

**Voters Meeting**

**Meeting Date: November 9, 2014**

**Meeting was called to Order**

**Pastor opened with a prayer**

**Review Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes were presented following the last meeting, there were no revisions.

Motion to Accept as Presented: Bob Hassey

Seconded by: Pat Jahn

And Passed

**Treasurer’s Report (attached)**

<b>Line Item</b>	<b>(8) Receipts +/-</b>	<b>(45) Building Expense</b>	<b>Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>(80) Total Admin.</b>	<b>(76) +/- Receipts</b>	<b>Check Book Balance</b>
<b>Y.T.D.</b>	<b>\$ -15,956</b>	<b>\$ 758</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ -3,089</b>	<b>\$ -8,217</b>	<b>\$ 28,465</b>

Question was asked why there is a difference in the budget variance from the Treasurer’s report and the weekly bulletin. Linda explained the timing difference in the reports.

Motion to Accept: Linda Noll

Seconded by: Ray Thompson

And Passed

**Reports of Boards**

**Elders**

The board presented the proposed policy regarding the performing of marriages at St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran church Waterford, Wisconsin (see enclosed handout).

Motion to Accepts: Duane Luick

Seconded by: Carl Thompson

And Passed – Policy should be placed in the church permanent records for future reference.

**Sunday School and Youth**

No report

**Evangelism**

No report

**Parish Fellowship**

Update provided on the snack offerings to support fellowship in the narthex on Sunday mornings. 19 dozen cookies and snacks per event, future donations very much are appreciated.

**Finance**

No report

### **School Board**

Update provided on current pre-school activities. 29 children enrolled and enclosed financial report reviewed. An update was provided regarding the possible 2015 changes pertaining to the public school system outsourcing the 4k program to local care providers. District financial reimbursement and facility and curriculum requirements are being developed and will be shared with interested organizations. District members visited St. Peter's the week of November 3. The School Board is organizing the information that was provided as part of this visit. The District will issue contracts to interested organization if and when it is appropriate sometime in early 2015.

### **Social Ministry**

Thanks to all that donated winter apparel for the clothing drive. For every coat that was given \$5 was donated to Love Inc. by Thrivent. An "adopt a family tree" program coming soon from the ministry board.

### **Stewardship**

Follow-up will begin in December to fill upcoming Board openings.

### **Trustees**

Thank you's to all volunteers for the work that has been done; grass cutters, landscaping crew and the ongoing financial support from the Fall Fair committee. Also looking into improving the Jesus statue lighting in the choir loft.

A motion is made to approve all board reports by Duane Luick, seconded by Linda Noll and passed

### **Pastor Bischoff's Report**

Comments shared regarding concern and expectations of our men to serve as chairman. It's not a lack of overall participation or interest, but please remind men to step up. Pastor will be reaching out to our men and encouraging them to provide service in our needed roles.

Question was asked regarding the status of women serving in chairman roles. It was explained that although synod may allow this practice that our concern should be that fewer men would provide service. Our goal needs to be getting men involved.

### **Pastor Conradt's Report**

No report.

### **Committee Reports**

Memorial and Bequest Committee

- Report is attached

Memorial (list) Committee

Public Relations Committee

New Cemetery Committee

Fall Fair Committee

Finance/Counters Committee

### **Old Business**

- None

**New Business**

- None

**Meeting Close**

Motion by:

Seconded by:

And Passed

**Meeting closes with the Lord's Prayer**

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>RAINBOW PRESCHOOL</b>				
2	<b>JAN 2014 THROUGH OCT 2014</b>				
3	<b>NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING</b>				
4		<b>12 Months</b>	<b>10 months</b>	<b>10 months</b>	<b>10 months</b>
5		January 2014	Jan 2014	Jan 2014	<b>ACTUAL</b>
6		Thru Dec 2014	thru Dec 2014	thru Dec 2014	<b>TO</b>
7		<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
8					
9					
10					
11	<b>Income</b>				
12	Youngstar Income	\$0	\$0	\$244	\$244
13	Income from Collections	\$0	\$0	\$169	\$169
14	Tuition - Preschool	\$119,360	\$98,310	\$86,484	-\$11,826
15	Summer School	\$14,500	\$14,500	\$22,857	\$8,357
16	registration fees	\$1,500	\$1,360	\$2,036	\$676
17	Donations	\$1,000	\$833	\$2,461	\$1,628
18	Fund Raisers			\$50	\$50
19	Interest on savings	\$50	\$42	\$49	\$7
20	Miscellaneous Income	\$100	\$83	\$916	\$832
21					
22	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$136,510</b>	<b>\$115,128</b>	<b>\$115,265</b>	<b>\$137</b>
23					
24	<b>Expenses</b>				
25	St Peter's Church	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$7,739	\$2,739
26	member discounts	\$2,280	\$1,900	\$2,068	\$168
27	Field Trip Expense	\$250	\$250	\$235	-\$16
28	Fund Raiser Expenses			\$25	\$25
29	Collections /Bank Expense			-\$117	-\$117
30	Hot Lunch Expense	\$4,125	\$3,348	\$2,864	-\$484
31	Advertising	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$454	-\$1,546
32	Curriculum	\$250	\$250	\$452	\$202
33	Dues and Memberships	\$250	\$250	\$104	-\$146
34	Licenses/ Background Checks	\$950	\$920	\$578	-\$342
35	Workers Compensation	\$1,800			\$0
36	Operating supplies &equipment	\$10,500	\$10,252	\$5,483	-\$4,769
37	Payroll Processing	\$660	\$550	\$561	\$11
38	Postage and Delivery	\$100	\$83	\$33	-\$50
39	Payroll and Benefits	\$105,693	\$88,078	\$82,705	-\$5,372
40	Continuing Education	\$430		\$460	\$460
41	Telephone	\$660	\$550	\$536	-\$14
42					
43	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$134,948</b>	<b>\$113,431</b>	<b>\$104,180</b>	<b>-\$9,251</b>
44					
45		<b>Bdgt 12 mos</b>	<b>Bdgt 10 mos</b>	<b>Act 10 mos.</b>	
46	<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$1,562</b>	<b>\$1,698</b>	<b>\$11,085</b>	<b>\$9,388</b>

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>St. Peter's Lutheran Church</b>					
2	<b>As of September 30, 2014</b>					
3						
4		<b>2014</b>		<b>Jan-Sept 2014</b>	<b>Jan-Sept 2014</b>	<b>Over/(Under)</b>
5				<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
6	Receipts	340,000		255,000	239,044	(15,956.00)
7	Preschool Contribution	5,000		5,000	5,000	0.00
8	Receipts	<u>345,000</u>		<u>260,000</u>	<u>244,044</u>	<u>-15,956</u>
9						
10						
32	<b>Personnel Total</b>	<b>258,327</b>		<b>192,508</b>	<b>188,596.94</b>	<b>(3,910.81)</b>
33						
34	<b>BUILDING MANAGEMENT</b>					
35	Utilities: Natural Gas/Heat	8,500		7,073	11,088.46	4,015.46
36	Electric	17,500		13,266	11,684.55	(1,581.45)
37	Water/Sewer	1,000		691	951.34	260.34
38	Waste Disposal	1,700		1,275	2,198.20	923.20
39	Telephone	1,500		1,125	1,130.39	5.39
40	<b>Total Utilities</b>	<u>30,200</u>		<u>23,430</u>	<u>27,053</u>	<u>3,623</u>
41	Repair/Upkeep	11,032		8,274	5,634.20	(2,639.80)
42	Building and Liability Insurance	7,500		0	0.00	0.00
43	Capital Improvements	0		0	0.00	0.00
44	Miscellaneous	300		225	0.00	(225.00)
45	<b>Building Totals</b>	<u>49,032</u>		<u>31,929</u>	<u>32,687</u>	<u>758</u>
46						
47	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>					
48	Portals of prayer	400		300	352.00	52.00
49	Children's Bulletins	50		38	0.00	(38.00)
50	Office Supplies	3,000		2,250	2,533.72	283.72
51	Church Operating Supplies	2,700		2,025	1,782.00	(243.00)
52	Office Equipment and Repairs	5,000		3,750	3,325.80	(424.20)
53	Financial Supplies (Envelopes)	1,300		0	113.95	113.95
54	Car Allowance	7,200		5,400	5,400.00	0.00
55	Music: Senior Choir	100		75	0.00	(75.00)
56	Organist	100		75	0.00	(75.00)
57	Bd of Elders	225		169	255.74	86.74
58	Bd of Sunday School	4,400		3,000	3,000.00	0.00
59	Youth Fund	1,000		750	0.00	(750.00)
60	Bd Stewardship	300		0	0.00	0.00
61	Bd Evangelism	300		225	0.00	(225.00)
62	Bd Social Ministry	425		319	318.00	(1.00)
63	Parish Fellowship Bd	400		300	323.09	23.09
64	Pastor Conference	1,500		1,125	270.00	(855.00)
65	Pastoral Care	1,000		750	0.00	(750.00)
66	Synod/District Assessments	0		0	0.00	0.00
67	Advertising	350		263	159.60	(103.40)
68	Miscellaneous	731		548	439.00	(109.00)
69	<b>Administrative Total</b>	<u>30,481</u>		<u>21,362</u>	<u>18,273</u>	<u>-3,089</u>
70						
71	Home Operating Total	337,840		245,799	239,557	(6,242.00)
72	Singapore Missions	2,000		1,500	-	
73	Missions:	8,000		6,000	6,003.00	3.00
74	<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<u>\$ 347,840</u>		<u>\$ 253,299</u>	<u>\$ 245,560</u>	<u>(7,739.00)</u>
75						
76	Excess/(Deficits) Receipts	<u>\$ (2,840.00)</u>		<u>6,701</u>	<u>-1,516</u>	<u>-8,217</u>
77						
78	<b>Cash:</b>			<b>Comparison of Givings:</b>		
79	Cash as 1-1-14	26,727				
80	YTD Receipts	244,044		01/01 to 9/30/14	39 Sundays	239,044.00
81	Loan from Memorial & Bequest					
82	TYD Disbursements	<u>(245,560)</u>		1/01 to 9/30/13	39 Sundays	<u>246,990.62</u>
83	Subtotal	25,211		Net Overage (Short fall)		<u>(7,946.62)</u>
84	Pass-thru receipts	56,398				
85	Pass-Thru Disbursements	<u>(53,143)</u>		<b>Maintenance/Roof Savings Account</b>		
86	<b>Total Cash as of 9-30-14</b>	<b>28,465</b>		Balance @ 9/30/14		<b>15,901.31</b>

**MEMORIAL AND BEQUEST FUND 11/4/2014****Balance on Hand 12/31/13** **\$ 711,746.40****Receipts**

Interest	\$ 11,895.99	
Dividends - UPS Stock	\$ 649.00	
Memorials	\$ -	
Select CD Value	\$ 11,350.68	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 23,895.67</b>

**Disbursements**

MM Bank Fee	\$ 67.75	
St. Peters (ER Fund - POBLO)	\$ 1,000.00	
2013 Interest Disbursements	\$ 1,250.00	
St. Peters (ER Fund - Needy church families)	\$ 2,000.00	
St. Peters (ER Fund - Aid to persecuted christians)	\$ 500.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ (4,817.75)</b>

**UPS Stock Value** **\$ 1,777.00****Balance on Hand 11/4/2014** **\$ 732,601.32**

<b>Note: Designated Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ (22,640.70)</b>
<b>ER Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ (13,500.00)</b>
<b>Fund Corpus</b>	<b>\$ 696,460.62</b>

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**INVESTMENTS**

Equitable Bank - CD	\$ 88,946.48
Citizens Bank - CD	\$ 85,117.89
BMO Harris - Linked CD	\$ 45,000.00
BMO Harris - Linked CD	\$ 45,000.00
BMO Harris - Money Market	\$ 23,356.19
BMO Harris Money Fund	\$ 285.20
UPS Stock (894.8 sh. @ \$107.08)	\$ 95,815.00
Genworth Annuity	\$ 156,561.00
LCEF	\$ 192,519.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 732,601.32</b>

**DESIGNATED FUNDS ACTIVITY 1/1/14 - 11/4/14****Seminary Scholarship**

Balance - 1/1/14	\$ 11,268.86
Activity	\$ -
Balance	\$ 11,268.86

**Capital Repair**

Balance - 1/1/14	\$ 10,471.84
Activity	\$ -
Balance	\$ 10,471.84

**Undecided**

Balance - 1/1/14	\$ -
Activity	\$ 500.00
Balance	\$ 500.00

**Yard & Grounds**

Balance - 1/1/14	\$ 400.00
Activity	\$ -
Balance	\$ 400.00

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<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>\$ 22,640.70</b>
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**EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND ACTIVITY 1/1/14 - 11/4/14**

Balance - 1/1/14	\$ 12,000.00
2013 Interest	\$ 5,000.00
St. Peters (Poblo)	\$ (1,000.00)
St. Peters (Needy Family)	\$ (1,000.00)
St. Peters (Needy Family)	\$ (1,000.00)
St. Peters (Aid to Persecuted Christians)	\$ (500.00)
<b>Total Emergency Fund</b>	<b>\$ 13,500.00</b>

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**Policy Regarding the Performing of Marriages at  
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Waterford, Wisconsin**

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The State of Wisconsin, along with 30 other states, has legalized marriage between homosexual couples. While this presently does not impact our congregation, it may do so in the not too distant future. The following statement comes from **The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod** as part of a document titled, *"Information on Marriage Policies for Member Congregations"*.

It is our understanding, based on information from LCMS legal counsel, that currently there is no federal or state law which prohibits ministers from refusing to officiate over same-sex marriages or requires churches to allow their sanctuaries or church facilities to be used for same-sex marriage ceremonies, same-sex civil unions, or same-sex marriage receptions. Indeed, it is our understanding that most, if not all, state laws that recognize same-sex unions and/or same-sex marriages have express exceptions providing that such statutes do not require ministers to participate in such ceremonies or require churches to allow them to take place on their property. However, because laws relating to marriage, same-sex unions and anti-discrimination vary from state to state, as do laws governing certain tax exemptions, each congregation should consult its local legal counsel regarding the applicable state and local laws to confirm this.

Governing documents of member congregations, such as Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws, usually include a statement of adherence to the confessions and beliefs of the Synod as set forth in the Synod Constitution. Such a statement is of particular importance at the present time in light of today's evolving laws on same-sex marriage and antidiscrimination. For these reasons, it is recommended that congregations affirm their beliefs, practices and policies on marriage in a written statement. Such policies could be included as part of your congregation's handbook or policy manual or simply be prepared as a separate document.

Further, due to some concern over at least one reported case of a nonprofit organization losing a partial real-estate tax exemption for refusing to rent a seaside pavilion on its property that was open to the public to a same-sex couple for a civil union, it would be prudent to include a provision in your marriage policy limiting the use of the congregation's property for marriages that are consistent with your beliefs and policies on marriage.

In response to the statement above:

- Paragraph 1: At the present time the State of Wisconsin does give exemptions to churches and ministers concerning performing marriages for same sex couples. It is unclear if and when these exemptions may change.
- Paragraphs 2-3: Our church constitution does state clearly our adherence to the official teachings and position of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and the Lutheran Confessions.

Following the suggestion of our Synod for additional clarity in our position, our congregation should have a stand-alone document, read and passed by a duly convened Voters Assembly, stating our policy on this subject. Below you will find our policy, approved by the Board of Elders and the Church Council, which will need to be voted on and ratified at the November 9, 2014 Voters' Meeting.

**Policy Concerning the Performing of Marriages  
and the Use of Church Property and Facilities**

The marriage policy of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waterford Wisconsin, a member congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, is and always has been consistent with the Synod's beliefs on marriage. We believe that marriage is a sacred union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24-25), and that God gave marriage as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His bride the Church (Eph. 5:32). The official position of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as set forth in 1998 Res. 3-21 ("To Affirm the Sanctity of Marriage and to Reject Same-Sex Unions"), is that homosexual unions come under categorical prohibition in the Old and New Testaments (Lev. 18:22, 24; 20:13; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; 1 Tim. 1:9-10) as contrary to the Creator's design (Rom. 1:26-27). These positions and beliefs can be found on the LCMS website, along with other statements, papers and reports on the subject of homosexuality and same-sex civil unions and "marriage." Our pastors will not officiate over any marriages inconsistent with these beliefs, and our church property may not be used for any marriage ceremony, reception or other activity that would be inconsistent with our beliefs and this policy.

The policy statement above will provide a measure of legal protection for our congregation to be able to maintain the LCMS's firm biblical convictions about marriage. We should realize, however, that given the speed of change in opinions about marriage, other legal threats may well arise.

Nevertheless such a policy is good to have. It would be foolhardy to ignore the grim threats to biblical teaching and practice that we are facing. Yet, it would be far more foolhardy to be overcome by fear because of these challenges, "for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4). "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:38-39). If you have any questions or concerns about this, please feel free to contact either Pastor Bischoff or Pastor Conradt. Please plan on attending the November 9<sup>th</sup> Voters' Meeting.