

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
May 13, 2024

Members Present: Pastor Ed Ruble, Harold Bruns, Sue Eifler, Kathy Fotheringham, Gary Goodykoontz, Barb Heffner, Jan Ludwig, Linn Kracht, Dave Marquette, Glenn Noffsinger, and Nancy Wozniak.

Not Present: Bill Duggan and Rebekah Seng.

Barb Heffner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. which was held via Zoom. It was determined that a quorum was established.

Pastor Ruble led the opening prayer.

It should be noted that unless otherwise indicated, Pastor Ruble abstained from voting on matters.

Approval of the Agenda as Amended: It was moved by Kathy Fotheringham, supported by Harold Bruns to approve the Agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

Devotions:

Glenn Noffsinger provided the devotions from Richard Rohr from Wonderous Encounters. Devotion for June —Nancy Wozniak.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Linn Kracht, supported by Nancy Wozniak to approve the April 8, 2024, Church Council Meeting Minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

Financial Reports (Subject to Audit):

Finance Committee Meeting Review.

It was motioned by Harold Bruns, supported by Dave Marquette to approve the April 2024 Budget Activity Report. Motion approved unanimously.

It was motioned by Sue Eifler, supported by Dave Marquette to approve the April 2024 Fund Balance Report. Gary Goodykoontz reported that there was a withdrawal from the Liability Account and \$16,000 of it went into the endowment fund and a little over \$2,000 went into World Hunger. Motion approved unanimously.

Pastor Report:

Pastor Ed Ruble provided a report and oral supplements. April went fast. His visits were down because many on the visit list attended church. Pastor was able to visit with Frank Eglund and the Dubays. There are no plans for a memorial service for Mary Coss yet. We will be switching to Setting 10 for a few months starting with the feast of the Trinity on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Ed will be working with Pastor Kjersten at Trinity to help during her upcoming maternity leave. She's due at the end of June. Joint Family Camp is cancelled for July as well, but we will do something in the fall. Pastor Cheri will do a couple of dates. Two joint worship sessions—1

here, 1 there. Dates to be determined. Pastor reported that he received the \$710 reimbursement for Stoney Lake Camp. The remaining \$710 will go directly to Living Water Ministries. New members are listed in Pastor's report. Next vacation is 6/30-7/6. Pastor Cheri is scheduled for supply on 6/30/2024. Barb Marquette will be on vacation until 6/6/2024.

It was motioned by Linn Kracht, supported by Dave Marquette to accept the May 2024 Pastor's Report with April Highlights. Glenn wanted to know if any help was needed with member visits. Pastor said he would especially like help from those who are able to help with communion. Motion approved unanimously.

#### Old Business:

1. Pete's Pantry Task Group. Linn Kracht reported that he applied for a \$5,000 grant and was able to get \$3,136 (not the full amount because Calhoun County didn't get the full amount). It is unknown when it will come.
2. Where are they now? We have SK Giving (which is not part of Servant Keeper) and it ends in July. We will get an upgrade. Whoever is helping with the upgrade will hopefully help with updating member information at that time. Tabled.
3. Update Constitution/By-Laws. Barb made an announcement in church asking for those who may be interested in participating to contact her, but no one has approached her or Pastor. Pastor Ed, Gary Goodykoontz, Linn Kracht, Barb Heffner, and Bill Duggan will pick a date to get together and start the process.
4. Progress/Funding for Parking Lot Lights. Dave and Pastor met and walked around the parking lot. Pastor asked to go back to the contractor in the event a building erected in the back. Improvement to the existing lighting and on the building. Contractor said \$3,200 but he missed an item from his supplier on one of the lights. Dave thinks it will be about \$4,200. Not doing the full project. 50/50 between endowment and donations. Sue Eifler checked with Karla Kopp, and we do not have a contact person for a grant. It was information Karla found on a Google search. Raise money for Phase I. Pastor and other committee members can contact the contractor while Dave is on vacation. Dave will send an email to Duane Eifler and Pastor Ed. About 30% of the way there without any promotion. Pastor Ed does want to get information to the congregation about the project. They may approach Ken Raupp to see if he could do a sketch similar to what he did for the garden project.
5. Pest Control Update. Dave Marquette was in contact with Dave Bowers and Bowers said he blocked the hole. There is still a bat making noises and setting off the motion detector and we probably won't be able to completely eliminate the bats. Therefore, they have been named Barnabus and Bernise Bat. A bat house may work to attract them outdoors, and Dave Marquette has looked at some plans. Bowers is ad hoc per occurrence. The service for bugs and mouse trap maintenance is contracted quarterly. Pastor Ed will put together a pest log to be kept in the office to note dates and locations of any pest sightings.
6. Office Administration Transition Discussion. Barb Marquette will scale back when she returns from vacation. It was discussed if we need to decide whether Barb Marquette's position needs to move into a hired position, or whether we continue seeking volunteers. Barb Heffner wondered if we are prepared to hire someone for the position since the Budget Activity Report currently indicates we are behind by \$4,873. Linn stated that no

money was put aside in the annual budget. We would probably need to hold a special congregational meeting to allocate funds from the budget for the hiring of an administrative assistant. Pastor is going to need help with this. We can look at the job description and prioritize the job functions. Gary Goodykoontz states that Barb Marquette also puts out checks. She is listed on the bank account and has cut checks for while she's on vacation. Gary can cut checks any other checks if need be.

#### New Business:

1. Heimlich Maneuver Device & Narcan. Linn Kracht said Nancy Wozniak has an anonymous donor if we want to get an anti-choking device. She got a \$245 donation received to purchase the device. Dave thinks we need one made in the USA and one that is for both adults and children. Dave also wondered if we would be able to have a quantity discount so members could also buy some for use in their homes. If there are additional costs, it will be covered. Nancy said the one she looked into was for one-occurrence use, but the manufacturer would replace it if it was used. Pastor will talk with the Boy Scout leader Dan Lock to see if he has an opinion. First aid kits also need to be updated. Narcan is available to us for free from the Health Department. Barb Heffner will look into getting it for free. It would be another tool we would have at our disposal. Pastor Ed says the Women's Co-op may know how to procure Narcan as well.
2. Approval of New Members. It was motioned by Linn Kracht, supported by Dave Marquette to approve the following candidates/persons as full members of St. Peter Lutheran Church: Nancy Seymour, Rich Dregne, Nora Dregne, Stephanie Seebring, and Trey Seebring, and Wes Seebring as an associate member. Nancy Wozniak asked that as soon as Pastor gets their contact information, to please let Nancy and Sarita Collins know for the Sunshine Committee. Motion approved unanimously. Pastor needs to get sponsors. Duggans are close with the Dregnes. Nancy Seymour has coffee with Nancy Douville. Pastor will reach out to Stephanie Seebring to see if there is someone she would like to be their sponsor.
1. Synod Assembly Comments. Congratulations to Dave Marquette who was voted to be on Synod Council. The Assembly will be in person in Phoenix in May of 2025. The Synod Assembly approved a 4% increase in compensation guidelines. Before, our synod wasn't competitive, but now we are looking pretty good. The Assembly highlighted four different ministries. One was Trinity in Battle Creek. They have a computer lab for KCC, a Butterfly Boutique with a Cricut cutting machine for users to make items to sell in their Etsy store, and a community garden maintained by Burmese community members. They also offer use of their building for foster care family visits and for entrepreneurs needing a kitchen space. St. Peter got a shoutout for Pete's Pantry and for being a top giver for World Hunger. The next Assembly will be held in person May 2025 and the cost will be about \$1,000 for three people to attend. Next year is the Bishop's election. The Assembly will be held via Zoom for two consecutive years, then in-person every third year. Pastor would love to do a video in the future that highlights our relationship with Alternative Choices. A memorable take-away from this year's Assembly was when the Bishop asked participants to consider

who is on their list as “yeast for the champagne of the reign of heaven” and to thank them.

2. Other.

**Committee Reports:**

1. Christian Life – did not meet.
2. Finance/Stewardship – Met 5/12/24.
3. Worship – did not meet.
4. Property – did not meet.
5. Outreach – 4/15/24.

It was moved by Nancy Wozniak, supported by Linn Kracht to accept the Committee Reports. Motion approved unanimously.

It was moved by Dave Marquette, supported by Kathy Fotheringham to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7: 24 p.m. and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

The next meeting will be on June 10, 2024, as a Zoom meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Church Council Member,  
Sue Eifler