

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 13, 2025

Time: 9:51 AM

Prepared by: S. Schnare

Attending:

Peter Oickle, Chair
Ann Joudrey
David Zwicker

Andre Brideau
Marshall Robar
Pastor Annette Smith

Karen Corkum
Sandra Schnare

Karen Field
Lucille Wentzell

Regrets: None

1. Call to Order

- P. Oickle called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

- Additions:
 - Connections Report under Ministry Teams
 - Facebook and "Dollar a Day" under New Business (as separate items)
- **Moved** by S. Schnare, seconded by L. Wentzell, to approve the agenda as amended. **Decision:** *Carried unanimously.*

2. Opening Prayer

- K. Corkum offered the opening prayer:
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3. Election of Council Officers

- **Chair:** Peter Oickle (accepted nomination, citing increased involvement post-Pastor Paul Jensen) – **Moved** by K. Field, seconded by K. Corkum. **Decision:** *Carried unanimously.*
- **Vice-Chair:** Marshall Robar – **Moved** by L. Wentzell, seconded by A. Joudrey. **Decision:** *Carried unanimously.*
- **Secretary:** Sandra Schnare – **Moved** by L. Wentzell, seconded by K. Corkum. **Decision:** *Carried unanimously.*
- Signing officers confirmed as: Andre Brideau, Marshall Robar, and Peter Oickle.

New Council Members

- Welcomed: Karen Field and Lucille Wentzell
 - Noted that Ann Joudrey is returning for another year
 - Discussion on succession planning for next year
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4. Financial Report (full report circulated via email on March 7, 2025)

- February general fund surplus: + **\$4,552**
- 2025 general fund surplus (Jan. 1 – Feb. 28): + **\$10,457**
- Accumulated general fund surplus: + **\$68,008**

Income Statement Notes:

- General fund offerings were down \$2,130 from February 2024. \$1,756 of this decrease is regular envelopes.
- Room rentals: \$9,396. \$8,400 of that relates to SSODA
- Pastor Salary \$3,780 relates to South Shore Lutheran Shared Ministry. St. Paul's is paying for 6 services x \$630/service.
- Repairs & Maintenance: \$464:
 - Gow's Home Hardware keys cut \$8
 - DB Vacuum \$456 for repair of the vacuum
- Books: \$424 for Eternity for Today 2025 subscription
- Worship supplies: \$418 for two pastor travel communion sets (to be reimbursed by SSLSM in April pastor invoice)

Moved by A. Brideau, seconded by D. Zwicker to adopt the February financial report. **Decision:** *Carried unanimously.*

5. Old business

5a. South Shore Lutheran Shared Ministry (SSLSM)

K. Field and A. Brideau presented on South Shore Lutheran Shared Ministry (SSLSM)

- SSLSM meetings will now be held every two months
- Next meeting: May 21, 2025
- The coordination of holiday weekend services will be left to individual churches
- 5th Sunday, November service to be hosted by St. James and St. Luke's
- Summer service schedule to remain unless changed on May 21

Pastor Annette emphasized the need for leadership team collaboration and highlighted the unique challenges of the shared ministry model.

Pastor Updates & Communications

- Contact protocols for Pastor Annette, Pastor Victoria, and SSLSM Administrative Assistant, Hilary Scott, were shared
- May/June: Pastor Annette (11:00 AM), Pastor Victoria (9:00 AM); will alternate monthly
- Positive feedback on current service times was noted.

Bulletins & Records

- Bulletins to include shared ministry info
- H. Scott to receive parish council meeting minutes once approved.
- G. Tracey is managing the current Parish register. Previous registers (since 1850) are stored in Pastor Annette's office
- Microfilm copies available at the Halifax archives

5b. Youth Ministry: Council to meet with Pastor Annette and Pastor Victoria post-Easter

5c. Nova Doors & Windows: Final measurements complete; install expected in six weeks. Cost \$28,000.

Motion: Moved by L. Wentzell, seconded by K. Corkum, that a window donation campaign in memory or honour of loved ones be launched following Easter.

Decision: *Carried unanimously.*

6. Correspondence

- TOB Stormwater violation received & discussed; June 16 deadline to resolve
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7. Ministry Team Reports

7a. Property Team

- Will respond/resolve stormwater violation issue
- Sunday school door to be replaced with a steel door (Bridgewater Glass)
- SSODA (update)
 - Annual contract renewed
 - Government limitation on contract length acknowledged
 - An industrial washer/dryer unit to be installed in the utility room. Costs covered by SSODA; installation pending

7b. Worship Ministry

- 5th Sunday Services were well attended
- Overhead slides are now easier to see
- Choir speaker adjustment needed. Sound checks before services are not possible
- K. Field to join the Worship Ministry Team as the SSLSM communications liaison
- 3rd Sunday, 11 AM service to be recorded for radio broadcast
- Bring special service ideas to the SSLSM team (i.e., Maundy Thursday Service)
- Pause the tradition of singing "Happy Birthday," as it was often being sung for individuals who were not present.
- There will be no special service for Graduates; however, graduate names will be mentioned.

7c. Stewardship Team

- No report at this time. Meeting forthcoming

7d. Music Team

- Pathways to Peace Retreat: June 6–8 at Acadia University (\$160–\$180)
- Upcoming concert with Emmanuel Solomon, possible anthem during service, D. Zwicker to contact.

7e. HR Ministry

- B. Carver and O. Joudrey
- Performance evaluations forthcoming

7f. Esthetics Committee

- Youth room cleaned and reorganized

7g. Connections

- L. Wentzell reported that the Connections team currently keeps in touch with 50–60 elderly congregation members through phone calls and cards, which are deeply appreciated.
 - G. Tracey is compiling a visit list for pastors
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8. New Business

8a. Kitchenette

- New fridge installed in the Sunday school room
- Sink drainage remains a key concern for the proposed kitchenette

8b. Community Café

- T. Crouse is considering the relocation of the café. Participation concerns due to transportation issues were discussed
- Announcement of the Café status to be included in “Week Ahead”
- Café finances at \$865 (as of February 2025)
- Offering from pink Easter envelopes redirected

Moved by A. Brideau, seconded by L. Wentzell to donate \$500 of Easter envelopes to CLWR.
Decision: *Carried unanimously.*

8c. Council action on when we take purchases not in the budget to the congregation

- It was decided that all purchases over \$7500 would be brought to the congregation for consideration and vote.

8d. Camp Mush-a-Mush Summer Service and BBQ

- July 20 Camp Sunday is open to all Lutheran Congregations
- A \$200 donation from the installation service held in Lunenburg was donated to Camp Mush.
- Camp Mush clean-up: May 9 (website noted May 10)
- St. Paul’s SSLSM 5th Sunday service proposed for June 29 at camp Mush-a-Mush. K. Field will propose a \$200 donation from SSLSM to help pay for refreshments.

8e. Communications & Digital Presence

- Facebook: J. Hannam stepping down, S. Schnare/L. Wentzell and G. Tracey to manage/update Facebook page
- Website: Needs regular updates
- Services streamed on YouTube, not Facebook

8f. Dollar a Day in May

- O. Joudrey to lead the “Dollar a Day in May” campaign for Danika’s Dream.

Moved by L. Wentzell, seconded by S. Schnare, to authorize the “Dollar a Day in May” campaign.

Decision: *Carried unanimously.*

Other Notes

- Photos of Pastor Annette and Pastor Victoria to be displayed with the others in the hallway outside the family room.
 - Continued use of plastic communion cups was discussed and agreed on.
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9. Closing Prayer and Adjournment:

- D. Zwicker gave the closing prayer.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM