. Enough supplies were collected for 111 kits. The congregation will assemble the kits on Sunday September 17 immediately after service.

6. *Water Cooler:*

A water cooler has been purchased and will be installed within the next two weeks

7. *Prayer Lists:*

Prayer list procedures are being revised to make it more meaningful for all. Zac will meet with Pastor and Susan (Office Manager) to devise a plan for consistency. Short term and long term lists will be established and monitored.

8. *Thrivent Action Plans:*

Zac sent an email to the congregation in an attempt to identify all Thrivent members for future Action Team grants. These funds have been used to finance projects for Lutheran world Relief. This year we will use the funds for Trunk or Treat, a community outreach, as well.

9. Next BoD meeting: Wednesday October 11, 2023, 5:30 pm

10. In the next few months, Slate of Officers for next year will be established.

11. The Congregational Voter's meeting will be scheduled for December.

12. Service Views 2023 - 2nd Quarter:

1st Q Avg: 85 total (49 in person, 36 via stream)

2nd Q Avg: 73 total (49 in person, 24 via stream)

July Avg: 75 total (44 in person, 31 via stream)

Aug Avg: 69 total (48 in person, 21 via stream)

**Sunday Services:**

July 2	9:30 AM	85 total (50 in person, 35 via stream)
July 9	9:30 AM	65 total (41 in person, 24 via stream)
July 16	9:30 AM	76 total (42 in person, 34 via stream)
July 23	9:30 AM	93 total (45 in person, 48 via stream)
July 30	9:30 AM	56 total (40 in person, 16 via stream)
Aug 6	9:30 AM	87 total (57 in person, 30 via stream)
Aug 13	9:30 AM	53 total (33 in person, 20 via stream)
Aug 20	9:30 AM	64 total (47 in person, 17 via stream)
Aug 27	9:30 AM	71 total (54 in person, 17 via stream)

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia L. Dixon  
BoD Secretary