

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2025

**Present:** Pastor Iromar Schreiber, Zac and Linda Huffman, Diane and John Segelhorst, Cyndie Dixon, Bernice Prescott, Chad Muntz, Penny Courtney, Linda Craig, Jane Felsentreger, Jerry and Marj Kane, Paul Koch, Dorothy Clark, Bob and Donna Larkin, Jaxon and Dana Brown, Del and Patrice Jenstrom, Betsy and Gary Wolford, Jen Houck, Lyn Dubsky, Diane Stultz, Kerry and Donna Willingham, Amanda Sturgeon, Patrick Dugan, Ruth Hakulin

**Call to Order** - Zac

**Prayer** - Pastor

Zac announced that new members have signed the Constitution.

**Congregational Meeting Minutes** - Diane S. motioned and Penny seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2024 Congregational Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report - May 2025**

- 2025 Budget: \$228,523.25; \$4394.68/week needed to meet budget
- May budget status: **100.90% of goal; up from April - 100.85%**
- **Offerings YTD:** \$93,971.21; **over goal** \$836.51
- **Expenses YTD:** \$93,177.10; **over budget** \$2,798.12
- **Overall YTD: all income minus expenses:** \$9161.61

Review edited January 2025 budget (vote to approve)

- **Total:** \$232,672.78 vs \$228,523.25 (\$4,149.53 increase of budget amount)
- **\$4,474.48** per week needed to meet budget

## Finance Report – Jerry Kane

St Paul's Assets: June 8, 2025			
Fidelity		LCEF	
Fund	Current Balance & Rates	Fund	Current Balance & Rates
Money Market Premium	191,664.78	9863	48,567.19
7-Day Yield	4.04%	Interest Rate	4.250%
Estimated Annual Income	8,773.39	Maturity	2/15/27
Money Market	6,102.13	6492	54,176.27
7-Day Yield	3.94%	Interest Rate	6.250%
Estimated Annual Income	273.16	Maturity	6/14/26
US Treasury (2-Year)	150,000.00	6405	54,176.27
Maturity	5/15/26	Interest Rate	6.250%
Net Proceed (5/2026)	154,875.00	Maturity	6/14/26
Estimated Annual Yield	4.2%		
US Treasury (3-Year)	150,000.00	225	29,426.43
Maturity	5/15/27	Interest Rate	2.0%
Net Proceed (5/2027)	160,687.50	Maturity	8/27/26
Estimated Annual Yield	4.1%		
500 Index Stock Fund	5,431.83	7445	80,885.49
Initial Purchase	5,216.79	Interest Rate	4.25%
Gain	289.57	Maturity	9/30/27
		2350	123,274.20
		Interest Rate	3.0%
		Maturity	6/29/27
Net Fidelity	512,659	Net LCEF	390,505.85
Net St Paul's			903,165

### New Business

- Establish Ad-Hoc Nominating Committee for 2026

Current Board of Director Terms

**President: Zac Huffman - Feb. 2026**

**(one calendar year after new pastor arrival)**

Vice President: Bernice Prescott - Dec. 2026

Secretary: Cyndie Dixon - Dec. 2027

**Madonna Howard - Dec. 2025**

**Patrick Dugan - Dec. 2025**

Chad Muntz - Dec. 2026

Paul Koch - Dec. 2027

## Team Reports

### *Altar Guild – Bernice Prescott*

It is a privilege to serve as team leader for St. Paul's Altar Guild. As with many areas of service, few people see the Altar Guild members carrying out their tasks, but the results are visible when you enter the sanctuary for any service. The Altar Guild cares for and changes the altar and pulpit paraments and banners as needed for the times and seasons of the church year, prepares the vessels and elements for Holy Communion and reverently maintains or disposes of residue, prepares the sanctuary for each service, ensures flowers are placed each Sunday, takes care of post-service tasks and ensures necessary supplies are always on hand and paraments are clean and in good repair. The Altar Guild prepares the sanctuary for all regular and special services, including holidays and annual events. Regular weekly preparations are handled by teams of two members, with all members working together for major events.

We continue our monthly newsletter items on relevant topics; in 2022 we discussed the meanings of the liturgical colors, in 2023 we talked about various Christian symbols, and in 2024 we visited favorite hymns and hymnists. This year we are reviewing the various candles uses in the sanctuary and worship. Hopefully these articles are assisting congregants to better understand the sanctuary and appreciate more aspects of worship.

### *Outreach – Bernice Prescott*

The Outreach Team has been very busy during the first half of this year, serving both St. Pauls ' congregation and the community. Most service activities have included contributions from many members of the congregation:

- St. Paul's participated in Winter Relief again in February. Nineteen county residents spent a week hosted at Seton Parish and were provided comfortable shelter, hot meals, activities and accompaniment in their life journeys by the hospitality of Crofton-area churches and businesses. St. Paul's provided a surplus of underwear and toiletries for distribution to the needy and meals - breakfasts, lunches, and suppers. Pastor Schreiber visited the site, met with the guests, and provided table grace Friday evening. THANK YOU to everyone for your support of

this annual Outreach ministry, especially to those who cooked dinner; to Judy Tribby for managing the hot breakfast team; to the youth group for packing lunches; and to the Quilters for their beautiful and welcomed quilts. Well done!! Plus, many thanks to Penny Courtney for again coordinating this great event on behalf of St. Paul's.

- Members of the congregation contributed generously to the CCCC food pantry; each month we delivered a considerable quantity of staple food items to the pantry. At every delivery to the pantry (maintained and operated by volunteers at Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church), I was greeted with great appreciation for the generosity of the people of St. Paul's. Let's continue to overwhelm them going forward, as hunger needs in our community are increasing. The pantry currently serves approximately 200 families each month. Please remember that needs increase during the summer months, when most children are fed all meals at home rather than receiving some at school.
- We continued to prepare and deliver every month a care bag to each homebound member and many individuals with short-term hospital, rehab or at home situations. The monthly total bags ranged from 8 to 13. Bags included the newsletter; quarterly Portals of Prayer; publications from Concordia Publishing House on topics such as the divine service, Christmas, Easter, Holy Communion, Baptism, etc.; activity books; holiday cards; a variety of snacks (very popular!), beautiful quilted items made by Dorothy; craft items from the Sunday School kids; and more. Easter brought potted flowers or door decorations. Most importantly, the care bags tell these members their church loves them and is praying for them and provide an opportunity for at least one church member other than the Pastor to visit each person each month. Family members of recipients have expressed how much this gesture meant to the recipients and to them. Church members are invited to participate in this activity by purchasing items for inclusion, by donating funds or Thrivent cards, and by offering to make the visits to deliver the care bags.
- In February, we prepared and mailed a love box to our college student, filled with desk items, snacks and gift cards, at that time of the academic and weather year when spirits can use a boost. Many members participated, and Max Houck truly appreciated being remembered.

Moving forward, the Outreach Team welcomes suggestions for additional outreach activities, especially to persons outside of our church family, with a special eye on ways to connect with families in our community.

Many thanks to all who contributed to these and more outreach activities.

*Education – Cyndie Dixon*

- Children’s Church will be held throughout the summer during the sermon time. This summer we are focusing on Old Testament Bible stories. The children are dismissed with an adult to learn about a Bible story, watch a brief video, and make a craft pertaining to the Bible story. Children also participate in prayer and song. The kids return before communion so they can be blessed by the pastor. We are looking for four additional volunteers to provide an extra set of hands during this time. This is a good way for teens to accumulate community service hours. Please see Cyndie if you would be willing to help the teacher. As huge thank you to Lyn Dubsky, her granddaughter, Haper, Ali Kneibler, Kayleigh Fallstich, and Amanda Sturgeon to help out each month.
- We are using Thrivent Action Cards to fund this ministry. A big thank you to Madonna and the Kanes for providing the cards. We would like to gather the names of the people who have Thrivent accounts so we can continue applying for this money. Members are able to apply for the monies twice a year. They are awarded \$250.00 each time. If 10 members apply twice a year, that would equal \$5000.00. Zac and Linda have provided funds for Outreach bags as well.
- Paul Koch leads a study on Friday nights from 7:30 – 9:00 via Zoom. Currently, we are studying the Book of Isaiah, a very rich book that has many implications for today’s world. Please see Paul for the Zoom link. All are welcome.
- In the future, Pastor Schreiber will conduct a study during the Adult Forum time. A survey is being distributed today to gather input for preferences regarding time for Adult Forum to be held.
- Your child should be receiving a weekly devotional from “Kid’s Corner” via email. Along with the devotional, the link includes a Bible story, a song, and a DIY project. One section includes, “Kids in Action” where children can see how kids are helping others throughout their community and world. If you are not receiving “Kids Corner”, please let me know at [cyndixon99@yahoo.com](mailto:cyndixon99@yahoo.com).
- Worship Bags continue to be available in the back of the narthex for children to use during the Worship Service.

- In the fall we will be able to conduct a Sunday School program for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Lyn Dubsy has volunteered to teach. Lyn and Cyndie will be examining curriculum and choose one.
- New registration forms have been distributed to gather new data from the Sunday School and Children's Church attendees.

### *Fellowship – Jen Houck*

We have been blessed that the last few months have given us much to celebrate!

- Cookie Social after the Epiphany service.
- In January, we hosted a farewell potluck luncheon for Pastor Mentz.
- Supplied a welcome basket and moving in supplies for Pastor Schreiber and Gaby (including paper products, cleaning products, and some perishables and snacks).
- Hosted a luncheon for Pastor Schreiber's installation on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Mission BBQ catered the main dishes and the congregation was asked to bring sides and dessert.
- During Lent, we hosted our weekly soup and sermon. Along with help from the congregation, 2 soups were provided each week, along with bread and crackers and drinks to be enjoyed with fellowship before Pastor's Lenten service. All of the soups were delicious and everyone enjoyed trying something new and not having to cook that night! We averaged about 10-15 each week.
- Hosted our annual Easter potluck brunch that was enjoyed by about 50.
- We've brought Fellowship Sundays back, starting May 4, which also happened to be a Chocolate celebration for Pastor's birthday. We have been continuing every other week and would love some help providing a treat or two to share as well as setting up and cleaning up. There is a signup sheet in the narthex. Because there are only three of us, there may be weekends when none of us are available. In that case, there will be some prepackaged snacks and water that can be put out.
- We will be providing cookies and drinks for next week's Patriotic Service.

Thank you to our team of Jen, Penny, and Sadie. In addition, a big thank you to everyone who step up to help setup and clean up when we need some extra hands and strong backs.

As always, we'd love to have some additional members join us on a regular basis!

Thank you,

The Fellowship Team

Jen, Penny, and Sadie

*Tec Team – Diane Segelhorst*

Many thanks to the members of the Tech team who help every single week to present the services in church and stream them online. Members are Diane Segelhorst, Jen Houck, Patrick Dugan, Erin and Avery Mitchell, Gabe Hilliard and Zac Huffman. We really could use a few additional members – please see Diane if you are interested in helping out.

Ongoing tasks:

- Create weekly announcements (Erin Mitchell)
- Mentor Susan in creating weekly Planning Center services and Proclaim slides for services (Diane Segelhorst/ Bernice Prescott)
- Report music selections to appropriate licensing authorities (Erin)
- Schedule weekly and special live streams (Diane)
- Schedule volunteers for tech booth (Jen Houck)
- Update outdoor sign (Diane)

Projects completed or in progress as of December 8, 2024:

- Ongoing maintenance of existing equipment
- Outside electronic sign repaired in November 2024
- Replacement of both tech booth computers. Dan Mitchell purchased, configured and installed the new streaming computer in late September. He is continuing to work on updating and installing the systems on the Presentation computer after running into some issues with the software.

Projects planned for 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> quarters 2025:

- Recruit and train at least two new team members
- *Support Pastor Schreiber in transition to St. Paul's, including possible change of software if he has something he likes to use.*

*Web site – Patrice Jenstrom*

Members: Patrice Jenstrom (chair), Del Jenstrom, Cyndie Dixon

- Photos and videos have been updated and changes have been made to keep the website accurate and easy to use.

- We continue to look at other websites for fresh ideas to incorporate into the existing one.
- Website was recently upgraded to a higher plan to have more flexibility.
- I linked Pastor Schreiber to the St. Paul's google account. He now has the email: [pastor@stpaulscrofton.com](mailto:pastor@stpaulscrofton.com).

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2025 Goals:

- Continue to update the website monthly to keep it fresh, inviting, simple, and useful.
- Do more extensive/detailed website changes for accuracy, clarity, and attractiveness.
  - These changes may just create a new looking website without having to start over.

### *Worship - Jane Felsentreger*

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> we returned to communion at the rail.

Lent – In addition to the Sunday services -

We observed Ash Wednesday with an evening service. Pastor also offered ashes to the shut-ins.

Soup and Sermons were held every Wednesday evening. Services were also held on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Easter was celebrated on April 20<sup>th</sup> followed by a bunch.

Members of the Worship Team questioned Pastor Schreiber as to why we sit during parts of the service where we had always stood. Pastor's explanation was that he had observed people with canes struggling to get up only to realize that everyone had already been seated. He vowed not to do that in his ministry.

The Board of Directors has asked the Worship Team to purchase new robes for the Pastoral Assistants. It is still a work in progress.

Lectors/Pastoral Assistants and Ushers are always needed. We welcome volunteers.

An Ad Hoc Organ Committee has been formed. The members consist of Donna and Kerry Willingham, Diane and John Segelhorst, Paul Koch, Del Jenstrom, Dana Brown, and Jessica Silbert. I will be facilitating.

It was the desire of the members to inform the congregation that a committee has been formed and we have nothing else to report at this time.

*Property – Zac Huffman for John Segelhorst*

The Property Team consists of: John Segelhorst - Chair, Diane Segelhorst, Del and Patrice Jenstrom, Zac Huffman, Patrick Dugan, Craig Silbert

2025 Projects Completed to Date:

*Elevator Inspection and Repair - Feb*

- *Electronic Sign Repair - March*
- *Roof rain diverters installed - March*
- *Cleaning Service contract refresh - March*
- *AED installed in Narthex - March*
- *Fellowship Hall windows replaced - April*
- *Refurbished/repainted wall sconces at church main entrance - April*
- *Replaced/installed new 10 year smoke detectors*
- *Refinished the two benches at the church main entrance - May*
- *Lawn irrigation system repaired - May*
- *New Lifebrigde signage installed - May*

2025 Projects Pending:

- *Repair east side electronic sign panel*
- *Landscaping mulch*
- *Tree removal and trimming along back property line*
- *Replace dead bushes along west property line*

*Youth – Chad Muntz*

The Youth Group continues to meet with three other local Lutheran churches once a month on Sunday evenings. The group now averages 15 kids. Relationships are being built as well as spiritual development. There may be a summer event in the near future.

## **Attendance Statistics**

Jan Avg: 104 total (55 in person, 49 via stream)  
Feb Avg: 209 total (67 in person, 142 via stream)  
Mar Avg: 130 total (60 in person, 70 via stream)  
April Avg: 159 total (69 in person, 90 via stream)  
May Avg: 122 total (58 in person, 64 via stream)

1st Q Avg: 148 total (61 in person, 87 via stream)  
2nd Q Avg: 141 total (64 in person, 77 via stream)

2025 YTD Avg: 145 total (63 in person, 82 via stream)

2024 Avg: 70 total (48 in person, 22 via stream)

Diane motioned that we adjourn and Ruth seconded that motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Dixon  
BoD Secretary