

St Paul Lutheran Church

4167 Juddville Rd
Fish Creek, WI 54212

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stpauljuddville.com

Epistle

May 2022

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Congregation Council:

Pastor Frank Kauzlarich: 920-217-0204
Betty Eisenhauer: 920-493-0631
Congregation President & Communications Chair
Karen Peterson: 920-868-2928
Congregation Vice President & Local Benevolence Chair
Cathy Mestek: 262-470-9754
Worship & Music Chair
Greg Ehlke: 920-868-1092
Congregation Treasurer
Bob Kuftrin: 920-737-2523
Congregation Secretary & Technology Chair
Jeff Kuchenbecker: 608-770-0755
Evangelism & Men's Ministry
Peder Nelson: 920-854-0136
Property, Maintenance, & Cemetery Chair

Mary Sawyer: 920-868-2826
Administrative Assistant



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Pastor's Page



Resurrection People!

Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

I am writing to you the week after, the week after Easter. For many clergy, the week after Easter is a time to decompress after the joyful but intense Holy Week. That Wednesday after Easter, I found myself rereading thank notes from various groups with whom we have partnered since the beginning of the year to do ministry to and with others. I was moved. I thank God for the work of the Holy Spirit in this community of faith, that members of this community have a mind for mission outside of ourselves. We are responding as Resurrection People to the Call of the Gospel, to follow Jesus.

Here are some of the notes we have received:

Door of Life of Christian Church, \$500 for their Food Pantry ministry

Stride Mental Health Program for youth in Door County, \$1,500

Lakeshore CAP. Inc, for \$500 and 63 pounds of Food Pantry

Door County Food Coalition for \$2,680 from our Super Bowl of Caring offering on Super Bowl Sunday

Crossways Camping Ministries for \$1,250

Door CANcer for \$1,250

Door County Community Development Center for \$1,250

Stella Maris Care 24/7 Food Pantry

Lutheran World Relief, a handwritten note and a letter of thanks for \$5,748 as an emergency gift for the people of Ukraine, funds which were matched, to "provide food, shelter, personal care kits, baby care kits, medicines and other critically needed items for children and families"

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for ongoing ministry support

And these are SOME of the ministries with whom we have partnered since January 1!

During our Church Council we were told by Treasurer Greg Ehke that our giving in support of our budgeted ministry was doing "okay." But he stressed that what we are doing in the world outside this congregation is a "very good thing."

We're called to serve in the name of Jesus, and we are doing just that. Let us not be complacent, but always thankful, for the one we are serving is Christ in our midst.

Christ is Risen.

Your turn to respond!

Pastor Frank Kauzlarich



May Calendar



Office hours are listed in the calendar below.

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Worship 8am & 9:30am In Sanctuary & Parking Lot	2 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	3 Office Closed:	4 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	5 Office Hours: 10:30am – 1:30pm Women's Spiritual Growth Group 8:45am – 10:15am	6 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm Men's Zoom Bible Study 8:30am	7 Sleep in Heavenly Peace
8 Worship 8am & 9:30am In Sanctuary & Parking Lot	9 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	10 Office Hours: 2:30 – 5:30 10am Worship & Music Meeting	11 Office Hours: 9:00am – 2:00pm	12 Office Closed Women's Spiritual Growth Group 8:45am – 10:15am	13 Office Closed: Men's Zoom Bible Study 8:30am	14 Office Hours: 2:30pm – 4:30pm
15 Worship 8am & 9:30am In Sanctuary & Parking Lot	16 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	17 Office Closed 1:00pm Christian Women's Book Club	18 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm 6:30pm Church Council Zoom Meeting	19 Office Hours: 10:30am – 1:30pm Women's Spiritual Growth Group 8:45am – 10:15am	20 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm Men's Zoom Bible Study 8:30am	21
22 Worship 8am & 9:30am In Sanctuary & Parking Lot	23 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	24 Office Closed 1:15pm Kidnits Meeting	25 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	26 Office Hours: 10:30am – 1:30pm Women's Spiritual Growth Group 8:45am – 10:15am	27 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm Men's Zoom Bible Study 8:30am	28
29 Worship 8am & 9:30 In Sanctuary & Parking Lot	30 Office Hours: 10:30am – 3:30pm	31 Office Closed				

Volunteer Schedule



Please contact the church office at 920-868-2826 if you would like to be added to the volunteer contact list.

Worship Volunteers - May 2022

Song Leaders
May 1st: Jeff Kuchenbecker
May 8th: Mary Ehlke
May 15th: Mary Ehlke
May 22nd: Jeff Kuchenbecker
May 29th: Jeff Kuchenbecker

Musicians
✓ May 1st: Jan Meier
✓ May 8th: Shawn Mathis
✓ May 15th: Doreen Holt
✓ May 22nd: Doreen Holt
✓ May 29th: Doreen Holt

Pastor
Pastor Frank Kauzlarich

Volunteers	1 Sunday May	8 Sunday May	15 Sunday May	22 Sunday May	29 Sunday May
8am Assisting Minister	✓ Jane DeCock	✓ Jane DeCock	✓ Pam Davis	✓ Jane DeCock	✓ Jane DeCock
9:30am Assisting Minister		✓ Cathy Mestek	✓ Debbie Jones	✓ Cathy Mestek	✓ Cathy Mestek
8am Indoor Usher	✓ Jana Raines				
8am Outdoor Usher	✓ Andrea Essau	✓ Dave DeCock		✓ Andrea Essau	Dave DeCock
9:30am Indoor Usher	✓ Roy Back		✓ Sue Beranek	✓ Jill Dew	✓ Sue Beranek
9:30am Outdoor Usher	✓ Terri Back		✓ Tom Beranek	✓ John Dew	✓ Tom Beranek

Kidnits & Prayer Shawls



Kidnits

St. Paul's knitting & crocheting ministry plans to have their first in-person "meeting" in the past two years on Tuesday, May 24th at 1:15 pm. We'll make the decision on the 24th if we want to meet outside in the Prayer Garden with lawn chairs or inside in the multi-purpose meeting room. And, a reminder: You do not need to be a great or even good knitter or crocheter; just come for the conversation. There are simple patterns, even yarn and needles available for you to learn with. Hope to see you there!

Prayer Shawls

Thank you to those of you who have stepped forward and shared your gifts of knitting or crocheting for our Prayer Shawl ministry. We continue to have a good supply on hand. If you would like to contribute and have any questions or need the pattern, please contact Debbie Jones at 651-328-1261, debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com. Thank you, too, to all who have shared a prayer shawl with another. If you are aware of someone in need of one, you may pick one up at the table on Sunday before or after worship.





Summer Boating

Sunday Summer Boating Celebration

A summer special event is being planned for the congregation on Sunday, June 26th by the Church Council. The afternoon will include a 1½ - 2 hour boating trip out of Sister Bay including music and worship (with lots of holy imagination), and a picnic following the boating. The afternoon will be a time to celebrate each other and give thanks to the Lord for the privilege of safely gathering again.

More details about signing up for the boating and picnic/food will follow within the next few weeks by email and other publicity. Peder Nelson has confirmed the boats are preparing to ship out and he has reserved the picnic site. Right now, we are looking for a few people to help coordinate the picnic portion of the day. Please contact Betty Eisenhauer at bettyeisenhauer1@gmail.com if you will volunteer a couple hours on the 26th to help make the picnic a success.

Be sure to watch for upcoming emails and other announcements.

Betty



Connections

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." -1 Peter 4:10

Did you ever experience "May Day" when you were growing up? You know, that old custom of putting together little surprise packages, hanging them on someone's door knob, then ringing the bell and running away as fast as you could to keep the surprise anonymous! It was such a delight to bring a joyful surprise to someone's front door. If you were ever on the receiving end, then you know the warm feeling in your heart because someone thought about you and wanted you to know it.

We have an entire month of days in May to make someone feel special just by showing that we care and are thinking about them. Be creative and use your gifts to bring joy to someone's day! Let the light and love of Jesus shine through you. Enjoy the experience of that love being reflected back to you!

Food Pantry

This year has been a busy time for our food pantries. They are grateful for our donations. I receive thank you's with their appreciation. Summer will soon arrive. The summer workers will be arriving. Our food pantries will see an influx of people. We at St Paul will continue to help meet the needs of our community.

Thank you for your support.

Mary Anne & Clarence Scherer

Bible Studies



Men's Zoom Bible Study

The St. Paul Men's Bible Study group continues to meet via Zoom every Friday at 8:30 am. If you would like to join the group, please send an email to Gary Jones at gary.jones09@gmail.com.

Women's Spiritual Growth Group

Our spring session has begun meeting on Thursdays from 8:45-10:15, April 28 through May 26. We continue to meet via Zoom in order to accommodate those who are unable to attend in person.

For our study guide, we have selected "You Are a New Creation" by Christopher Reese which is available as a free 12-page PDF document. We are taking one day's material for each week's discussion. The following is the theme for each week:

- 4/28: A New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- 5/5: The New Self (Ephesians 4:22-24)
- 5/12: Renewed in the Spirit of Your Mind (Romans 12:2)
- 5/19: A New Command: Love (John 13:34-35)
- 5/26: New Mercies (Lamentations 3:22-23)

For more information, a copy of the PDF, and/or to be included in the Zoom invitation, please contact Debbie Jones at 651-328-1261 or debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com. All are welcome!

Christian Women's Book Club

The next meeting of the Christian Women's Book Club is Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 1:00 pm. We will gather once again on the first floor of the Kress Center in Egg Harbor for lively conversation and to discuss the book, Mrs. Lincoln's Sisters, by Jennifer Chiaverini. This is a fascinating glimpse into the women of an influential family on the front lines of some of the most important moments of the time. Mary Todd Lincoln, daughter of a prominent Kentucky family, was politically astute and helped pave the way for a backwoods, brilliant, and articulate husband to become the sixteenth president of the United States. Sadly, she was also subject to mood swings and spending sprees. But was she mentally ill? And what could her sisters do to help her?

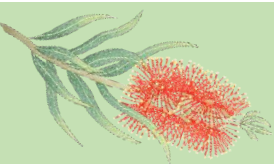
Nancy Haupt will be our host. If you would like to participate with the group and would like a list of our books for the season, please contact Dolores Hermann at 920-743-1675 or dolores.e.hermann@gmail.com.



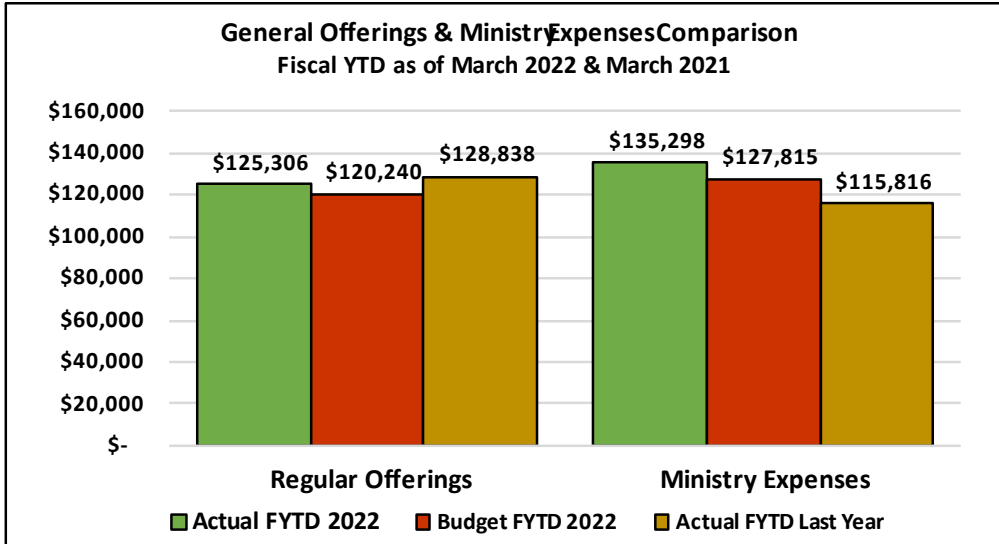
To St Paul Lutheran Church

For the generous donations from St Paul Lutheran's congregation to Lutheran Disaster Response, Reverend Robin Brown sends thanks for "your Spirit-filled generosity [which] is helping families and communities reeling from disasters. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future. You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy."

Reverend Brown is the Director of Congregational Generosity for ELCA.



Financial Update



Offerings:

The ministry of Saint Paul Lutheran Church needs your ongoing support. Financial offerings to the ministry maybe offered during worship, sent through the mail, or made electronically.

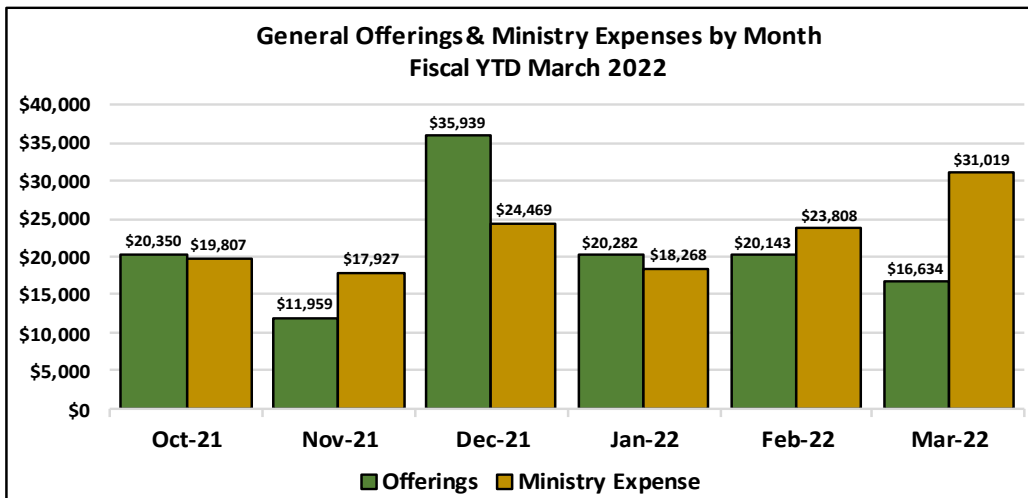
Sending by mail:

Address your gift to Saint Paul Lutheran at: 4167 Juddville Rd. Fish Creek, WI 54212.

Sending Electronically:

Electronic giving can be done by clicking the button "give online" located at the bottom of this email OR by visiting our website: www.stpauljuddville.com

- FYTD = Fiscal Year-to-Date. St. Paul Lutheran's fiscal year begins on 01-Oct.
- The 2021-22 fiscal year Ministry Expenses budget is \$250,954
- Regular Offerings in the six months of the current fiscal year were greater than budgeted by \$5,066 (\$125,306 - \$120,240) but were \$3,532 less than received in the comparable prior year period
- Ministry Expenses were higher than in the prior year period by \$19,482, principally reflecting higher Benevolence expenses, increased heating costs and a full year payment of Insurance premiums (which were \$15,625, \$2,218 and \$950 higher, respectively)



- FYTD = Fiscal Year-to-Date. St. Paul Lutheran's fiscal year begins on 01-Oct.
- General Offerings in the first six months of the 2021-22 fiscal year varied substantially (i.e., from a low of \$11,959 in November to a high of \$35,939 in December)
- Monthly Ministry Expenses were less variable, ranging from \$17,927 to \$31,019 in the current fiscal year-to-date period
- The higher Ministry Expenses recorded in December, February and March reflected the strong support for, and timing of, Benevolence disbursements (e.g., Ukraine Relief)
- The variability of monthly Offerings highlights the need for strong ongoing liquidity management

Council Highlights



APRIL COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Following are the highlights of the April 20th Church Council meeting.

- ✚ Council approved the Worship & Music ministry request to purchase a stand-alone sound system and supporting equipment to enable the outdoor worship experience beginning this summer.
- ✚ Council continued its work on development of the summer calendar for re-engagement activities. Greg Ehlke is leading a group to coordinate a July or August date for a golf outing. Peder Nelson announced he and another owner have committed the use of their sailboats for a Sunday afternoon sail. Council agreed to hold the event on Sunday, June 26th and sponsor a picnic by the Sister Bay Town Hall following the sail. Betty Eisenhauer volunteered to organize the picnic and will publicize the need for volunteers to help make the afternoon a success. And, now that Easter activities have concluded, Cathy Mestek and the Worship & Music ministry will begin planning a summer outdoor worship calendar.
- ✚ Council approved the recently developed policy which captures the requirements and processes of the long-established St. Paul sponsored post-secondary-school scholarship program.

Remember that the detailed and council-approved minutes of the April meeting will be published in the June Epistle. In the meantime, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Let us rejoice and be thankful to our Lord. We have many reasons to do so.

Betty Eisenhauer
Congregation President

Council Minutes

Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mission: St. Paul Lutheran Church is a welcoming family bringing Christ into people's lives by developing, nurturing and supporting disciples.

Council Members Present: Betty Eisenhauer, Greg Ehlke, Peder Nelson, Jeff Kuchenbecker and Pastor Frank
(all attending remotely via Zoom given COVID-19 pandemic social distancing)

Excused/Absent: Bob Kufryn, Cathy Mestek and Karen Peterson

Others Attendees: Shawn Mathys *(also attending remotely via Zoom)*

Meeting Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Betty Eisenhauer at 1:00 P.M.

Devotions

Greg provided an opening devotion and devotion based on Psalm 27.

Agenda Approval

The previously circulated agenda was reviewed and accepted.

Minutes

The previously circulated minutes from the February 16, 2022 meeting, following a motion made by Jeff and seconded by Peder, were approved.

Record of Electronic Business Approval

Betty reported that there were three actions approved by electronic means since the prior Council meeting on February 16th.

- The Council, based on the recommendation of the Local Benevolence team, approved the following Local Benevolence donations for the second fiscal quarter of the current fiscal year: \$1,250 to Door CANcer; \$1,250 to Crossways Camping Ministries; \$1,250 to Northern Door Children's Center; and \$1,250 to the Door Community Child Development Center.
- The Council, based upon the recommendation of the Local Benevolence team, also approved a \$1,000 donation from the Urgent Need fund to assist victims displaced from their housing in Sturgeon Bay as a result of the recent fire at Butch's Bar; and
- The Executive Committee approved a \$200 disbursement from the Urgent Need fund to assist a parishioner requiring assistance due to a recent fall.

Pastor's Report

Pastor provided a report on various matters. These included:

- Pastor continues to provide pastoral care through calls and visits with parishioners in the local community.
- Pastor noted that clergy from six congregations participated in last Thursday's Prayer Vigil for Ukraine hosted by Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church at which approximately 200 people attended; planning for an additional community prayer service with clergy from these congregations is underway.
- Based upon his further review of recent economic trends, including inflation and housing costs in Door County, Pastor Frank requested that his housing allowance for calendar year be increased from \$25,000 to \$30,000 with a corresponding \$5,000 reduction in his salary; upon motion, by Greg and seconded by Jeff, the motion was unanimously approved.

Financial Report

- The financial summary for February 2022, previously distributed by email for review and presented by Greg Ehlke, highlighted that Offerings for the month approximated \$20,500 and Ministry expenses approximated \$23,800. Offerings in February were \$7,400 higher in than the comparable prior year month and Ministry Expenses were approximately \$5,900 higher than the comparable prior year month.
- Offerings in February included \$2,680 received for local food pantries given in response to the "Souper Bowl Sunday" initiative and \$441 was received for Ukraine Relief prior to month-end. The higher Ministry Expenses versus the prior year month principally reflected \$4,300 of higher Local and Global Benevolence Expenses, \$600 of higher Building/Maintenance Expenses and \$500 of higher heating costs, partially offset \$300 of lower Electric and Telephone Expenses.
- Regular Offerings for the current five-month fiscal year-to-date period totaled \$108,700, or approximately \$7,700 higher than the prior year period, while Ministry Expenses totaled \$104,300 which were \$9,300 higher than the prior year period. Ordinary Net Income (excluding Dedicated Funds and Endowment-related activity) was approximately \$4,500.
- Greg reported upon recent system changes made by Vanco Payment Services which have changed the look and feel of the front page of the online giving portal.

Vanco has advised Greg that the classic opening shell page developed by St. Paul Lutheran in 2019 through its current "Online Giving" button will be inactivated at a date in the future and the new opening page shell will be the only one available at that currently unknown future date. After discussion, Greg agreed to advise the congregation of this in the upcoming monthly Epistle.

- The Financial report was approved by the Council pursuant to a motion made by Peder and seconded by Pastor Frank.
- A copy of the February 2022 Financial Summary, along with the financial statements and schedules provided to the Council, was ordered to be filed with the records of the meeting.

Ukrainian Relief Contribution Update

Greg reported that \$3,967 has been received as of March 13th for Ukraine Relief and that the congregation should remit those funds to Lutheran World Relief to take advantage of a Challenge Match to double the impact of those funds. Two congregations within the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, the Tomorrow River Lutheran parish and a congregation in Nelsonville have issued a Challenge Match of up to \$258,000 for Ukraine Relief for donations received by April 25th. The Council concurred with the recommendation to timely remit all funds received for Ukraine Relief to Lutheran World Relief to take advantage of the Challenge Match.

Congregation's Response to "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" Project

Jeff reported on the plan to participate in this project to provide bedding to those in need. Details of the event to be held in Oshkosh were provided including:

- ◆ The service project's scheduled day to construct the beds at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Oshkosh is May 7th;
- ◆ Funds to cover the cost of the beds to be constructed need to be committed to by March 28th at which point the number of volunteers required to build such beds can be established;
- ◆ Sign-ups for build day are expected to be posted by April 1st, for which one-sixth of the slots are expected to be reserved for each of the six East Central Synod of Wisconsin conferences (St. Paul is in the Green Bay Conference).

Jeff agreed to coordinate advertising and congregational support for St. Paul's involvement with this service project.

Old Business

Congregation Response to Suggested 2021-22 Activities

Betty led a discussion on responses received to date to plan for various activities to 're-engage' members in the current fiscal year. Some projects are currently in the initial planning stages (e.g., a golf outing and the "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" service project). It was agreed that there was a need to construct a calendar for these planned activities so they can be properly planned and traced for progress.

GA Computer Company Status

The Council discussed the technology support role provided by GA Computer Company. There was a general consensus that this local provider has provided extremely timely and economical technical support for the past several years, including scheduled off-site backup and support of office computers. The sense of the Council was that continuing this business relationship would prove beneficial going forward. Betty agreed that it would be appropriate to advise the vendor of his role going forward in the near future following further discussion with our Technology team.

Memorial Gifts

Betty led a discussion concerning the possible benefit of compiling a list of potential Memorial gifts should the congregation receive Memorial donations in the future. There was a sense that such a list may be unnecessary as decisions about such donations could be timely made by the Council after such donations are received. There was also discussion about whether it is truly appropriate or necessary to maintain a separate Memorial account rather than depositing such funds into the undesignated checking account. The financial team (Greg, Shawn and Jeff) agreed to review these topics outside of this meeting.

New Business

COVID-19 Task Force Recommendations

Betty reported on the Task Force's recommendations for worship services and Pastoral Care beginning on April 3, 2022 given important developments in pandemic conditions locally and recent medical experts' guidance. The recommendations included:

- ◆ In-Sanctuary Worship: 1) Masks optional, 2) Singing acceptable w/wo masks, 3) Communion w/disposable sacraments, 4) Seating every other row, no maximum determined at this time, 5) Choir may resume, 6) Pastor verifying if acceptable to worship leaders & musician
- ◆ Parking Lot Worship: Option continues for foreseeable future
- ◆ Activities inside Building: 1) Baptisms, weddings, funerals, and other church ministries/ groups may resume in-person with masks optional or continue on ZOOM – group decision re: masks and meeting method, 2) No gatherings with food
- ◆ Pastoral Care: Pastor resuming home, hospital, etc. visits with mask

The Council, upon motion made by Jeff and seconded by Peder, approved the COVID-19 Task Force recommendations.

Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:28 P.M. with the praying of The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 20, 2022; 6:30 P.M. via Zoom. Pastor Frank will provide the opening devotion.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Ehlke, Acting Secretary

Thank You to Our Helpers!

We are blessed at St Paul Lutheran with people who are willing to write letters of support and congratulations, individuals who will organize events intended to connect and inspire us, men and women who every week come forward to sing, usher, or assist in ministry. To everyone who keeps our church life moving forward, we thank you for all that you do.

