



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

08/19/25

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

Absent: Ann Maczuga, Melissa Johnson,

Call to Order: Terri called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Opening Devotion: Terri led us in devotions/prayer

Adoption of the Agenda: Rachel made a motion to adopt the agenda. Pam seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Recommended one change to the July minutes related to Glen's role in the MSP team. Pam made a motion to approve revised minutes from the 7/15/25 council meeting. Rachel seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Old Business

- Kick-Off Sunday Preparation
 - Outreach committee asked about ability to advertise/share Kick-off information. Council discussed and would like to focus these efforts for Trunk or Treat and another community event. We will advertise kick-off Sunday on the sign in front of the church
 - Games will be outside, crafts and ministry tables will be both inside and outside (CYF, outreach, Mental Health Connect, garden team outside)
 - Food - donuts and coffee inside (Rachel); lemonade and popcorn outside (Katie)
 - Volunteer list - set up, games, food, craft, activities, clean-up. Volunteer list will be sent in the email blast, Facebook, and on the cart for sign-up
- Church structure chart
 - Reviewed document related to org chart, with who is responsible to each person as part of the committees
 - One change is that audit committee is to be included under Finance Committee on this document
- MSP team update
 - MSP team to meet on Wednesday 8/20 to start the process. Committee will discuss Glen's role as advisor for frequency of attendance at meetings, chair of committee, and recorder, and set future meetings

- MSP team members are Anna Bollinger, Georgia Larson, Dan Voss, Michael Isenberg, Ben Anderson, and Kathy Lehman
- Emergency Preparedness plan
 - Terri made an announcement on Sunday about the emergency preparedness plan and seeking out congregation interest in helping with this plan.
 - Several congregation members have approached Glen and Nate about being on this committee that have worked on emergency preparedness plans in the past. Ann will work on forming this committee given interest

REPORTS

Executive Team Reports:

Vice President's Report: Phone calls continue to be made for membership. Working on figuring out baptized members that are listed as active.

Treasurer's Report

MONTH	Actual	Budget	2025 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	Actual	2024 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Gen/Bldg Fund:	July-25	July-25		July-24	
Offerings/Receipts	48,521	51,641	(3,120)	60,526	(13,005)
Expenses	(51,445)	(48,347)	(3,099)	(58,891)	7,445
Net Gain/(Loss)	(\$2,924)	\$3,295	(\$6,219)	\$2,635	(\$5,560)

YEAR TO DATE	Actual	Budget	2025 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	Actual	2024 Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
General/Building Fund:	July-25	July-25		July-24	
Offerings/Receipts	388,679	355,317	33,362	348,308	40,371
Expenses	(381,797)	(385,828)	4,031	(458,341)	76,544
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$6,883	(\$30,511)	\$37,394	(\$110,033)	\$116,916

Notable July Activity:

- ❖ For **the month of July** receipts were lower than expenses.
 - Total offering for the general/building fund for the month was \$34,430. This was lower than the budget by \$12,653.
 - Other income (building use, grants, interest, etc.) was \$14,091, which was higher than budgeted by \$5,156.
 - Expenses are unfavorable to budget this month, but favorable to prior year.
- ❖ For **July year to date**, receipts are higher than expenses, overall YTD we are up \$6,883.
 - Overall, through July, receipts are higher than budgeted
 - Expenses are favorable to budget for the year and favorable to last year.
- ❖ Cash balances available at the end of July were \$59,515 with an additional \$35,000 in investment accounts.

Pastoral Report:

Pastor Glen's Report

What have I been doing since last meeting? Trying to lots of visits to the Hanson family, before and after Flo's death, various friends of Flo, a visit and a couple of calls just before and after Bob Brinkman passed away. Hanson funeral is August 18, and Brinkman funeral will be in October. Visiting other folks in the care centers because most younger people are running hard in summer. A visit to Mari, Nate and Elijah.

The Stewardship Committee is together and has had 3 meetings. We are working through various issues related to stewardship including how to keep privacy. Jeff C., Jeff A., Terri, Julia, Candy, and Rich are great and several were involved with stewardship years ago.

The MSP team will start its work on August 20. I will be present at the meeting and they will determine chair and recorder, as well as my role (as agreed by council to let them decide). I'll be going through the form and the optional additional form.

Working on getting ahead with sermons. Also working on three Bible/book studies. I hope to have two of them on Zoom. They will not be running concurrently, but sequentially, with some overlap.

I met with a couple POP renters and 2 yet to go.

Overall, fewer activities, but more time on each activity.

I have been heavily involved with moving apartments and took a couple days off. I will likely do a day or two a week to use up most of my vacation by my anniversary in early

November. I would ask to be able to roll over up to two weeks into the next year, so I have vacation after Christmas or in early January.

Paul Koopman has resigned his position with an uncertain timeline. Personnel committee will work to figure out this role moving forward.

Will attend a conference at the end of September. Glen will figure out plans for preaching that Sunday.

Ministry Team Reports:

Outreach:

1) We are planning to have an Outreach table at Rally Sunday. As we discussed this at the August meeting, the question came up as to whether we promote this event within the community as a means to draw in new members? We would like to recommend to the council that a minimum, we promote it on the outside sign and our FB page and website. Other ideas we tossed around were the Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center Facebook pages. We'd be interested in hearing what other means are being used to promote and draw new members to Prince of Peace.

Council discussion/response: plan to focus community outreach to Trunk or Treat, potential community event, etc.

2) We would like to do another Care Bag project this fall. We will likely request a Thrivent Grant and possibly ask congregation members to donate supplies too. We'd like to do the bag assembly as a congregational event either after church some Sunday in October/November or after the Thanksgiving Eve service. If the council has any suggestions/preference on timing, we would appreciate the feedback.

Council discussion/response: We recommend doing the care bags after the Thanksgiving service.

Mental Health Connect: Rachel will host a Mental Health connect table at rally day!
Additional upcoming Mental Health Connect events:

- YOUTH Mental Health First Aid training-August 23 at Bethlehem Lutheran, Minneapolis and Screenagers: Screenagers Elementary Edition is a powerful resource for students, parents, caregivers, and educators who want to build strong, mindful habits around technology use—while deepening connection and supporting kids' emotional well-being in today's digital world-Sept 30, 6PM DINNER INCLUDED. For more information or to register, mhconnect.org

Funeral Team: Anne will host a Funeral Team table at rally day! Four volunteers helped at a funeral in July that went very well. They would love a few dollars to buy different colored placemats. I see 1,000 for \$42.99 on Amazon. Maybe a couple of colors.....red, blue. Right now, we only have white.

Council approved the purchase of additional placements. Rachel will connect with Jeanne about purchase.

Quilters: They will happily host a table for rally day- just let them know any details. Several of the quilters have been busy either sewing quilt tops or getting materials for the start of their season on September 3rd.

Library: no report

Staff Reports

Children, Youth and Family Ministry Report August 2025

PRAISES from PAST Events

- Middle School Wednesdays are just about done as we have one Fellowship Event left. Our service days have led us to Feed My Starving Children, ParkBrook Elementary, Crisis Nursery and Loaves and Fishes. Our work has included packing meals at FMSC, Cleaning up brush and lunchroom tables at ParkBrook, preparing and serving lunch Crisis Nursery and Food prep at Loaves and Fishes. Our Fellowship Events have brought us to Valleyfair, Wild Mountain and Great Wolf Lodge
- Our week/weekend at Camp WAPO was another huge success. We had great camper participation and with exception of the first couple of days - the weather was spectacular.
- The Colorado Adventure Trip had a great trip. Many of the young people who went on the trip will now have quick turn-arounds before they head off to college. HUGE Thank you to Brian Larson and Kerry Rauschendorfer who took on the task of chaperoning this adventure.

CURRENT UPDATES: CYF

- While we still have a few days left of Summer Ministry, we are gearing up for the School Year. A survey has gone out to families to make sure we are offering the best opportunities at the best time that works for a majority of families
- Already looking ahead at a variety of Fall Milestone Events
 - Welcome to Childrens Ministry
 - Bible Sunday
 - Affirmation of Baptism

CURRENT UPDATES: Full Church

- Continuing to work with Rachel Henderson to clean up different spaces around the Church - it seems to be an ongoing thing, but also very necessary.
- Working with Nate (sporadically) to help get more volunteers to step up and help out on Sunday mornings and at other times

LOOKING AHEAD

- Kick-Off Sunday will be Sunday, September 7th.
- Affirmation of Baptism will be on Sunday, October 26th @ 9:30. Starting in September I will start working with those who plan to participate in that Milestone
- Bible Milestone (2nd Grade) will take place on Sunday, October 5th

New Business

- Communication
 - Reminder for all council members to look at org chart and descriptions, and to bring any questions/concerns/ideas, etc to the correct person in the org chart
 - Congregation can go to any council member for discussion; council member(s) will bring that back to the larger council for further discussion
- Review Finance Committee document
 - Terri shared document related to the finance ministry team purpose, responsibilities, accountability, and time commitment
 - Council reviewed and no concerns brought forward by council members
- Approve Audit Committee members
 - Julia Sevald and Kathy Lehman-Johnson (both auditors) have committed to be part of the audit committee. Rachel looking for 3rd committee member (constitution states 3 members needed). Plan to meet in September/October and complete the audit by the end of the year
 - When third member is selected, Rachel will send an email to the council for approval
 - Mari made a motion to adopt the audit committee members. Pam seconded the motion. Motion carries.

- Call Committee
 - Ann and Terri looking for names for people to be on the call committee. All council members to think of people to bring forward to be on this committee at our next council meeting
 - Will need 6 committee members; 2 alternates
- Air conditioner for kitchen
 - The air conditioner in the kitchen is broken, but needs to be repaired given the use of the kitchen by our renters. Replacement is not within the budget. Repairs needed will total \$5840.
 - Rachel made a motion to approve the expense to fix the kitchen air conditioning. Pam seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Action Items from this meeting:

Task	Person assigned
Round back to Outreach team about plan to focus community outreach to Trunk or Treat, potential community event, etc. We will do care bags after the Thanksgiving service.	Melissa
2 org charts - one with jobs and one with people in those roles	Terri and Ann
Review email blast and volunteer list sent via email by Katie	All council members
Convene emergency preparedness committee	Ann
Will connect with Jeanne Hanson and Nate about placements for funerals	Rachel
Bring names forward for call committee members	All council members

Next Meeting: Tuesday 9/16; 6 pm

Adjournment: Rachel made a motion to adjourn. Pam seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm