



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Congregational Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

	Sarah Friesen-Carper, Pastor	X	Chris Clark, Member at Large
X	Tom Miller, President		Dale Brainard, Member at Large
X	Tyler Kroschel, Vice President	X	Arlie Post, Member at Large
X	Julie Coozenoy, Secretary	X	Jon Quale, Member at Large
X	Katie Fetterly, Treasurer	X	Karen Rozeske, Member at Large

Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm by Tom Miller and Tyler Kroschel opened the meeting with devotions and reflections.

We thanked the departing council members for their years of service: Tom Miller, President; Katie Fetterly, Treasurer and Jon Quale, Member-at-Large.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A motion was made by Arlie Post, seconded by Karen Rozeske, to approve the consent agenda, Pastor's, Committee's & Financial Report. Unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of December 31, 2019	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$23,524.18
Total Revenue	\$18,609.38
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$17,211.09
Net Income (after mortgage payment)	-\$3,873.39
Mortgage Balance	\$411,962.70
Edward Jones Balance	\$39,057.71

FINANCE REPORT:

- No Finance Team meeting in January

INTERIM PASTOR'S REPORT: from January 14, 2020

- I. Administration
 - a. Weekly staff meetings with Office Admin
 - b. Weekly meetings with Council President
 - c. 1 Executive Committee meeting
 - d. Nominating Committee – on-going via email
 - 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. 2 meetings to plan Behavioral Covenant (Loving Behaviors) process and execution
 - j. Annual Meeting prep
- II. Education
 - a. Weekly Bible Study 1:30 pm studying the Lectionary – suspended weeks of Christmas and New Year
 - 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 - Behavioral Covenant (Loving Behaviors) conversation in January with Arlie and Dale
 - i. February we will use the WELCA Gather magazine to dive into how we deal with grief and anger
 - ii. Lent will follow the Worship theme "Open My Life, Lord"
- d. 1 Ed Team meeting – brainstormed what to do with the \$1500 gift from Hallberg. The group came up with a good list which now we need to research and then present to Council.
- e. 1 Confirmation Adult Guide meeting
- f. 1 Preschool Team meeting

III. Worship

- a. 1 WAM Team meeting
- b. Thank you to all who made worship in Advent and on Christmas Eve as well as the Lessons and Carols so special! It was a delight to have such diverse and meaningful worship experiences in this congregation.
- c. 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. I continue to be so pleased at how well Jeanne and Kim along with all our musical leadership work together. It is a positive experience and one that is leading us toward greater unity through our worship life.
- d. The written Thanksgivings gathered at the Thanksgiving and Healing service (and beyond) will NOT be read as part of the announcement time on Sunday mornings. Instead, we are going to begin gathering something more like "God sightings," that is, where people are seeing God breaking through and/or present in this congregation. Those will be read beginning January 26th and following.
- e. See attached for outline of worship through Lent
- f. 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.
- g. Weekly Preschool Chapel– W/Th 10am
- h. 5 sermons, 5 Children's sermons, and 7 worship services – 2 baptisms on January 12!
- i. Weekly Prayer Wednesdays at 1pm

IV. Pastoral Care

- a. 7 pastoral care visits

V. Consultant's recommendations

- a. Breakthrough Prayer Initiative – initiated October 13. The focus of worship January 12, 19 and 26 is around how and where God breaks into our lives.
- b. Facilitated Listening Sessions – I talked with individuals who had been identified by the Executive Committee and/or myself about engaging in Facilitated Listening. There was very little interest expressed so the Executive Committee decided not to pursue this with Susan.
- c. Behavioral Covenant – Dale and Arlie and I have worked on facilitating a process by which we come up with what we are temporarily, at least, calling "Loving Behaviors." This has included sermon time, interpersonal interaction, an information giving and getting station in the Narthex, Adult Forum conversation. We intend to present something that the Congregation can adopt at the annual meeting.
- d. 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 January 12, 2020 – March 29, 2020 (Season after Epiphany - Lent)

THEME: God is breaking through

+ January 12, 2020 Baptism of Our Lord – scriptural breakthroughs

Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

Eli Tilly, Norah Hjort Baptisms (beginning of worship)

+ January 19, 2020 – God is breaking through in our congregation

Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

+ January 26, 2020 – God is breaking through in our congregation

Kids present the story of Daniel; Matthew 4:12-23

Annual Congregational Meeting

THEME: Loving Behaviors

+ February 2, 2020 Presentation of Our Lord

Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Boy Scout Sunday with Pancake Breakfast to follow worship

+ February 9, 2020

Isaiah 58:1-9a]; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]; Matthew 5:13-20

Food Truck

+ February 16, 2020

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

+February 23, 2020 Transfiguration

Exodus 24:12-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS (as submitted by Team Leads)

All God's Children Preschool

- No Report

Altar Guild

- No Report

Building & Grounds

- No Report

Education Report

- The education team had a meeting January 12th after Sunday school.
- We discussed communication strategies. It is difficult to schedule meetings when everyone can be in attendance and at times decisions need to be made more often than is realistic with such a large group.
- Not everyone is on Facebook to do a Facebook group. Other apps that were suggested were Band, Slack, and Team Snap. After the meeting we started trialing the Band app for parents of mission trip kids and it seems to be working.
- Pastor Sarah told us that the Hallberg Foundation gave us a \$1500 donation to use for youth ministry. We brainstormed ideas of how to use the funds. Someone suggested asking the congregation to match the funds and double our abilities. Other ideas included: VBS, shelving for the education room, computer access in the education room, escalator, puppet supplies/storage, mission trip fundraiser start-up funds, preschool/nursery curriculum, Bibles, camp, babysitting for community kids, bag lunches during the summer/weekends-team up with Trinity in North Branch, summer outings/service project in the morning and outing in the afternoon – possibly one week/summer or once a week, emergency scholarship for preschool kids, connect with Youth Service Bureau, combine youth groups, senior high activities – ex. Movies, meals for the homeless – connect with Methodist, food before food truck. No decisions were made at this time.
- We discussed the mission trip briefly. We sent out a “last call” email after the meeting with a deadline of Jan. 26th. Brandy will take charge of the trip logistics and be the contact for Youth Works. The Youth Works cost is \$359 and we would have very little extra cost with just a few kids attending. Team Timmons will donate use of their personal vehicles and gas. There are a few open weeks yet. We will decide on dates after we have our kids committed.
- Costs for the national youth gathering in Minneapolis in 2021 are \$350 if we register early by Nov. 20, 2020, \$390 for regular registration through Feb. 20, 2021, and \$440 for late registration up until April 21, 2021. There is a \$150 deposit per person. Food and hotel rooms will cost extra.
- Fundraiser ideas discussed: butter braids, potluck craft retreat since we don’t have enough kids to host multiple meals – perhaps just serving one or two meals depending on the number of days, service auction in conjunction with Tanzanian Sunday, tubing fundraiser at Wild Mountain, hotdish a month, possibly doing Bingo if we included the SPLASH kids as helpers, bagging groceries at Cub
- Sunday school has resumed after Christmas break with learning the story of Daniel and the Lion's Den. The three-week lesson has focused on courage, prayer, and protection. The kids played a variety of games like tag and guess who; identified some of their fears, rules/laws designed to protect, who protects them; and colored some sheets. They also created a lion-themed door hanger to serve as a reminder that God is there when they pray and will protect them. The kids will recite the story to the congregation 1/26 and will sing a modified version of "Jesus Loves Me".
Our next series of lessons will focus on Moses from birth to Exodus, leading up to Easter.

Communications

- No Report

Global Missions

- Ruth opened the meeting with devotions.
- Student support fees have been paid for 2020.
- Learned of the Seedlings Braille Books program.
- Acknowledged the email from Migoli parish and their planned building projects. Claudia will ask for a transaction report so we will have the available balance in their account.
- Thanked Jenn for putting together the Christmas picture and card.
- Creation Vacation is on for February 21-22. Fifteen confirmed attendees so far. Planned menus and discussed work schedules.
- Closed the meeting with the St. Paul Lutheran Breakthrough Prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

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 February services.
- Dee led the team in a discussion about predictions of the end-times.
- Ended the meeting with prayers of intercession, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

SPPRT

- No Report

Visitation

- No Report

WAM (Worship, Arts, Music)

- Briefly reviewed the various holiday services:
 - Christmas Eve services went well.
 - Wednesday evening Advent services; it would be good to get more people attending.
 - Lessons and Carols service could have been longer.
- Season After Epiphany - we will use Setting 8 until Lent and will mix in "more liturgy".
- Learned of the Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast scheduled for February 2.
- Lent - the theme will be "Open My Life, Lord" using the Order of Service from Sundays and Season.
 - Setting 10 will be used.

OLD BUSINESS

- Behavioral Covenant/Loving Behaviors: Arlie Post presented the recommendations from the Sunday morning forum time.
 - **Tyler Kroschel made a motion to accept the Loving Behaviors recommendation from the team. Jon Quale seconded. Unanimously approved.**
- Reviewed the job responsibilities for council members at 2020 Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26
- Discussed ways the Church Council could increase their visibility in 2020
- Discussed ways to celebrate and thank our volunteers. Recognizing groups/teams was decided on.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The nominations committee submitted the following names to be on the ballot for the vacant 2020-2022 council positions: President: Tyler Kroschel, Vice-President: Andy Stoyke, Treasurer: Chris Timmons, Member-at-Large: Chris Clark, Member-at-Large: Jaime Fraley, Member-at-Large: Karen Rozeske
 - **Julie Coozenoy made a motion to approve the submitted names to be included on the ballot for the vacant 2020-2022 council positions. Arlie Post seconded. Unanimously approved.**
- All God's Children requested approval of their team members: Jan Brainard, Michelle Dubois, Ruth Koehly, Hiedi Ohr.
 - **Tom Miller made a motion to approve the recommended names to serve on All God's Children Team. Katie Fetterly seconded. Unanimously approved.**

- All God's Children: Tom Miller discussed the meeting Pastor Sarah and himself with some of the members of AGC's team, including the Director Julie Hyrkas. In being consistent with SPLC's fundraising guidelines, AGC will tithe to the church like other groups. AGC had questioned if they would need to continue to pay the \$10 monthly office supply fees.
 - **Jon Quale made a motion that SPLC continue to charge AGC \$10 per month to help offset the office supply expense. Katie Fetterly seconded. Majority approved (7 approved, 1 opposed).**
 - All God's Children requested permission to waive the fees for a family in need for the month of January.
 - **Katie Fetterly made a motion to approve the one-time waiver of \$160 for one student for the month of January. Jon Quale seconded. Unanimously approved.**
 - The Church Council has requested to review the guidelines used in selecting scholarship recipients.
 - Fundraisers:
 - Sunday School requested permission to hold their annual plant sale on Mother's Day. The proceeds from this sale is used to offset the Sunday School costs for the next year.
 - Arlie Post made a motion to approve the Sunday School's request for a plant sale. Karen Rozeske seconded. Unanimously approved.
 - The Education Committee presented requests for various fundraisers. The Council is asking for additional information on these fundraisers.
 - Additional Bank After Hours Key: Council felt that the current counter's policies were adequate and after having Karen Rozeske and Arlie Post explain how things are supposed to work, decided against an additional key. The feeling was that the counters need to be diligent in returning the key to church sometime during the week - even if they are scheduled to count the next Sunday. The recommendation is that the person who drops of the deposit return to church right after the deposit and leave the key in the xxxxxxxxxx if church is locked up. Melissa would then need to check for the key and return it to the counter's file cabinet.
- In the instance that the key does go missing, the preferred solution was to have the counters leave the deposit in the finance drop box and notify both Claudia and the treasurer that they were unable to make the deposit because the key was not available. In these limited instances, either Claudia or the treasurer would then make the deposit as soon as they are able.
- CPR Puppets requested permanent use of a Sunday School room to store their puppet supplies in full time.
 - **Jon Quale made a motion that the CPR Puppets not be able to redesignate a classroom to a storage space for CPR Puppets. Katie Fetterly seconded. Unanimously approved.***
 - *It was recommended the CPR team speak to the building and grounds committee about finding another storage location.
 - "Spring Joy". We would like to advertise to see if there is any interest in someone coordinating a "Spring Joy" – similar to the Advent Joy. This is a great way to showcase all the amazing talent we have within our church.
 - Conference Assemblies & Tool Kit for Congregational Leaders: Saturday, February 22nd. This event is open to all members of the congregation (small fee for lunch).

A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to adjourn the January Church Council Meeting. Seconded by Tom Miller and unanimously approved.

Date & Time: Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 pm

Submitted by:

Julie Cozennoy

Julie Cozennoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

Summary of motions made at January Church Council Meeting

- A motion was made by Arlie Post, seconded by Karen Rozeske, to approve the consent agenda, Pastor's, Committee's & Financial Report. Unanimously approved.
- Tyler Kroschel made a motion to accept the Loving Behaviors recommendation from the team. Jon Quale seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Julie Coozennoy made a motion to approve the submitted names to be included on the ballot for the vacant 2020-2022 council positions. , Arie Post seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Tom Miller made a motion to approve the recommended names to serve on All God's Children Team. Katie Fetterly seconded. Unanimously approved.
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Summary of motions made via Email between December and January council meetings:

- December 17, 2019 a motion was made by Katie Fetterly, via email, to approve the December Council Minutes. Seconded by Karen Rozeske. Unanioumsly approved.
- On January 8, 2020 Pastor Sarah made a motion to approve the request for a Spring Fashion Show on Saturday, May 9th along with a bake sale. The Fashion Show proceeds would be split between Anonymous Santa and Forest Lake school lunch program. The bake sale proceeds they would like to go to the general fund. Tyler Kroschel seconded. Unanimously approved.
- On December 18' 2019 a motion was made by Tom Miller to approve the Annual Unit Charter Agreement between Cub Scout Pack 9142 and St. Paul Lutheran. Seconded by Katie Fetterly. Unanimously approved.