

# Epistle

NOVEMBER 2023

**St Paul Lutheran Church**

4167 Juddville Rd  
Fish Creek, WI 54212

920-868-2826

[stpauljuddville.com](http://stpauljuddville.com)

## What's in this month's issue:

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Pastor's Message  
Local Benevolence  
November Calendar  
Church Council Meeting Highlights  
Volunteer Schedules  
Church Life  
Financial Update/Treasurer's Corner  
Church Council Minutes

### **Thank You!**

To all our wonderful volunteers, we thank you!  
Without your talents and time church life would  
lose its luster. We are grateful!

Bless you!

## Congregation Council:

Pastor Frank Kauzlarich: 920-217-0204

Cathy Mestek: 262-470-9754  
Congregation President & Worship & Music Co-Chair

Pam Davis: 920-559-9806  
Congregation Secretary

Greg Ehlke: 920-868-1092  
Congregation Treasurer

Jeff Kuchenbecker: 608-770-0755  
Congregation Vice President & Worship & Music Co-Chair

Peder Nelson: 920-854-0136  
Property, Maintenance, & Cemetery Chair

Karen Peterson: 920-868-2928  
Local Benevolence Chair

Renee Schwaller: 920-868-9608  
Fellowship Ministry Chair

Steve Stringer: 815-670-5754  
Property, Maintenance, & Cemetery

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



## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we are entering the month of November, a month when many hearts and minds turn to Thanksgiving, I find myself in a state of lament.

The world is in chaos. As the Middle East is now the focus because of the horrific loss of life, many seem to have forgotten Ukraine and other places where war has raged for years. Our memories are short as we internally and externally prioritize who receives our attention and support.

And now as I write this...Lewiston, Maine. The story of death and destruction is still unfolding.

While humanity seems to be doing a poor job of the stewardship the creation God has entrusted us, including humanity itself, I find, in the midst of my laments, reasons to give thanks.

I encourage you to look for reasons to give thanks while not ignoring the ways which we together must address our sin of the things done and undone, which bring harm to God's creation.

I thank God for life, forgiveness and new life in Christ, for the work of the Holy Spirit, for family and friends. Now, where does your thankful heart turn?

In Christ,  
*Pastor Frank*



## LOCAL BENEVOLENCE UPDATE



This is a photo of ALL the **thank you notes** received from organizations to which St Paul has contributed. These notes are posted near the kitchen for viewing.



## DIAPER DRIVE



It's a wrap! We collected a whopping 3900 wipes and over 6600 diapers of all sizes. Family Services of Door County is overjoyed with the response! Two full vehicle loads will take the donations back to Sturgeon Bay where they will be distributed to those in need throughout the upcoming year.

Thank you for your generosity!



## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

St. Paul Church's scholarship program provides financial support to active church members who are currently enrolled in an undergraduate college, university, or technical school program the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year, e.g. September-December 2023. Scholarship awards are applied to the second semester fees of the 2023-2024 school year, e.g. January-May 2024. Eligible students may receive a maximum of four scholarships under this program.

**To apply for a St. Paul scholarship, follow the directions given below and return your completed application to the Church office no later than noon on Wednesday, November 15, 2023.** Additional copies of these application guidelines are also available from the Church Office.

You may refer any questions about the scholarships to Cathy Mestek, Congregation President.

### **2023 Scholarship Guidelines**

#### Eligibility Requirements:

- ❖ Active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Juddville (active is defined as attending worship and receiving Holy Communion),
- ❖ Carrying a credit load meeting the definition of full time (full time as defined by the college, university or technical school at which the student is enrolled),
- ❖ Enrolled full time in a college or technical school the first (September-December) semester when the application is made and in the second (January-May) semester of the 2023-2024 school year, when the scholarship is awarded,
- ❖ Funds used for undergraduate studies, and
- ❖ Completed application received by the church on or before noon November 15, 2023.

Letter of Application Requirements: Head your letter, "2023 Scholarship Application" and include all of the following information:

- ✓ An overview of your active Church membership, including any ministries and activities in which you are participating or have participated (either at your school or at St. Paul),
- ✓ The number of credits you are carrying in the first semester and the definition of full time status defined by your school,
- ✓ Your major course of study, the year of school you are in, and the year in which you plan to graduate,
- ✓ The reasons you are requesting a scholarship from St. Paul,
- ✓ Your student identification number and the name and address of the college, university or technical school, as the awarded scholarship funds will be mailed directly to the Institution,
- ✓ Your name, address, phone number, and email address, and
- ✓ Either by mail or email, submit your completed letter of application to: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 4167 Juddville Road, Fish Creek, WI 54212 no later than November 15, 2023.  
Email: [st.pauljuddvilleoffice@gmail.com](mailto:st.pauljuddvilleoffice@gmail.com). as a jpeg or pdf attachment (not google docs).



## LOCAL BENEVOLENCE CHRISTMAS GIVING AND ACTIVITIES

We invite our members to be your generous selves to support the following organizations during the Christmas Season:

1. **Boys and Girls Club in Sturgeon Bay** – We committed to sponsoring 15 children at \$100, but they have 65-70 children they try to gift. ANY donation amount will be welcome!
2. Provide \$10 gift cards for the 60 caregivers/staff at the **Sturgeon Bay Health Services (formerly The Dorchester)** and appropriate small gifts for the 45 residents
3. Provide \$10 gift cards for the caregivers associated with **ARDC (Aging and Disability Center)**

The Local Benevolence Team will purchase the gift cards. We would appreciate having your monetary donations by Dec. 1. Please use the pew envelopes to place your cash or check donation in the offering plate. Checks should have Christmas Funds written on the Memo line. You may also use the on-line giving for your convenience.

*ALSO - do you have any unused RELIGIOUS-themed Christmas cards sitting around your home and just wondering what to do with them? We can use them! Although we don't yet have a date firmed up yet, we invite you to join us in signing the Christmas cards from St. Paul and put them in a small gift bag along with the gift cards we will purchase with your donations. Christmas cards may be placed in a designated basket in the entryway beginning November 5.*

Watch for an email blast regarding the date/time for the assembly of the cards.

*THANKS for all your support!*



## RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN IN DOOR COUNTY! HELP "RING IN" THE THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS SEASON

Ringling the bell for The Salvation Army starts November 17th at many Door County locations. Ringing is lots of fun and very rewarding! Shifts are two-hours and equipment is provided at each site.



With help from volunteers like you, our neighbors in need will be provided with emergency assistance. Help is greatly needed, especially for the earliest dates! There are ringing slots to fill thru December 23.

Call or text Nancy at 920-883-7886 or email [nakc1@icloud.com](mailto:nakc1@icloud.com) to RING THE BELL! Many locations available throughout Door County including Main Street Market, Walmart, Walgreens, Tadych's Econo Foods and Pick 'N Save. Starting Friday, November 17th through Saturday, December 23th, weekdays and weekends 8 or 9 a.m. to 7 or 8 p.m. – by location.



## CALENDAR / SPECIAL EVENTS

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES - *We continue to worship at 8 and 9:30 a.m.***

**CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION - *We need your input by next Monday, November 6th!***

We're speeding up the timeframe to finalize the new directory. If you haven't done so already, **PLEASE email the church office at [stpauljuddvilleoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stpauljuddvilleoffice@gmail.com) with any changes or updates you have for the new church directory no later than November 6.** Thanks everyone!



**REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR, NOV. 5<sup>TH</sup> - *Enjoy an extra***

***hour of sleep!***

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY WORSHIP, NOVEMBER 6, 8 & 9:30 a.m.**

The Bell, remembering the resurrection, is tolled for each of the faithful departed we name who have died since last All Saints' Sunday.

**KIDNITS -TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7** at 1:15 P.M. in the Conference Room

Calling all knitters and crocheters, join us for conversation as we minister to those who need through what God creates through us. All are welcome!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, the SPL PRAISE TEAM will sing at both services.**

**WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRY - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, at 10 A.M.**

**CHURCH COUNCIL – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 5:30PM,** in the basement (Note time change for winter months). Our leadership gathers to do the work you called them to do as they lead and give guidance to our ministry. You are always welcome to attend.

 **SING YOUR PRAISE TO THE LORD! JOIN THE CHOIR**

All rehearsals will be at **4:00pm on Thursday afternoon, November 2 & November 9.** PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE! Choir singing dates and songs will be given at rehearsal. All are welcome.

*Shawn Mathys & Jan Meier*



## THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 6 P.M.

We gather for worship in the eve of a National Day of Thanksgiving, We offer thanks and praise to God through our essence together, our prayers, the singing of hymns, the reading of the Word, and celebration of the Great Thanksgiving, the sacrament of Holy communion. *Followed by...*



## PIE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL AFTER THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

We gather in the basement for ice cream and pie. the ice cream will be provided and **YOU ARE ASKED TO BRING THE PIE!** And if you can't bring a pie, come and as there is always plenty. WE share our lives, and ice cream and pie. If you have questions, contact Gerry Schwaller 920 421 2080. Gerry has longed for the return of this gathering!

## CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

The last Sunday of the Church Year, we continue our tradition of walking through the seasons of the year, hearing scripture and singing hymns of each of the seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and the festival day, Christ the King. Come and invite others. This is a great way. to experience the story of God's love as we continue to walk with each other in Christ!

**FELLOWSHIP TIME ON SUNDAYS** Please sign up on bulletin board in Narthex to host a Sunday.



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – October 18, 2023

*(As a preface, there was valid concern that the Council Highlights are longer than necessary, considering the complete and approved Council minutes are published in the Epistle just a month later. We agreed that the Council Highlights should be limited to things the members need to know in short order. This is a challenge for me, since we all know it's more difficult to write concise reports than it is to wander all over the place. Anyone who has read my writing knows that brevity is not among my gifts, but I'll give it my best shot.*

*The one thing I do want everyone to understand, whether it's written or not, is that the Council always begins and ends with prayer and that we never lose gratitude for the gifts God has given each of you, and your willingness to share those gifts. Now, I'm done rambling and you'll see the new, improved highlights below - and hopefully I'll be so succinct that you'll wonder what the Council did that took them over two hours. Thanks so much for your patience and grace.)*

- After discussion of pros, cons and feedback from members, Council voted to continue offering two Sunday worship services, 8am and 9:30am, through the winter and beyond, til further review.
- Those in the St. Paul office have been working on an updated membership directory. A Council member volunteered to take photos that could be added to the directory so that we can once again put a face to a name.
- Council approved the circulation of a volunteer request list at the Annual Meeting in order to give members a chance to sign up for tasks that fit their gifts. The list will also be available at coming worship services so that no one is overlooked.

- Council discussed the sanctuary lighting proposal and decided to pull this matter from the Annual Meeting agenda and ballot. The Property Ministry has been working hard to look at options and no one plan is a clear-cut winner just yet. To be continued....

- Council spent a majority of the meeting making sure things are in order for the October 29 Annual Meeting. Council expressed special gratitude to Betty Eisenhower who worked tirelessly to complete the Annual Report and to Greg Ehlke, Treasurer, and Shawn Mathys, Financial Secretary, for doing yeoman's duty in preparing documents for the meeting.

The complete, approved minutes of the October 18th Council meeting will be published in the December Epistle.

*Respectfully submitted, Cathy Mestek, Council President*



## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### **MUSICIANS FOR NOVEMBER**

Nov 5 - Doreen	Nov 19 - Doreen	Nov 26 - Doreen
Nov 12 - Praise Team	Nov 22 - Doreen	

### **USHERS FOR NOVEMBER**

November 5:	8:00am Indoors- Terri Back	Outdoors - Roy Back
	9:30am Indoors - Sue Beranek	Outdoors - Tom Beranek
November 12:	8:00am Indoors - Jerry Lecy	Outdoors - Andrea Esau
	9:30am Indoors	Outdoors
November 19:	8:00am Indoors	Outdoors
	9:30am Indoors - John & Jill Dew	Outdoors - John & Jill Dew
November 22:	6:00pm Indoors	Outdoors
(Thanksgiving Eve service)		
November 26:	8:00am Indoors - Jerry Lecy	Outdoors
	9:30am Indoors - Jana Raines	Outdoors

### **ASSISTING MINISTERS FOR NOVEMBER**

November 5 -	8:00am - John Hermann	9:30am - Cathy Mestek
November 12 -	8:00am - Jane DeCock	9:30am - Debbie Jones
November 19 -	8:00am - John Hermann	9:30am - Dennis Kaldor
November 22 -	6:00pm -	
November 26 -	8:00am - Jane DeCock	9:30am



**CHURCH LIFE**

**THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE** - Available in the narthex or from the outdoor usher. Be informed concerning the ministry we share as part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**CHRIST IN OUR HOME DEVOTIONS** - Available in the narthex and from the outdoor usher. Enter into the daily discipline of reading the word, reflection and prayer.

### **PRAYER SHAWLS**

Thank you to all who have been distributing prayer shawls. If you are aware of someone in need of one, please pick one up from the credenza in the narthex or from the table outside on Sunday before or after worship or call the office during the week. For those of you who knit or crochet, we are always grateful for any contributions you make of these gifts of care and concern. For additional information, contact Debbie Jones at 651-328-1261 or [debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com).



### **WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP - ADVENT**

As our fall session ends on November 9, we will conclude with a potluck salad lunch of thanksgiving! It has been a thought-provoking study (*You Are Never Alone*) as we connected the miracles of Jesus as found in the gospel of John to our everyday lives. No matter what we are going through or need, the Holy Spirit is with us guiding, protecting, and providing both physically and spiritually.

Our next structured study will begin in the January/February timeframe and will be communicated in the December Epistle. Between now and then, we will be using the daily devotion resource from Living Compass for the **season of Advent**. This year's theme is "**Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.**" I have several copies of this resource (no charge) that can be used for personal as well as group study. I will have them with me throughout November for anyone who is interested.

There will be no formal study during Advent, but there will be 3 weekly ZOOM sessions (12/7, 12/14, 12/21) with rotating facilitators to share insights, ask questions, and point out highlights which inspired us from this Advent devotional.

Please contact Debbie Jones (651-328-1261 or [debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com)) if you have an interest. All are welcome.

### **ST PAUL MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP meets on Fridays at 8:30am**

with the opportunity to meet via Zoom or in person at Julie's Café in Fish Creek.

For more information about the Zoom session or to receive a copy of the readings and questions, please contact Gary Jones at [gary.jones09@gmail.com](mailto:gary.jones09@gmail.com). To learn about the in-person meeting, please contact John Hermann at [john.c.hermann@gmail.com](mailto:john.c.hermann@gmail.com).

### **A SPECIAL THANK YOU!!!**

There has been a need to preserve the finish on the Church's wood Communion trays so that any spilled drops of wine on the surface would not degrade the finish.



I reached out to see if there was someone familiar with special wood finishing skills. Gerry Schwaller responded with his suggestion of a special varnish that should be used. He also volunteered to take on the project to refinish both sets of the wood Communion trays and covers.

Thank you Gerry for your time and special talent.

*Tom Prohl and the Congregation*

**THANK YOU TO KAREN AND SHAWN PETERSON for providing flowers** for the Chancel which brought beauty and joy to our worship each time we gathered. Karen would always say, "Thank God." We thank God and the Petersons!

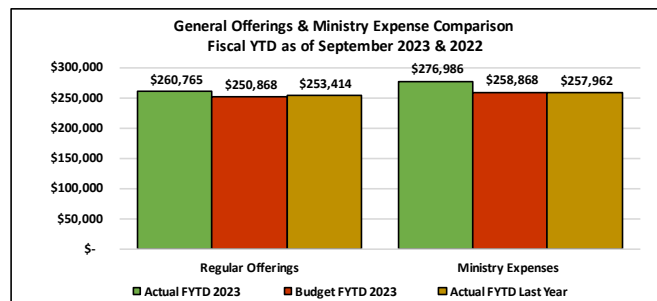


**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

## 2022-23 Fiscal Year Financial Summary

- ▶ Offerings in fiscal year 2022-23 (Oct'22 – Sep'23) totaled \$260,800, which were \$9,900 greater than budgeted and approximately \$7,400 (or 2.9%) higher than the prior fiscal year
  - The year-over-year increase reflected strong member support, especially for Local and Global Benevolences
- ▶ Total Ministry Expenses (i.e., excluding Dedicated Funds and Endowment-related expenses) totaled \$277,000, or \$19,000 higher than the prior fiscal year and \$19,000 greater than budgeted
  - The higher Ministry Expenses total principally resulted from increased Local Benevolence Expenses (which totaled \$35,000 and were \$12,800 higher than last year) that benefited others in our community
- ▶ The fiscal year Net Ordinary Loss (i.e., Offerings less Ministry Expenses excluding Dedicated Funds and Endowment-related activity) was approximately (\$16,200)
  - The Net Ordinary Loss' cash impact was fully covered by the Oct'22 receipt of \$8,000 for Local Benevolence Expenses and \$2,500 for Global Benevolences as part of an approved 2021-22 fiscal year Everlasting Endowment Fund withdrawal plus \$8,000 received in Sep'23 from an Everlasting Endowment Fund distribution authorized at the last Annual Congregation Meeting for Local Benevolences

1



- Regular Offerings in the current fiscal year were greater than budgeted by \$9,897 (\$260,765 - \$250,868) and greater than the prior fiscal year by \$7,351 (or 2.9%)
- Ministry Expenses were greater than Offerings in 2022-23 by (\$16,221)
  - That cash shortfall was covered by an approved 2021-22 withdrawal from the Everlasting Endowment Fund funding previously disbursed Local Benevolences and prospective Global Benevolences (10,500 in total) that was requested in Sep'23 but not received until early Oct-22 and a distribution of \$8,000 completed in Sep'23

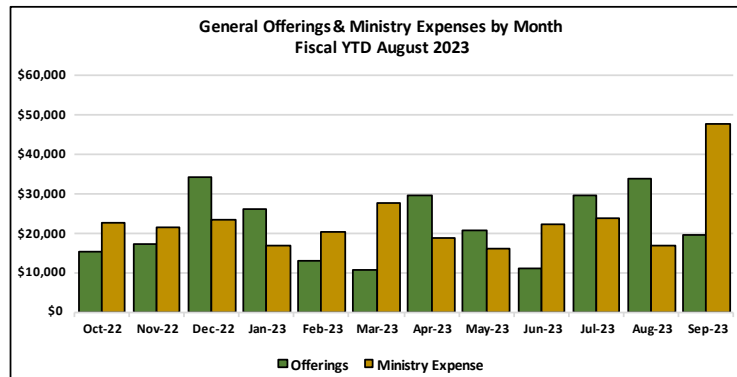
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## September 2023 Financial Summary

- ▶ **Total Offerings in September totaled \$19,900, approximately \$3,600 lower than the same prior year month**
  - September was the twelfth and final month of the 2022-23 fiscal year
  - September Offerings included Designated Offerings of \$2,400 consisting of \$1,800 for the Ramp Up Drive, \$190 for the recently announced Diaper Drive, \$245 for Urgent Need, \$75 for Global Benevolence and \$50 for ELCA Disaster Relief
  - Regular Offerings (i.e., Total Offerings less the Designated Offerings above) of \$17,500 were \$700 lower than last September and about \$3,400 lower than budgeted on a constant monthly basis
- ▶ **Total Ministry Expenses (i.e., excluding Dedicated Funds and Endowment related expenses) were \$47,700, or \$16,900 higher, than in September 2022**
  - Total Benevolence Expenses of \$28,400 were \$18,000 higher than last year as necessary disbursements were made prior to the fiscal year-end (including \$14,500 for the Ramp Up Drive and almost \$8,200 for Global Benevolence Expenses)
  - Communications Expenses were \$500 higher and outlays for Administrative and Financial Secretary related activities in the absence of an Administrative Assistant were \$1,900 higher
  - Pastoral Expenses were \$2,800 lower principally reflecting the absence of lower Continuing Education expenses in the current fiscal year period
- ▶ **Undesignated cash (i.e., the Checking – Other sub-account) in the Nicolet Bank checking account was \$45,800 as of September month-end**
  - This would cover approximately 2.2 months of budgeted Ministry Expenses

Note: Most amounts rounded to the nearest \$100.

3



- General Offerings by month varied substantially and ranged from a high of \$34,000 in December to lows of under \$11,000 in March and June
- Ministry Expenses show less variability by month and the larger outflows in March, July and September principally reflect the timing of sizable Benevolence outflows
- The variability of monthly Offerings highlights the need for strong ongoing liquidity management

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*Gregory Ehlke, Treasurer*



## COUNCIL MINUTES – September 20, 2023

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

**Council Members Present:** Cathy Mestek, Pastor Frank, Jeff Kuchenbecker, Greg Ehlke, Karen Peterson, Steve Stringer, Pam Davis **Absent/Excused:** Peder Nelson and Renee Schwaller

**Meeting Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Mestek at 6:30 P.M.

**Devotion and Prayer:** The devotion and prayer was presented by Pam and focused on the verse from Philippians 4:6.

**Agenda Approval:** The previously circulated agenda was approved by all.

**August Council Minutes Approval:** The previously circulated August Council Minutes were approved by all.

**Record of Electronic Business:** The electronic business previously conducted concerning pay for staff, was approved by all.

**Community of Faith:** -Greg shared that he had received a message from Shawn reporting that her daughter was in labor in CO.

-Pastor Frank shared about the 2 baptisms of twins that he would be doing. He also mentioned that recent visitors had stated that if they lived in Door County, St. Paul would be their church of choice.

-Steve mentioned that when he recently ushered, a visitor arrived with his dog and the dog also accompanied him to receive communion.

-Cathy spoke of preparing the annual report and thanked all council members for their contributions. She also commented on the "spirit of stewardship" of the council members.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor reported that the church will be welcoming 10 to 12 new members within the next few weeks. On October 15th, the Kurt and Karen Schmidt will be joining. There is also another couple that are presently members of another church that wish to join St.. Paul. Also Jan and Rick Meyer will be joining.

Pastor also thanked people that have been giving him rides while he was unable to drive.

He also reported that he and Betty had gone through the whole membership list and are still working on it. There are 220 members, some of which are not participating.

**Property:** Steve reported that a man would be coming the next day from Green Bay to determine exactly what work needs to be done to install our new lighting. After his visit we should have a more definite idea of the total cost. The estimate for the lights alone is \$12,850.

The cemetery survey is still in progress. There is a grave site close to the road that needed attention and Steve did the necessary repair work.

Greg asked about the septic tank that was installed in 2019 and asked if there was any attention that needed to be done. Karen said that the county would send a notice as to when it would need inspecting.

Steve stated that he had taken care of the wasp problem by spraying.

**Worship and Music:** Cathy brought up the subject as to the worship service times, whether we will continue with two services or revert to the one 9:00 A.M. service. There are some that want to retain the two services. Pastor stated that he did not mind doing two services and does not want anyone to not be able to worship because of the time of the single service. Jeff mentioned that the choir does not want to do two services. Also under consideration is the problem of having enough ushers and assistant ministers for two services. It was decided that we need to ask the congregation.

**Local Benevolence:** Karen reported that the fund still had \$1700. to allocate. The committee decided to donate \$700. to Neighbor to Neighbor, \$500. to both the Ministry fund at the Door County Medical center and the 115 Club which is based in Sturgeon Bay and is an alcohol and 12 step program. These three organizations are all vetted as nonprofits through the United Way. A check will be cut for Habitat from the ramp up project of which \$14,500. is from St. Paul. A motion to approve of these donations was made by Pam and a second was made by Steve and the donations were unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

-Still looking for an Administrative Assistant.

-Greg named the 4 members of the Transition Task Force committee and stated they have not been able to start their meetings yet.

**New Business:** A motion was made by Pastor Frank, seconded by Steve, and unanimously approved to distribute the Global Benevolence funds evenly to The World Vision, the Airport Ministry Fund and to The Mercy Ship. Pastor mentioned that the pastor from the Airport had done 4 funerals last year of people that had passed at the airport.

**Financial Report:** Greg Ehlke referred to the financial summary and supporting reports he distributed by email prior to the meeting. The financial summary for August 2023 highlighted Total Offerings approximated \$36.9K, of which Regular Offerings were approximately \$24.0K and Designated Offerings (for the Ramp Up Drive, Memorials, the HVAC project, Maui Relief and Urgent Need), were about \$12.8K. Ministry Expenses totaled \$14.4K, about \$0.8K lower than last year.

Fiscal year-to-date Regular Offerings were about \$241.1K, or \$11.0K higher than the prior year-to-date period. Ministry Expenses were \$229.2K, in the first 11 months of the fiscal year, which was \$2.1K, higher than last year. The fiscal year-to-date Ordinary Net income was \$13.8K or \$10.2K better than the prior year.

Undesignated cash funds available would cover about 6.0 months of Ministry Expenses without any reliance on additional offerings being received. This includes the liquidity that could be quickly provided from approximately \$51.9K of liquid assets (cash, U.S. Treasury Notes and bill) invested with Thrivent Financial to enhance the church's interest income.

Greg reviewed expected September cash flows with the Council. The Treasurer noted that a \$10.0K distribution from the Everlasting Endowment Fund and a \$12.5K distribution from the Emergency Endowment Fund to partially defray the cost of the HVAC project were expected to settle that week and that almost \$24.0K of Benevolence or Memorial Fund outflows were elected to occur in September.

The financial report was approved by the Council pursuant to a motion made by Karen and seconded by Pam. A copy of the August schedules provided to the Council, was ordered to be filed with the 2023 Financial Summary, along with the financial statements and records of the meeting.

**2023-24 Spending Plan:** The Treasurer then reviewed the proposed 2023-24 Spending Plan with the Council including, importantly, key assumptions contained in the proposed Spending Plan. The Council requested that the proposed 2023-24 Spending Plan reflect (i) that musician payments for two weekly worship services for the entire fiscal year be provided for in the proposed 2023-24 Spending Plan and (ii) and additional \$550 expense be included for music license fees required for planned worship service video streaming next year. After discussion, upon a motion made by Pam and seconded by Jeff, the Council unanimously approved the proposed 2023-24 Spending Plan with the inclusion of the two aforementioned items.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Pam and seconded by Karen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M. with the recitation of the Lord's prayer.

**Next Council Meeting:** The next council meeting will be on Wednesday, October 18, 6:30 P.M.: Devotion and Prayer by Peder Nelson.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Davis, Secretary*



**Editor's note:** *As this is my first autumn living in Door County, it was the first time I could view the beautiful fall foliage colors surrounding the church. What a spectacular show of God's handiwork. Here are a few of my photos to share:*

