



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

10/21/25

Present: Pastor Glen Bickford, Ann Maczuga, Terri Revell, Rachel Henderson, Allison Isenberg, Pam Eliason, Melissa Johnson, Mari Senstad

Call to Order: Ann called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm

Opening Devotion: Allison led us in devotions/prayer

Adoption of the Agenda: Melissa had an addition for new business to add Nominating Committee. Mari made a motion to adopt the agenda. Rachel seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Terri made a correction related to Stewardship team update as to who received letters. Rachel made a motion to approve updated minutes from the September council meeting. Melissa seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Old Business

- Council Connect
 - This will take place 1x/month on the first Sunday of the month. Passed around sign-up sheet requesting 2 members sign up for each month
- Membership update
 - 438 members; 222 family units
 - Still working on baptized members and how to enter into CDM
 - Not seeking out any more updates
- Floor drains report
 - Terri discussed the floor drains in the kitchen. Will proceed with getting floor drains scheduled
- Fire box
 - Nate will work on this
- Quotes on dead trees
 - Nate has received 1 estimate at \$1500 per tree (need 5 trees removed)
 - Awaiting estimate from one other company
- Snow removal
 - Working on snow removal plan with the proposed plan of a combination of snow removal from congregation member as well as contract for larger snow totals. Looking into insurance/liability before proceeding

- Roof leaks
 - We still have multiple roof leaks that are intermittent all throughout the building
 - Shingled roofs are in good condition; flat roofs and flashing around the roof edges are in disrepair. Patches have been attempted but will not last
 - Terri will work with Nate on getting quotes for roof/flashing repair and length of life for that vs. total roof repair

REPORTS

Executive Team Reports:

Treasurer's Report

September Financial Statements

MONTH	Actual	Budget	2025 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	Actual	2024 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Gen/Bldg Fund:	Sept-25	Sept-25		Sept-24	
Offerings/Receipts	57,179	49,277	7,901	57,894	(715)
Expenses	(58,088)	(58,234)	145	(63,040)	4,951
Net Gain/(Loss)	(\$910)	(\$8,956)	\$8,047	(\$5,146)	\$4,236

YEAR TO DATE	Actual	Budget	2025 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	Actual	2024 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Gen/Bldg Fund:	Sept-25	Sept-25		Sept-24	
Offerings/Receipts	428,561	440,913	(12,352)	442,153	(13,591)
Expenses	(490,486)	(499,138)	8,652	(585,631)	95,146
Net Gain/(Loss)	(\$61,925)	(\$58,225)	(\$3,700)	(\$143,479)	\$81,554

Notable Sept Activity:

- ❖ For **the month of Sept** receipts were lower than expenses.
 - Total offering for the general/building fund for the month was \$34,902. This was lower than the budget by \$5,040.
 - Other income (building use, grants, interest, etc.) was \$22,276, which was higher than budgeted by \$12,942.
 - Expenses are favorable to budget this month, and favorable to prior year.
 - \$11,000 was used from Reserve fund to cover expenses
- ❖ For **Sept year to date**, receipts are lower than expenses, overall YTD we are down by \$61,925. *This does not include donations brought in for Reserve fund

- Overall, through Sept, receipts are lower than budgeted by \$12,352.
- Expenses are favorable to budget for the year and favorable to last year.

❖ Cash balances available at the end of September were \$27,473 with an additional \$50,000 in investment accounts/reserve fund.

Pastoral Report:

Pastor Glen's Report

What have I been doing with my time? First and foremost is Stewardship. Guiding the group and meeting with donors. I think we've met about 6 times so far.

Second, Bible study on Genesis. 4 times so far: 9 ladies, well received. We venture far afield and like it.

Third, visitation and support: nursing home folks, cancer patients, widows. I have a funeral October 25th for Bob Brinkman. Many are starting to respond with gestures of thanks.

Fourth, preaching and worship. Have gotten good feedback from my sermons and especially the steps sit at the end.

Fifth, Bishop's Theological Conference at the beginning of this month in Alexandria.

Sixth, Interim Pastors' monthly meeting and weekly Conference meetings.

Seventh, Thanksgiving and Christmas Worship planning.

Eighth, responding to members' invitations: Quilters, Elaine Zimmer's group at Orchestra Hall, for example.

Ninth, Emergency Management Preparedness Team

Tenth, Confirmation Prep. with Katie Rykal

Eleventh, Prayer with and for the congregation, along with spirituality

Ministry Team Reports:

Local Ministries:

CEAP News...

Clothing Drive

- The congregation collected 450 lbs of clothing! YAY!

Toy Drive

- The toy drive will be taking place in November/December - more information to come!

Trunk or Treat

- Scheduled for this Saturday, 10/25. We received a Thrivent Grant and Cub donation to cover the Halloween treats and beverages. I believe Katie is still looking for volunteers to help with the games and we can always use more decorated trunks.

Reading Buddies

- Slated to begin within in the next few weeks. Our volunteers will be reading with Park Brook 4th graders this year for the first time. Typically we have read with 2nd or third graders.

Thanksgiving Eve

- Outreach will be hosting the pie social and community service activities after the Thanksgiving Eve Service again this year. We will be asking the congregation for help with donating diapers and providing pies and possibly some personal care items. We are in process of finalizing the community service projects for that evening, but tentatively they will be:
 - Care Care Bags
 - Diaper and Wipe Kits
 - Holiday placements for Meals on Wheels recipients

Stewardship Talk

- Outreach will be doing a stewardship talk on 11/9

Funeral Team: No recent funerals, but they may be helping at one coming up soon.

Quilters: The Quilters are keeping busy assembling quilts for our upcoming sale in December, as well as quilts to be donated in the next month.

Staff Reports

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

PRAISES from PAST Events

- Registrations and payments for CYF ministry continue to trickle in every week. Still working on getting everyone registered and/or paid
- Had our first joint Middle School/High School event to Valleyscare. Fall is a difficult time to plan events as so many evenings involve HS Sports...this also affects our High School Ministry
- September is always fun to see faces return to the building after their busy summers
- September 28th brought us the first in worship FAITH SPACE where Childrens Ministry stays in Worship if Miss Katie is busy. It was well received by families and I heard no complaints from the Congregation
- Bible Sunday was busy as many people got "caught up" in getting their family members the Bibles that are needed. We also kicked off our Catechism Conversation packets and many of those were handed out

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

- Sunday mornings continue to bring a lot of energy, and we are averaging between 12-18 children on any given Sunday (including MEA which has typically been lower attended)
- Wednesday Nights are always a great mix of energy and conversation. Relationships that are being built are starting to spill outside of the Church (sitting together at Sporting events, texting each other randomly, etc) and it is wonderful to see those become strong faith formation opportunities.
- Continuing to work on finding a good balance for High School ministry as we provide different opportunities (not just Sunday nights) to gather together
 - Bonfire nights on Saturdays
 - Football watch parties on Sunday afternoon
 - Saturday Evening events
 - Possibly adding a "Donuts and Discussion" time on a few Sunday mornings throughout the year
- Trunk-or-Treat is right around the corner and CYF Ministry has partnered with Outreach to provide donuts, hot apple cider and hot chocolate for that morning...We are also in conversation about changing that event to be earlier in October for 2026 and have more of Fall Harvest idea behind it (with a potential chili cook-off)

- Working on a few different Milestones

Affirmation of Baptism will happen on October 26th during the service (8 Participants this year)

- Retreat was on October 4th and was attended by all but one participant
- Rehearsal/Dinner was on October 19th and was attended by all participants
- Affirmation of Baptism will take place during the morning worship on Sunday, October 26th and our Confirmands will be reading, ushering, greeting and serving Communion (and of course Affirming their Baptism)

Post High School Milestone: Working on gathering information for addresses, etc for those at College

LOOKING AHEAD

- Partnering with Outreach to finalize the service projects they will do on Thanksgiving Eve - Crafts will also be available for young people to grab and take home
- Working on creating a Seasonal Event team for the events that are more congregation-wide (like Advent Celebration)
- CYF Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 14th. Rachel Boucher has once again agreed to play piano. The program will be chosen and distributed to families by mid-November
- CEAP Toy Drive will start November 16th and go through December 14th.
- High School Ministry will be sponsoring at least two youth for the Avenues Holiday program. Part of our Christmas Party on December 14th will be shopping for those two youth.

New Business

- Call Committee
 - Discussed potential call committee members and exec committee members will ask their interest in being on the ballot
- Nominating Committee
 - Requests have gone out to ask about filling spots for next year for council
- Discussion with Susan Nienaber - closed meeting
- Synod Toolkit - Available on Saturday November 8 if anyone is interested

Next Meeting: Tuesday 11/18; 6 pm

Adjournment: Rachel made a motion to adjourn. Pam seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm