

**ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING: President, Fred Rackow, called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. Pastor Eaves opened the meeting with a devotion and prayers.

ATTENDANCE:

Pastor Eaves	Beth Jack, Board of Outreach
Fred Rackow, President	Sonja Sporleder, Asst. Financial Secretary, Memorial Committee and Benevolence
Marilyn Maas, Recording Secretary	Jeff Pergande, Board of Elders
Darlene Tegtmeier, Treasurer	Marilyn Eaves, Altar Guild (absent)
Christy Petersen, Chairman, Preschool Bd.	Pam Neisendorf, Christian Education
Dave Neisendorf, Board of Trustees	

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 MEETING: The minutes were reviewed with no corrections. Sonja moved to accept the minutes; Darlene seconded. Motion approved.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2022 MEETING: The minutes were reviewed with no corrections. Sonja moved to accept the minutes; Pam seconded. Motion approved.

REPORTS:

(Written committee chair reports are attached to official minutes only.)

TREASURER'S REPORT: (written report attached)

Darlene reported total funds on hand 4-31-23 of \$221,415.77. As of 4-31-23, 2023 expenditures exceed budget by \$14,000.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT: (written report attached)

Pastor Eaves reported that Lois Tyndall has transferred out of St. Peter's.

Graduate Sunday will be held; Catie Beaman and Emily Jack will be recognized.

Pastor reviewed updated statistics focusing on January through April, 2023.

Brianna Dudoit and Caleb Stoner received first communion.

New members included Steve and Larissa Alcorn and children Isabella and Wyatt; Mike and Nicole Bensko and children Michael and Malena; Steve and Laretta Hatch; Mike and Romy MacMahon; Ally Mills; and Sandy Santoni.

Average weekly attendance 2023 to date is 71; 2022 and 2021 was 60 each year.
Calendar for remainder of 2023

LWML Recognition Sunday in October

Reformation Sunday (Observed), October 29

All Saints' Day Sunday, November 5

Armed Forces Recognition Sunday in November

Thanksgiving Eve, November 22, 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Advent services November 29; December 6, 13, 20 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve, December 24, 1:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, December 25, 9:00 a.m.

Pastor reviewed Missouri Synod and Northern Illinois District statistics for pastoral vacancies. MS currently is calling 536 pastors and NID is calling 13.

ELDERS REPORT: No report

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH: (written report attached)

Sunday School finished on May 7, 2023; reconvening in September. There were 6 regular attendees and occasional visitors. Pam and Darlene taught younger children; Denny Sunderlage taught middle school age.

There are two students in Monday evening confirmation class.

Vacation Bible School will be June 26-30. The theme is "Stellar – Shining Jesus' Light".

Adult Bible classes are being offered Sunday and Saturday mornings, Thursday afternoons and occasional weekday evenings.

BOARD OF OUTREACH:

Pictures with Santa and Easter Bunny were held. Next year the Easter Bunny event will be held closer to Easter with hopes of increasing attendance.

Mothers' Day Tea had 28 women in attendance.

Lenten meals were held.

Ideas are being developed for a fundraiser to benefit Gordon Gehrke and family. See notes under Board of Outreach report.

Signage Committee – Last meeting was in October. Have not applied for county variance at this time. Project is on hold.

TRUSTEES' REPORT: (written report attached)

On March 28 the trustees signed the mowing and snowplowing contract for 2023 with Green Acres.

A bid from a new insurance provider was reviewed. The decision was made to continue with our current provider who was very responsive to replacement of the organ and repair of the church bell which were both struck by lightning.

Two water tests for the church (Nitrate and Coliform) need to be completed by August. One is already complete and the second is in process.

Projects for this year include painting outside doors, finishing electric to the new building, installing two garage door openers, replacing two 6"x6" posts and bracket under front door canopy, repair soffit and fascia on northeast side of church, and spray lawn for weeds in fall.

PRESCHOOL BOARD: (written report attached)

There are currently 16 students in Pre-K and 15 students in 3-year old class.

For next year enrollment is at 20 for Pre-K and 10 for 3-year old class.

Staffing changes are occurring for next year. Director Kristina is remaining for two more years. Assistant Ashley is leaving. Religious Coordinator/prep work Shana Flatland is reducing hours next year. Currently seeking full-time Assistant, with the hope a person with Director/Teacher experience will be found, and a Prep person willing to work Thursday and Friday. Candidates for each position are being scheduled for second interviews.

A lawyer recommended by Synod is reviewing employee contracts relative to changes in mandates from State of Illinois.

Puff Pastry fundraiser brought in \$825.15

A second playground set is being purchased at a cost of \$14,251, reduced from \$28,930 with early ordering, waving delivery fee and taking tax exemption. Rubberized mulch will cost \$1650, reduced from \$3740 by avoiding delivery charge and making early purchase.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

Memorial Committee balance is \$54,156.62 which includes \$342.58 unrestricted funds. The Committee met and discussed how to use funds and communicating with families regarding options available. A letter will be sent to families advising choices available for designating memorial funds.

ALTAR GUILD:

Pastor reported costs are increasing for the eternal flame lamp oil and plastic communion cups. Options for the lamp include continuing with oil, an electric lamp, or battery inserts. After discussion, it was decided to try the battery option. Communion cups are now being purchased from CPH.

OLD BUSINESS:

Darlene Tegtmeier reminded everyone to be sure to present a Tax Exemption Form when making purchases for the church and church activities. Forms are available from Darlene.

Discussion was held regarding the update of the Audio Visual System. Christie made a motion, "Does the Counsel agree the current sound system in the sanctuary should be repaired." Pam seconded the motion. There were 8 Yes votes and 1 No vote. Motion carried. Discussion continued considering the possibility of conducting a pledge drive for the system. Darlene made a motion, "Compose a letter to the congregation explaining a six week pledge drive for the sound system." Sonja seconded the motion. There were 8 Yes votes and 0 No votes. Motion carried. Council members are to send ideas for the letter to Fred and Burt by May 23.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ideas for a fundraiser for Gordon Gehrke and his family will be discussed at a meeting on Wednesday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in helping plan this event is welcome to attend.

Next Council meeting May 24th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss letter regarding Pledge Drive for the Audio Visual System.

CLOSING/ADJOURNMENT:

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Marilyn E. Maas, Council Secretary