



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Congregational Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE					
X	Sarah Friesen-Carper, Pastor	X	Dale Brainard, Member at Large		
X	Tom Miller, President	X	Chris Clark, Member at Large		
X	Tyler Kroschel, Vice President	X	Jaime Fraley, Member at Large		
X	Julie Coozennoy, Secretary		Arlie Post, Member at Large		
X	Katie Fetterly, Treasurer	X	Karen Rozeske, Member at Large		

Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm by Tyler Kroschel and Pastor Sarah opened the meeting with the council sharing God Sightings and devotions.

WELCOMED new council members.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A motion was made by Karen Rozeske to approve the consent agenda (with additions), Pastor's, Committee's & Financial Report. Seconded by Andy Stoyke. Unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of January 31, 2020	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$12,422.00
Total Revenue	\$14,389.55
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$16,770.16
Net Income (after mortgage payment)	(\$7,708.61)
Mortgage Balance	\$403,868.84
Edward Jones Balance	\$39,057.71

FINANCE REPORT:

- There was no finance meeting.

INTERIM PASTOR'S REPORT:

- I. Administration
 - a. Weekly staff meetings with Office Admin
 - b. 1 New Council Member Orientation
 - c. 1 mtg with Council Pres
 - d. 1 mtg Treasurer, book keeper, Office Admin
 - e. Weekly note from the Pastor in Refresh and ReNews
 - f. Monthly meetings with Saint Paul Area Synod Interims
 - g. Monthly report to synod office
 - h. Monthly Area Clergy Conference Meeting
 - i. Thanks to everyone who made the Annual Meeting and the following potluck a success! It was a good meeting with good questions and conversation.
- II. Education
 - a. Weekly Bible Study 1:30 pm studying the Lectionary
 - b. Confirmation – Wednesdays 6:30-7:30; 2019-2020 theme: “What it means to be a Lutheran.” 18 students and 4 adult guides.
 - i. Confirmation Students will attend a retreat at Gustavus Adolphus College April 17-19
 - ii. I am sending a weekly update to Confirmation families and students as a way of increasing communication

- c. Adult Forum on Sunday – Arlie and Dale and I led 2 sessions in January to hone the Loving Behaviors List
 - i. February we took 2 weeks off and the last 2 weeks we used a recourse from the WELCA titled “No Hard Feelings: The Angst of Anger”
 - ii. Lent will follow the Worship theme “Open My Life, Lord”
- d. 1 Preschool Team meeting and Preschool Open House
- e. My Bible Class February 16th with 2 third graders and parents
- III. Worship
 - a. 1 WAM Team meeting
 - b. Blended worship style continues to be fluid. In the Season after Epiphany, we are learning Setting 8. In Lent, we will return to Setting 10 for very simple worship.
 - c. We have begun to gather and read “God sightings,” that is, where people are seeing God breaking through and/or present in this congregation during the announcements time in worship. This will continue through the church year (November 2020).
 - d. See attached for outline of worship through Lent
 - e. Lent will include weekly Wednesday worship at 7pm using a simple evening prayer model. Each week in Lent Sunday and Wednesday worship will have a theme: Open My Eyes, Lord; Open My Hands, Lord; Open My Ears, Lord; Open My Heart, Lord; Open My Life, Lord.
 - f. Weekly Preschool Chapel – W/Th 10am
 - g. Weekly Prayer Wednesdays at 1pm
- IV. Pastoral Care
 - a. 4 pastoral care visits
- V. Miscellaneous
 - a. Pancake breakfast with the Boy Scouts – it was good to have the breakfast with the Boy Scouts and have them bring a word of greeting during worship. In the future it makes sense, I think, to strengthen that relationship.
- VI. Consultant’s recommendations
 - a. Breakthrough Prayer Initiative – initiated October 13. The next step is noticing where God is breaking through and naming those places, people, experiences which we are doing each week in worship.
 - b. Behavioral Covenant – The List of Loving Behaviors was adopted unanimously at the Annual Meeting. Tyler and I are working to create a large print banner that everyone can sign and hang in the narthex. We have focused on items from the list in worship this month and that will continue as part of the Lenten theme.
 - c. Up next for us to consider:
 - i. Communications plan
 - ii. Fellowship opportunities – fun and getting lots of people involved
 - iii. Establishing Personnel Team and Mutual Ministry Team/healthy, proper channels for concerns and feedback and teaching the congregation to utilize them
 - iv. Further training for congregation and leadership on conflict transformation
 - v. Governance – especially clarifying teams and duties and updating the constitution
 - vi. Clarifying identity and purpose – this will go hand-in-hand with the work around our financial future

Worship Plans for Lent - Lent Theme: Open My Life, Lord

+ February 26, 2020 Ash Wednesday Introduction to the Lenten Theme

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

+March 1, 2020 Lent 1 Open My Eyes, Lord

Isaiah 42:5-9; Acts 26:4-18; Luke 24:13-32

+March 8, 2020 Lent 2 Open My Hands, Lord

Kids present on Moses; Mark 6:1-5

+ March 15, 2020 Lent 3 Open My Ears, Lord

Isaiah 50:4-5; Psalm 40:1-8; Matthew 13:10-17

Food Truck

+March 22, 2020 Lent 4 Open My Heart, Lord

Psalm 28; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Matthew 22:34-40

+March 29, 2020 Lent 5 Open My Life, Lord

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Galatians 2:15-21; Matthew 6:25-34

April 5, 2020 Palm/Passion Sunday**April 9, 2020 Maundy Thursday****April 10, 2020 Good Friday****April 12, 2020 Easter****COMMITTEE REPORTS (as submitted by Team Leads)****All God's Children Preschool**

- We currently have received 10 children who already registered for next Fall 2020. Our Valentines Party was a huge success and the kids had a lot of fun with their parents who were able to attend. Next month, we will be doing our conferences after our spring break which is March 23-31st. Conferences will be on March 31st. Things are going well in the Preschool.

Altar Guild

- No Report

Building & Grounds

- No Report

Children's Ministries

- Sunday school wrapped up the story of Daniel and the Lion's Den in January, topped off with the kids reading the story and performing a modified version of "Jesus Loves Me" on January 26th.
- Starting in February we are exploring the stories of Moses, from being rescued as a baby, to the burning bush, the plagues, Exodus, and the Ten Commandments. The kids are learning the song "Pharaoh, Pharaoh" with piano by Kim Clark and guitar by Tyler Kroschel, to be performed in service later.
- Finally, the kids participated in an art project involving a hand print on canvas to symbolize the burning bush, but that God knows each of us and can tell us apart.

Education Report

- Sunday school is currently learning about Moses freeing the Israelites from the Egyptians. They had Tyler Kroschel come in on the 16th to learn a new song that they will share in church in the future.
- Pastor Sarah taught the My Bible class on 2/16. The 3rd graders will receive their Bibles during the 2/23 service.
- Katie and Will Fetterly, Brandy Timmons, and Joanna Kroschel have been cleaning out the old Education office/ craft storage room. We repainted the room and will get new shelving and reorganize all of the supplies. We hope to be completed by the end of February. Katie would like to have a computer and printer in there for the Sunday school leads to use.
- With Paulette down south for the winter, SPLASH is being led by Joanna Kroschel and Kim Clark. In addition to learning about Jesus' life, they are learning a prayer that Pastor Sarah would like them to lead in front of the congregation.
- The following Confirmation update is from Brandy Timmons.
 - Confirmation students in grades 7 – 9 are currently learning about Martin Luther and what it means to be a Lutheran in class on Wednesday evenings.
 - In December, students voiced concern over earning the required 10 hours of church volunteer service for the confirmation year. Students concerns were:
 - There was a late start in the confirmation year of adding students to roles in the worship schedule.
 - Moving from 2 to 1 church service on Sundays reduced the needs for acolytes from 2 to 1 per week.

- Nursery Helper was still listed as an option on the volunteer options list that was distributed to the students. A few students who like to work with children were planning on filling their requirement with this opportunity.
- As leaders, we recognized the students concerns regarding this important part of their confirmation. Things as leaders we are doing to assist are:
 - Include church volunteer opportunities in Sarah's Tuesday emails to confirmation students and their parents.
 - The "Confirmation Crew" has signed up to clean the church on December 14, February 1 & 22, March 21 and April 4 at 10AM. Students are encouraged to attend as they are able. Brandy Timmons is the leader of the activity and other confirmation parents have been present and assisted as well.
 - Confirmation students will be assisting on February 22 6-9PM in the clean-up of the Creation Vacation. Jenn Cockburn, from the Global Missions Team, asked for assistance as this is a long and tiring weekend for their team.
 - Confirmation students will be assisting in the painting of the Youth Room during Forest Lake's Spring Break March 23-27. Brandy Timmons and Angie Lundblad will be leading the students.
- We will not be having confirmation class on February 26 for Ash Wednesday, but student attendance is required. During Lent, confirmation class will be held from 6-7PM, and attendance at the 7PM Lenten Services will be required. There will be no confirmation class on March 25 for Forest Lake Spring Break and on April 8 for Holy Week. Student attendance will also be required on April 9 for Maundy Thursday & April 10 for Good Friday services.
- Pastor Sarah has given the 9th grade students and their parents the requirements for their Faith Papers due to Pastor Sarah on April 15th.
- A confirmation retreat to Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN has been planned for the weekend of April 17-19. Parents and students will leave St. Paul Lutheran at 5:30PM on Friday, April 17 and return to St. Paul Lutheran on Sunday the 19th after attending worship on the campus. Time will be set aside during this retreat for the 9th grade students to discuss their Faith Papers with Pastor Sarah and to work on their confirmation stoles.
- Confirmation Sunday has been scheduled for May 3.
- There are 7 youth and 3 guides signed up to go on the Mission Trip to Leech Lake, MN July 5-10. They intend to take personal vehicles rather than renting a van.
 - Upcoming fundraisers are tubing at Wild Mountain on February 29th, the Crafting Retreat weekend March 6-7, serving breakfast on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, and bagging groceries at Cub on March 22.
- Arlie Post will be leading another Safeguarding children class on February 23rd.

Communications

- No Report

Global Missions

- No Report

Loaves & Fishes

- No Report

Martha's Servers

- No Report

Outreach

- No Report

Prayer

- The meeting opened with the St. Paul Lutheran Breakthrough Prayer.
- Prayer Team assignments were made for March services.
- Zella led the team in a read-through and discussion from the book, "Lord, Teach Me to Pray", by John Macarthur.
- Harper agreed to lead the March meeting.
- Ended the meeting with prayers of intercession, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

SPPRT

- No Report

Visitation

- No Report

WAM (Worship, Arts, Music)

- Reviewed the Healing/Thanksgiving Service. Approximately 24 people attended and there was pie! Thinking to do something similar again next year.
- Children's Play is set for December 15; set up will be after the Dec. 11 Advent Service. Offering will take place during the program.
- Confirmed Christmas Eve services (4 pm and 10 pm). The Band will play at 4 pm and Jeanne will play at 10 pm. The later service will be a little more "traditional".
- Reviewed the plan for Dec. 29 Lessons and Carols Service. Music will be provided by both Jeanne and the Band. There will be no Sunday School that day.
- Started to look at the Order of Service for Epiphany; Setting 8 will be used with music provided by both Jeanne and the Band.

OLD BUSINESS

- 2020 Annual Meeting: Follow-up with the questions from the annual meeting.
 - What are the IRS regulations in regards to fundraising to maintain our 501(C)3 status? Tyler Kroschel will follow-up to get these answers and forward.
 - Request for a complete listing of all assets/designated funds. Chris Timmons will put together the information to present at the March Council Meeting and we will publish after the meeting.
- Celebrating & Thanking Volunteers: Schedule was created of the congregation's teams and the month they will be recognized. The council will provide refreshments on the Sunday teams are recognized.
- Consultant Recommendations for the healing process: The next steps will be to create a Communications Team, Mutual Ministry Team, Personnel Team and the Visionary Team.
 - Question about the Visionary Team (team name will be changed to reflect actual purpose of the team) This team will look at the future sustainability of the church and how to achieve. They will present the data they learn, make recommendations to the congregation on the path our congregation may take on moving forward. For example, at the 2020 annual meeting, information was presented stating if we continue with expenses/income as current, we have xx months until we have spent through all of our resources. This group would look at options: what if ... we sold the back lot, what if ... we worked to paydown our mortgage, what if ... we rented part of our building, etc.
- Council Visibility for 2020: The Council will be participating in various activities throughout the year to be more visible to the congregation. We are adding council member to name tags so we are easily identified, we will be doing all worship participant duties on various Sundays. Watch for more activities sponsored by the Council.
- Mission Trip Fundraisers: The mission trip requested permission to hold a Continental Breakfast on Palm Sunday and a full breakfast on Easter morning. Both of these events would be a free-will offering held immediately after the worship service. Concern was expressed about back-to-back fundraisers.
 - **Julie Coozennoy made a motion to approve the Mission Trip Fundraiser request to hold an Easter Sunday Breakfast, seconded by Chris Timmons. Unanimously approved.**
 - No motion was made on the Palm Sunday breakfast.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Lenten Offerings: Where should this year's money be donated to? Andy Stoyke mentioned the Lakes Center for Youth & Families (LC4YF) and the great things they do for the youth in our community.
 - **Andy Stoyke made a motion to donate this year's Lenten offerings to the Lakes Center for Youth & Families (LC4YF). Jaime Fraley seconded. Unanimously approved.**
- Communion Age for First Communion: Pastor has been approached from families asking what age is appropriate for first communion. First Communion class will be offered to any age child who wishes to take the class.
- Endowment Fund: Reminder to Council President and Treasurer they need to become signers on this account
- Council Retreat: Spring Council Retreat will be Saturday, May 2.
- Insurance Coverage: Questions arose if our insurance will cover personal vehicles used to transport kids on Mission Trips, etc. Also, questions if our insurance covers volunteers who work with our financials. Chris Timmons will look into these questions.
- 1st Quarter Statements: We will be sending out statements, with Tyler Kroschel writing the letter.
- Possible Audit: Financial Audit & Church Audit. Council will look into the price of a CPA to complete a financial audit of St. Paul and looking into forming a team to perform a church audit. Per our constitution, we are to have an audit annually.
- Visitor Information: What additional work follow-up can we do to attract visitors? Office Administrator will send visitor contact information to Council Secretary who will send to various members of the council to make personal contact with visitors via phone call.
- Tour the Building: The council will take a tour of the building before next month's council meeting.
- Boy Scout Storage: Part of St. Paul Lutheran's sponsorship of the Boy Scouts, is an agreement to have storage space available to them. We will be looking at the closet in the fellowship hall and returning that space to the Boy Scouts.
- Safeguarding God's Children: Reminder that all volunteers working with children/youth on a regular basis must complete Safeguarding God's Children training.
- Communion Bread: we have had requests to use communion bread instead of wafers. This request will be forwarded to WAM.
- Spring Joy: Kim Clark is willing to take the lead. Looking for others to participate with her.
- All God's Children Preschool:
 - AGC has had requests from parents to sign their children up for five days a week preschool. The preschool team would like to request approval to charge families \$215.00 a month for that option.
 - Council held discussion around this. We are requesting additional information from the Preschool before a decision is reached.
 - The Preschool Board would also like to know if there is a way to pay our subs without having to put them on our payroll or if that is what we would need to do. They are proposing we pay the subs the same as teacher's aides are being paid – which is currently \$10/hour.
 - **Chris Clark made a motion to approve the \$10/hour pay for substitute preschool aides. Andy Stoyke seconded. Unanimously approved.**
 - Chris Timmons will look into the payroll logistics.
- March 15 will be a Cribbage Tournament/Game Day with the Sunday School.

A motion was made by Karen Rozeske to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Andy Stoyke. Unanimously approved.

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30 – Building tour at 6:00 pm
Devotions: Tyler Kroschel

Submitted by:

Julie Cozennoy

Julie Cozennoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

Summary of motions made at February Church Council Meeting

- A motion was made by Karen Rozeske to approve the consent agenda (with additions), Pastor's, Committee's & Financial Report. Seconded by Andy Stoyke. Unanimously approved.
- Julie Coozennoy made a motion to approve the Mission Trip Fundraiser request to hold an Easter Sunday Breakfast, seconded by Chris Timmons. Unanimously approved.
- Andy Stoyke made a motion to donate this year's Lenten offerings to the Lakes Center for Youth & Families (LC4YF). Jaime Fraley seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Chris Clark made a motion to approve the \$10/hour pay for substitute preschool aides. Andy Stoyke seconded. Unanimously approved.

Summary of motions made via Email between January and February Council Meeting

- January 23: A motion was made by the Katie Fetterly and seconded by Tom Miller to approve the January 2020 council minutes, with the changes. Unanimously approved.
- January 28: Julie Coozennoy made the following motion, seconded by Dale Brainard and unanimously approved.
 - to remove Thomas Miller (past president) as a signatory to the checking accounts and as an individual who can access the safety deposit box.
 - Tyler Kroschel's (current president) signatories will remain the same, as he has moved from Vice President to President
 - add Andy Stoyke the newly elected vice president, should be added as a signatory to the checking accounts and for access to the safety deposit box
 - remove Katherine Fetterly (past treasurer) from all accounts, along with online access
 - add Christopher Timmons the newly elected treasurer to all accounts, along with online access to all accounts
 - deactivate Kathy DiMeglio's bank card for All God's Children and remove access to All God's Children's account
 - issue Julie Hyrkas a bank card for All God's Children's account and add access to All God's Children's account
- January 31: Julie Coozennoy made a motion the council approve the youth mission trip going to Leech Lake, MN from July 5-10, 2020 with the understanding all kids/chaperones sign the Mission Trip Behavioral Covenant and we confirm the use of personal vehicle(s) for transportation is adequately covered by SPLC's insurance. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel. Unanimously approved.
- February 13: Andy Stoyke made a motion to approve the Mission Trip Youth's fundraiser request for a craft retreat to be held on March 6 & 7. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.
- February 13: Andy Stoyke made a motion to approve the Mission Trip Youth's fundraiser request to bag groceries at Cub Foods in Forest Lake. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.
- February 20: Julie Coozennoy made a motion to approve the Mission Trip Youth's fundraiser request to sell embroidered towels at church. Seconded by Dale Brainard and unanimously approved.