

COUNCIL CORNER

At its meeting held on November 9, the Church Council:

- Received Pastor's Report which highlighted worship attendance statistics from 10/19 – 11/02, pastoral calls and visits, and the baptism of Dakota Cornell Mack on 11/02. She expressed deep thanks to all who worked to make the 100th anniversary gala and All Saints Day worship a success.
- Received President Elizabeth Lowe's report which highlighted activities in which she participated followed by a recap/discussion of the Drive to '25 events (100th anniversary gala and worship service) on November 1 and 2.
- Received the Treasurer's Report and reviewed year-to-date expenses and previewed the proposed budget for 2026.
- Received a report from Miki Tomita, Music Director, which highlighted special music events held throughout the year.
- Received a report from William Kauffman, Communications Director, which highlighted Facebook and website statistics and videos on the church's YouTube page.
- Received a report from Robert Jacoby, Property Manager, which noted various accomplishments for the past month and highlighted the 100th anniversary sign which was installed on the portico of the church.
- Received a report from the Social Ministries Team which highlighted the Thrivent-sponsored Feed Northeast initiative to collect non-perishable food items during October, which were donated to St. Paul's food pantry; the distribution of candy and treats to local school children on Halloween, 10/31; the collection of non-perishable food items, paper goods, and cleaning supplies, etc. for St. Paul's food pantry during Advent (11/30 - 12/21); and a Christmas giving tree with suggested gifts for children of families who come to the food pantry. The report also highlighted projected monthly plans for 2026 and the Bread for the World offering of letters which will be a monthly event beginning in January 2026.
- Received Seminarian Wayne Olsen's report in which he noted that he has been endorsed by the NJ Synod and will begin his internship in January 2026. He will also be traveling to Egypt in January and visiting various holy sites.
- Received a report from Pastoral Associate Rev. Kasana Akridge in which she highlighted the upcoming launch of the LGBT Ministries on

November 21 and St. Paul's partnership with Ridgefield High School's STRIVE program which equips students in special education transition with life skills.

- Received a report from Food Pantry Manager Patricia Akridge in which she noted the statistics for the past month, that there is an increased demand for meal services, and that the program has witnessed progress in building relationships and fostering unity.

The next meeting of the Church Council will be on Tuesday, December 9 @ 6:00 p.m. (Christmas dinner at Café Tivoli, Ridgefield, NJ.)

