

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA



**December 2024**

## The Church Door

Making Lefse



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## From The Pastor's Desk

Not available at time of Printing

Lefse



Hanging of the Greens







*Nativity*

## Hurricane Damage to Florida Church

Suzy and Neil M., who live in Bradenton, FL in winter, had major damage to their church from Hurricane Helene. Water damage cleanup alone is \$225,000 The congregation has been worshipping in a senior center, and it needs a new roof. The hope of remodeling and repairing the church building is well beyond the financial ability of their 65-member congregation. Consequently, the congregation has voted to let the Synod take over the church, put it up for sale, and work with the council on future plans for the membership. Also, their interim pastor leaves in December, so please pray for their many decisions they will be making. FYI, Suzy and Neil's Florida property wasn't damaged, except for major tree damage.

Submitted by Sharon Schwegel  
Mission Interpreter

## December

Suzie M.

Neil M.

Holly Lee B.

Sue Z.

Patricia S.

Steve H.

Jerry S.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WELCA MEETING AGENDA

Meeting date and time: Thursday, November 14,  
2024, 9:30 AM

Bible Study Leader: Loralee T.

Hostess: Laura R. Number attending: 11

President Laura Ristow led us in the Statement  
of Purpose and Mission Statement.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Secretary's Report: MSP

Treasurer's Report: MSP

Quilts: 2 quilts will be donated to Hacksgiving  
(Game Changers) on line auction

Prayer Shawls: One was given.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. A basket has been set out to collect  
packaged candy for the children's Christmas  
Eve bags.
2. New officers were voted in:  
Cydia J. - President,  
Laura R. -Treasurer. Garen H.  
will continue as VP, and  
Diane Z. as Secretary. Laura was  
thanked for her many years as president, and  
Shirley J. for her many years as treasurer.
3. Shopping for Christmas family gifts is still  
TBA. Blessing of the gifts will be Dec. 15  
and gifts taken to Family Safety Network  
office Dec. 16.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Attendees at our Dec. Christmas Party are  
asked to bring one dozen individually  
wrapped cookies so we can put together  
cookie containers for some of our members  
and staff.
2. Invite friends and neighbors to our WELCA  
Christmas Party – come dressed festively to  
enjoy morning treats, wassail, and a delicious  
lunch – all provided! There will be lots of  
goofy games, bingo, and many prizes.
3. Deloris reminded us that we host Advent  
services at 5 pm Dec. 4 and 18. Soup, bars  
and workers are needed. Sandwich making  
begins around 2:00.
4. A note was shared from Suzy/Neil M. about  
their church devastation in Florida following  
hurricane Helene.

Next meeting: Thursday, Dec. 12 at 9:30 –  
our annual WELCA Christmas Party  
Coffee, lunch and party fun planners: Shirley J.,  
Diane Z., and Laura R.

Respectfully submitted: Diane Zaske, Secretary

## Tech Report 11/11/24

We continue to have great audio and video for our live streaming of Sunday services. The new 20x camera is so much better quality! The TV in the Narthex is running St Paul's announcements on a trial basis. It is running a PowerPoint slide show. The TV needs to be turned on each morning but then shuts off automatically in the afternoon. Please let Chuck know your opinion if the announcements have value or not.

The church photo directory is ready to start printing directories for people who cannot view them on-line. Please see Tammy for a customized directory.

The Tech Team training night is on hiatus until next spring. Then will be at 7:PM on the fourth Thursday each month.

The council survey is done. We are tabulating the results. The results will be discussed by the council, with plans to share with the congregation during the annual meeting.

Mike is willing to work on setting up appointments with council members to get Microsoft 365 set up on their home computers. This includes explaining the software, and how to operate it.

Many Thanks to Mike, Char, Tammy, Tim, and Alice for all your efforts!

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Chuck Forsgren 402-525-1127

**Christmas Eve Services**

 **December 24, 2024** 

**5:00 p.m.**

**Candlelight Service**



**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

220 Third Street  
Hackensack MN 56452  
PH: 218 675-6335  
Web: [stpaulselcahackensack.org](http://stpaulselcahackensack.org)

 



# Church Council

Meeting minutes

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2024 – St. Paul's Fellowship Hall

Present: Pastor Leif, Laura R., Russ T., Ron W., Chuck F., Shirley J., Alice K., Steve H. and Tonia K.

Absent: none

Council President Chuck F. convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Devotions: Chuck F.

President's Opening Prayer

Mission Statement: "Proclaiming and serving Christ in the Heartland and beyond"

**Additions to Agenda** – none

**Secretary's Minutes** – MSP to accept as printed.

**Treasurer's Report** – MSP to accept as printed.

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor Leif has been working with Pastor Tori from UCC Church to coordinate the upcoming Advent Services. A soup Supper to follow each of the Services. St. Paul's will be hosting on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Pastor made a proposal, and the council agreed to welcome new members to the congregation on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was held on the AED device and if there are personnel within the congregation that are trained on how to use it and would be willing to administer assistance in case of an emergency. It was decided that the Property Committee should investigate possible training and determine if the current AED needs to be replaced.

### **Committee Reports:**

Property Report – included in the newsletter.

Tech team report – included in the newsletter.

WELCA report – included in the newsletter.

Busy planning many upcoming events in

December.

### **Old and Ongoing Business:**

1. St. Paul's annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday February 2, 2025. The deadline for submitting your annual reports to Tammy is January 1, 2025.
2. The electronic sign will need to be removed and relocated during the highway 371 project planned for 2025. More information to come.
3. Hanging of the Greens has been scheduled for Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

### **New Business:**

1. President Chuck and Pastor Leif have created a service that can be live streamed in the event that inclement weather forces the cancellation of Sunday Service.

Devotions for next meeting – Steve H.

Next Council Meeting Date – December 20, 2024

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 10:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tonia Kahler, Council Secretary

# Property Committee

## Meeting minutes



### ST. PAUL'S NOVEMBER PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT NOVEMBER 26, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan K., Deloris R., Dick R., Russ T., Pastor E., Chuck F. (zoom)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lewie S., Terry B., Jim M., Jim J., Dave K.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

#### CLEANING DAY ITEMS DEFERRED 'TIL SPRING:

- Painting Service Doors
- Install Gutter Guards
- DBS Raising the ramp is rescheduled until May 21, 2025
- Need estimates from Northfork Concrete for the sidewalk work in the spring after DBS.

#### THANK YOU'S!

- To Terry B. and Jim J. for moving 2 sprinkler heads on fall cleanup day.
- All volunteers who helped Tonia K. clean the flower beds and perennials.
- To Steve H., Derek, and Chuck for lowering the Sanctuary TV by about 2 feet. Steve has received several "Thanks". Chuck will continue to monitor for feedback.
- Chuck for updating the snow removal contract with Brian S.
- TV IN NARTHEX: Chuck F. built the TV stand to hold a computer which will run the weekly events when the office is open.

ELECTRONIC SIGN: We will not know any more about the Electronic Sign removal until contractors start scheduling, [probably in](#) March/April.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Weatherstrip on Narthex Door. Steve H. is taking care of it.'

#### • Solar Panels:

- Brian S. offered to clean snow off the solar panels, Discussion followed. Pastor Leif, Dave K. & Lewie S. have been volunteering to clean when necessary. Chuck will send Brian a note on the committee decision.
- Custodian Cleaning Days: Discussed conflicting events on Dan K. cleaning days. Events have been scheduled when Dan cleans. He is flexible and so are Property Meeting Days. Will discuss when more members are present.
- LED LIGHTS IN CHOIR LOFT: Russ T. requested replacing current incandescent lighting with LED's. Russ, Dick R. and Ron B. will purchase lights and install.
- CPR/AED TRAINING: The Church Council requested the Property Committee investigate having a 'training' session after a church Service. Shirley was referred by Dawn Peterson to Brian Huewe who is head of Hackensack EMT's. Date/Time TBD
- TAKING DOWN THE GREENS AFTER CHRISTMAS: JANUARY 14, 2025, 9 AM
- Alarm for Kitchen Door: Chuck is asking if we should put an alarm on the Kitchen Door for Tammy to know if someone is entering. Defer until Spring.

#### ADJOURN

NEXT MEETNG: TBD

St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA

Our Congregation is centered upon the person of Jesus Christ our Lord, Head of the Church and of this congregation. As members of Christ's Church, we seek to be His disciples as we serve each other, members of our community, and His Church throughout the world.

"Proclaiming and Serving Christ in the Heartland and beyond"

## Advent Schedule



**Advent Schedule**  
**Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.**  
**December 4, @ St. Paul's**  
**December 11, @ UCC**  
**December 18, @ St. Paul's**  
**Soup & Sandwiches to follow**



St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA

Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 307  
Hackensack, MN 56452  
Physical Address  
220 Third St.  
Hackensack, MN 56452

Phone: 218-675-6335  
Website: [stpaulselcahackensack.org](http://stpaulselcahackensack.org)  
Email:  
[stpauls@stpaulselcahackensack.org](mailto:stpauls@stpaulselcahackensack.org)

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

