

**Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran
Church Council Committee Meeting
January 19, 2025
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 10 am. In attendance were Ann Davison, Pastor Sherrie Hofmann, Kate Isom, Debbie Helsley, and Elaine Bennett. Pastor Hofmann offered an opening prayer.

The Council discussed the status and next steps of our exploration of a shared ministry. Ann shared that Pastor John Wertz of the Synod encouraged us to continue conversations on expectations and hopes for a shared ministry arrangement and his expectations to be back in touch soon regarding possibilities within our area for a partnership. The Council considered whether Prince of Peace desires to have a pastor every Sunday but decrease compensation to part time. We will likely need to consider a different service schedule and engage lay participation in providing communion to shut-ins, as well as assign some other duties to lay leaders. Several different approaches were discussed including the possibility of Sunday services at 9 am or 11 am, but NO decisions were made and this will be an ongoing conversation with both the congregation and a potential partner.

The Council then turned to a discussion of other miscellaneous financial and administrative matters including the plan to engage Mt. Valley Bookkeeping as soon as possible to support financial management. Also expressed was a continued desire to explore competitive liability/property insurance and propane and to investigate quarterly pest control. Kate and Ann will look into these options in collaboration with the Finance and Property Committee. Pastor Hofmann has a lead on a reliable and affordable copier option (a purchase approved by the Council in 2024) that she will pursue.

The Music and Worship committee introduced the idea of moving Midweek Lent services to noon on Wednesdays to accommodate those uncomfortable with night driving. A detailed discussion was held on Easter Season preparation and the increasing challenge of holding two services on Easter Sunday. It was decided to hold one service this year, especially given the increasing risk of extreme cold in the early morning and difficulty securing music accompaniment for a second service. The Council voted to adopt the worship schedule as follows:

- Shrove Tuesday: March 4 (Time: TBD)
- Ash Wednesday: March 5 at 12 pm
- Midweek Lenten Reflections and Soup/Sandwich Lunch: March 12, 19, 26, April 2, and 9 at 12 pm
- Maundy Thursday: April 17 at 6:30 pm
- Good Friday: April 18 at 3 pm
- Easter Sunday Worship: April 20 at 10 am (Breakfast immediately preceding the service)

With the adoption of the new Prince of Peace Constitution, our church calendar year now begins in January. Accordingly, the Council will be re-installed at our February 2nd Worship Service. In addition, we will seek new members for Committees, especially Finance and Property and Stewardship. Pastor Hofmann and Ann will meet separately on Christian Education opportunities to offer in the coming months.

The meeting concluded at 11:20 am.