

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church ELCA



October 2025

## The Church Door

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

Rolling bandages



### Inside this issue

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Council.....    | 2 |
| Missions.....   | 3 |
| WELCA .....     | 4 |
| Lefse .....     | 5 |
| Tech .....      | 5 |
| Elections ..... | 6 |
| Property .....  | 7 |



# Church Council

Meeting minutes

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2025 – St. Paul's Fellowship Hall

Present: Pastor Leif, Laura Ristow, Ron Wedin, Chuck Forsgren, Shirley Johnson, Deen Swart, Russ Torkelson, Steve Hoopman and Tonia Kahler.

Absent: none

The meeting was convened at 9:03 a.m.

Devotions: Russ Torkelson

President's Opening Prayer

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

**Additions to Agenda** – Set dates for Pastor Appreciation Sunday and Hanging of the Greens  
**Secretary's Minutes** – MSP to accept as printed.

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

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor reported that the extra school supplies from Gods Work our Hands Sunday were donated to the WHA elementary school.

### **Committee Reports:**

Property report – in newsletter. Thank you to Dick Ristow for power washing and staining the handicap ramp! Fall Clean Up Day will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Tech team report – included in newsletter.

WELCA report – included in the newsletter. If anyone has a Thrivent card that they would like to donate to assist with purchasing gifts for our Christmas Families let a member of WELCA know.

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

The electronic sign which was located within the road right of way has been removed during

the highway 371 project.

Membership List. A discussion was held on how to keep this up to date and who is responsible for this. Currently there is a database which is maintained by the church secretary. A lot of discussion was held on the best way to keep this up to date and when/how to remove inactive members from the active member list. Tabled until 2026.

Teen Challenge Choir – February 8, 2026

During our June council meeting Deen presented an idea for establishing a Community Prayer. Tabled until 2026.

Council Elections. Numerous council positions are expiring at the end of the year. They Include: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer which have a 2-year commitment. Additionally, we need 2 at large council members which have a 3-year commitment. If you are interested in any of these positions, please let our President Chuck Forsgren know. MSP to approve the election write up as presented.

Disability Ministry. Laura's research has deemed that there currently isn't a benefit for St. Paul's.

2025 Annual meeting will be on Sunday February 15, 2026, in the Fellowship Hall and via Zoom following Sunday Service.

### **New Business:**

Starting in October Council Meeting's will be available both in person and via Zoom.

Meeting start time will be 9:30 a.m.

Chuck is working on creating a Policy and Procedures manual for the church.

Pastor Appreciation Sunday will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Council cont. on pg.3

## MISSIONS YOUNG ADULTS

NEMN Synod ELCA offers an opportunity for young people (age 18-35) to engage in discussion with others to answer the question – “What would God have me do with this one wild and precious life? To quote poet Mary Oliver.

The program is made up of young adult circles which engage in monthly discussions, activities, and self/spiritual exploration through in -person and Zoom methods, with guidance by a monitor.

They can explore the relation of their career path/vocation to their spiritual life. This program gives young people a chance to connect with others if they are home-studying, going to a state college, tech school, or just on their own. You can support this mission when logging onto NEMN Synod/ELCA.

Submitted by Sharon Schwegel  
Mission Interpreter



Council form pg.2

Hanging of the Greens will be held on Tuesday  
November 25<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.

Devotions for next meeting – Pastor Leif  
Next Council Meeting Date – October 15, 2025 @  
9:30

Meeting adjourned with The Lord’s Prayer at  
10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tonia Kahler, Council  
Secretary

## October Birthdays

**Pat H.**

**Daniel M.**

**Darrell Z.**

**Kathy F.**

**Cindy D.**

**Lisa T.**

**Terry B.**

**Lynne B.**

**Shirley J.**

## FALL PROPERTY CLEAN-UP

Tuesday, October 7

Beginning: 9:00 AM

Projects: Windows, Pews, Fellowship Hall,  
Kitchen, Narthex etc.

Lunch Provided by Property Committee.

**Property Committee Meeting  
after Lunch**



**St. Paul's members** donated so many school supplies for our Gods Work Our Hands Sunday that there were school supplies left over. Diane Zaske took them to Walker/Hackensack/Akeley elementary school. They were very pleased to accept them and said they are always needed.



# Women of the ELCA

## **ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCA MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2025**

Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025, 9:30 am  
Hostess: Garen Hebeisen  
Bible Study Leader: Diane Zaske  
Number attending: 11

President Diane Zaske opened the meeting by leading the group in the Statement of Purpose and the

Mission Statement.

Treasurer's Report: MSP

Secretary's Report: MSP

Quilting Report: One a week are being finished – 2 rolls of batting were cut and shelved on GWOH day

Prayer Shawls: No report – many finished and ready to be given located on shelves in fellowship hall.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Living Waters fall conference will be at Hope Lutheran in Walker on Saturday Sept. 27. Women of St. Paul's will be responsible for morning coffee treats
2. Diane shared a report on God's Work Our Hands Sunday. We used a Thrivent card to

pay for the lunch that WELCA provided. There were approximately 40 people who stayed to complete work projects such as: Rolling bandages for Global Health Ministries, assembling school kits for Lutheran World Relief and cutting batting for quilts.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. We will discuss the budget at the October meeting.
2. Fall church clean up date scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup>.
3. Pastor appreciation month is October. There will be a basket for cards for the entire month, and coffee and cake will be served after church on Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup>.
4. Lefse dates are scheduled for Oct 21, 22 – Oct 28,29 -Nov 4,5

Next Meeting: **Thursday October 9th  
9:30 am**

Hostess: Holly Lee Bernstein

Bible Study Leader: Laura Ristow

Respectfully submitted:  
Laura Ristow, Secretary

## Attention:

St. Paul's is looking for people that would like to roll in Dough. We will be having our annual lefse making project this fall. We boil and rice potatoes Tues. Oct. 21, 28 and Nov. 4 from approx. 10-12 noon. We will roll, bake, dust, and package on Oct. 22, 29 and Nov. 5 from 9 to 12.

Lunch will be included on the rolling and baking days. It is a lot of fun! We are always looking for new members. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex. LEWIE WILL CONTINUE WITH THE "LAYING ON OF HANDS".



## Tech Report 9/13/25

1. On Thursday Aug 28 at 11:AM we practiced using the Zoom computer in the Fellowship Hall. We have installed another PTZ camera that allows us to have more camera shots during meetings.
  2. We plan to update the Zoom computer with a used laptop that has Windows 11 on it. This will improve our capabilities to connect to the Samsung TV. The existing machine has Windows 10 and cannot be updated to 11.
  3. We are still looking to create a new Facebook page-the page we have now was created under Tammy's page.
  4. We are getting software at no charge to replace MS Publisher which Tammy uses for the Newsletter.
  5. The next couple of months we will be getting the Altar piano set up and preparing for the annual meeting.
  6. We are planning to get a Policy/Procedures manual put together. This will have our procedures hardcopy in a 3-ring binder. We will also have the P/P on our MS 365 site for storage. More to come on this.
- Many Thanks to Mike, Char, Tammy, Tim, Alice, and Kim for all your efforts!  
If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me.
- Chuck Forsgren 402-525-1127



Putting School Supplies together

**Pastor Appreciation Month.**

# SUNDAY TALKS

October is nationally known as Pastor Appreciation Month and October 12th is the Sunday chosen to honor Pastor Leif by our members and friends. Cake will be served in his honor following our service on the 12th. Please join in the celebration. A basket for cards and notes will be available all month in the Narthex

## **Upcoming Church Council Elections – 2025 Annual Meeting (Feb 15, 2026)**

At this year's Annual Meeting, we will be electing several key leadership positions: President, Vice-President, and two Council Members at Large.

### **President (2-year term)**

- Presides over congregation and council meetings
- Ensure resolutions and duties are carried out
- Signs official documents and provides leadership to all committees and the Pastor
- Conducts meetings according to Christian principles and parliamentary procedure

### **Vice-President (2-year term)**

- Acts in place of the President when needed
- Becomes President if the position becomes vacant

### **Council Members at Large (3-year term)**

- Provide general oversight of the congregation's life, worship, mission, finances, property, and staff
- Help guide long-term planning and annual budgeting
- Meet monthly (or as needed), including via remote options
- Limited to two consecutive terms

**If you're interested in serving or nominating someone, please speak with a member of the St Paul's Council**

# Property Committee

Meeting minutes

Tech Report



## St. Paul's Property Committee Report

**September 2, 2025, 9:00 AM**

**MEMBERS'PRESENT:** Pastor Leif, Dan Kniceley, Russ Torkelson, Deloris Resssen, Jake Jacobsen, Chuck Forsgren, Terry Bergstrom, Shirley Johnson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jim Madland, Lewie Schrupp, Dave Kahler

### OLD BUSINESS:

Sidewalk Replacement: Dave: Still waiting for Northfork, the cement contractor

Electronic Sign: Young is asking St. Paul's to move the sign. Steve is checking with them.

Smoke Detectors: Chuck has replaced the Smoke Detector in the Fellowship Hall. Fire Extinguisher: Chuck Forsgren will speak with the Fire Extinguisher Company and ask them to bring a bracket to mount our extra extinguisher.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Blood Drive: August 19, 2025. Deen Swart is the organizer.

Property discussion items:

- Fall Weed & Feed: Should we apply a fall treatment at estimated cost of \$400.00. After discussion, it was decided to wait until Spring.
- Authorized Chuck to purchase reflector rods to mark lawn areas so Brian does not damage lawns during snow plowing.
- Security: Shall we lock the entrance & exit doors during Sunday Service? After a lengthy

discussion, the committee decided to leave entry and exit doors accessible during services.

- Review Copy Machine Contract: Marco offered a 3-year extension to the existing contract using the existing machine at a lower price. M/S to accept the 3-year extension.
- Grandfather Clock: The Clock is showing signs of needing a thorough cleaning however the clock is currently running. In the past, Jake Jacobsen has worked with Jim Anderson and were able to keep it running. After discussing options, Jake and Chuck will put the cleaning on the Spring and Fall Church Clean-up Schedule. When they feel they feel it is time to contact Mark Hamborg for a professional cleaning, we will do so.
- Gods Work our Hands: Sunday, September 7, 2025

### CHURCH CLEAN -UP:

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

- Replace faucet on North side of Fellowship Hall. Jim & Terry
- Trim tree on north side of Solar Panels: Chuck will talk to the property owner, Owl's Nest, for permission.
- Handicap Ramp needs refinishing: Dick Ristow offered to do the work before winter.
- Lunch: Sloppy Joe Lunch provided by Committee.

Adjourn: Next Meeting: October 7 after lunch

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"

## GWOH Lunch and Birthday Cake



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

