



## April 17, 2018 Council Meeting St. Paul Lutheran Church

ATTENDING COUNCIL MEETING			
X	Pastor Grant Applehans		X Chris Clark, Member at Large
X	Tom Miller, President		X Julie Hyrkas, Member at Large
X	Shirley Zierke, Vice President		X Tyler Kroschel, Member at Large
X	Katie Fetterly, Treasurer		X Arlie Post, Member at Large
X	Julie Coozenoy, Secretary		X Jon Quale, Member at Large
X	Janet Nutter, Guest		

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Tom Miller. Jon Quale opened meeting with devotions.

### APRIL 17, 2018 COUNCIL AGENDA

- A motion was made by Jon Quale to accept the April agenda with adjusted changes. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.

### MARCH MINUTES

- A motion was made via email on March 21, 2018 to approve the March Meeting Minutes by Shirley Zierke. Seconded by Katie Fetterly and unanimously approved.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

	ACTUAL
<b>General Fund Giving</b>	\$19,529
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$25,058
<b>Total Expenses</b> (before mortgage)	\$20,411
<b>Net Income</b> (after mortgage payment)	-\$680.27
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	\$493,967
<b>Edward Jones</b> (end of January)	\$33,759

- A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to accept the April Finance Report. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.

### PASTOR'S REPORT

Greetings in the LORD! This is a summary of my activity during the March/April period. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like more information.

- Worship:
  - We concluded the season of Lent considering the dish washing detergent "Finish" and how that related to Hebrews 12:1 and on Jesus' words about the serpent being lifted up in the wilderness and what that had to do with the movie Frozen.
  - Holy week was full of activities and worship opportunities, all of which received positive to very positive reviews.
  - Easter began with a sunrise service in two feet of snow in our cemetery and continued through bells and choir, praise band and hymns with colorful fabric overhead. It was glorious!
  - The next Sunday we received Assistant to the Bishop Joe Lees who spoke on Thomas and the power of (Christ's) persistence.
  - Last Sunday worship and other activities at the church were canceled due to the blizzard and unsafe driving conditions. The decision was made between myself and the officers of the congregation, and the more people I talked with the more confident I was it was the right decision.

- I have asked Wendy to sign us up for making cancelation announcements on the TV and Radio stations in the off chance that we would need to cancel again in the years to come.
- The “preaching series imagination group” will be launching soon to provide a sounding board, incubator and receptor for preaching ideas.
- Puppets has been enjoyable to be a part of, and I hope that through this rebuilding semester we will have some contagious fun and excitement as we explore new methods and possibilities.
- Education:
  - In the 12:30 adult class we are working through the Gospel of Mark; especially looking at the scandal of God’s focus on the outcast and its implications for how we live our lives. Next, we will study the book of Revelation.
  - 6:30 pm Sunday Bible study finished-up the book of Acts and after a session on early church interactions with Rome we will be studying the book of Romans and other letters of Paul.
  - Confirmation has been diving into Paul with mentor groups. We have been spending several weeks going deep on particular texts (one per group) which were presented in creative ways the evening of April 11<sup>th</sup>. We had Shirley, Kathy and Pastor Jim as judges at this event with creative presentations and fabulous prizes.
  - Confirmation interviews have concluded and I have a list of confirmands for the council’s approval.
  - This year I have been focusing with the students on how they could be leaders among us as they become adults in the church. The idea has been quite enthusiastically received, and some plans are in the works to see if we can make it happen.
  - The date for confirmation is set at May 6.
  - I also have a small group which is meeting once a month to catch up on the Luther Year to be confirmed in 2 years. We missed last month’s meeting and so have two classes to make-up before next year starts.
  - Preschool continues with stories from Jesus’ Life and songs from the USA and around the world.
  - Other classes, such as Adult Confirmation, walk through a book of the Bible chapter by chapter format, and men’s bible study have all been requested, and I have many ideas for what could be fun.
  - I am considering developing a quarterly education team to prioritize ideas and investigate ways to get more congregational involvement in learning.
- Congregational Care continued with pastoral visits and telephone communication. During this time all direct requests for pastoral care were embraced, encouraged, and swiftly acted upon.
- On the administration front, I will be doing annual reviews with the staff in May. Before this happens, I will be talking with the SPRRT team to discuss evaluation forms for next year along with some ideas I have for supervisory contracts for the next year.
- Adam Tilly has found an affordable softball league for us to participate in in Lindstrom. Now we just need to assemble a team!

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

- April 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the next congregational event for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Celebrating our future will be the focus of this special Sunday.
- Rolf Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament and The Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology and Ministry at Luther Seminary will be the guest speaker
- The 150<sup>th</sup> Book is at the printer and will be available to hand out on Sunday.
- Plans are underway for the “Big Event” on October 7. Past pastors and members are invited to this event.

### **Adult Education**

- See Pastor’s Report

### **All God’s Children Preschool**

- The Preschool is running a deficit of over \$3,000 for this school year. February numbers were updated to reflect a returned check.

**Audit**

- Audit team report was presented to the council. Very minor changes are recommended from the Audit Team. The audit report is available for all members to read.

**Building & Grounds**

- We are reviewing the Building Use Policy and the Building Use Terms and Conditions contract. We will have recommendations to said documents soon.

**Children’s & Youth Report**

- Sunday School (meets Sundays during 10:00 Worship, for Children P-4th Grade)
  - Sunday School had made “Resurrection Rolls” for Palm Sunday and explored the story of Elijah and Elisha this month. We only have one more gathering for the year, Sunday April 29th...the year always goes by so quickly!
  - Carrie and I interviewed some kids about what they love about St Paul Lutheran, that video will be shown this coming Sunday at our next 150th Celebration.
- SPLASH
  - SPLASH 5/6 had been meeting with the Confirmation Kiddos during Lent and they did their Paul Presentations last Wednesday, April 11.
    - This Wednesday, April 18 and April 25, we will be having our end of year celebration, our annual Mystery Dinner. Each child gets their own special character/ costume/ personality and we walk through the script of a Mystery. It’s always fun to see what the kids come up with from the information they have been given. This is always such a fun time of fellowship for the kids and having this time together and a meal together is a great way to end our year and a great way to send the 6th graders off to Confirmation.
- Confirmation
  - We held a Retreat for the 9th Graders Friday April 13th. We fitted them for their gowns and stoles and started work on the stoles. I have gathered their information and photos for the slide show and bulletin insert for Confirmation Sunday. The following 9th Graders are being honored on Confirmation Sunday
 

HalleJo Baldwin	Talia Martinson
Emma Bergman	Anna Russ
Maddie Galatowitsch	Grace Solomonson
Heidi Hyrkas	Madison Walters
Abby Jones	Madelyn Zak
Riley Lundgren	
  - I am coordinating an end of the Year Large Group Confirmation Party at Sky Zone. Wednesday April 25th.
- Mission Trip
  - Our “Rules and Paperwork” Meeting will be Sunday April 22 here at church. The Mission Trip will be Friday June 22 to Sunday July 1st this Summer, to the Adirondack Mountains of New York.

Other stuff that Janet is doing/ has done:

- Vacation Bible School- My imagination is hard at work on decorations and plans for VBS 2018 “Shipwrecked”. It will be July 30-August 3rd this summer. We will go to FMSC Tuesday and Neighbor’s Night out Picnic is Thursday. Registration Forms are available, and Station Directors are being recruited!
- First Communion Class- We had a make up class for two of the children that were sick or had partial conflicts during our regular class.
- First Communion was Thursday March 29, during our Maundy Thursday Service. We had 13 Children receiving their First Communion.

- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Danner John Campbell  | Eva Esperanza Lundblad    |
| Dakota Grace Esget    | Eli Axel Lundblad         |
| Troy Edward Gustafson | Sophia Grace Meents       |
| Hartlynn Elle Johnson | Brianne Lee Merrell       |
| Lane Gordon           | Ava Marlene Ohmann        |
| Klostermann           | Kristina Elizabeth Stoyke |
| Karl Jakob Landherr   | Thomas Richard Stoyke     |

- It was a very nice service for the First Communicants and their families. My role in this service is to coordinate...So, baking and washing the first communion cups, making the certificates and placing them, writing the script for the evening, and dividing up the lines for the kids, getting the bread to the correct place, coordinating with Cindy and helping her set up for the foot washing, making sure flowers are ordered and pinning flowers, and coordinating photos. I love this service that takes a moment to honor these children and this milestone in their lives. (But, I gotta say, Easter Morning when I watch them take their "Second" Communion, but first communion with the Congregation, I tear up every time.)
- Good Friday Family Service- I coordinated a Good Friday Family Service called "Box of Rocks", it's similar to one that we did in 2010. I recruited actors and music people for this service, and conducted rehearsal. It was a nice short service, with kid friendly music. It was a service about connected our sin to Jesus dying on the cross.
- SPL Women's Book Club- We finally were able to coordinate a date for our February snowed out Book Club gathering, Thursday April 12 at Jodi Nenn's House. We read the book "In the Unlikely Event" by Judy Blume.
- 150th Tshirts- I coordinated the 2nd order of our 150th shirts.
- Graduation Sunday- I am coordinating the Graduates Information and Photos for the Slide Show for Graduation Sunday, Sunday May 20th. So far we have 8 Seniors that we will be honoring that day.

### Communications

- Since this team began, we have:
  - Surveyed the congregation
  - Set communication priorities
  - Revamped the website
  - Developed a clear flow for information from the website to other sources
  - Switched council communication to a simpler and more reliable platform
  - Strengthened and regularized our email and paper-based communication
- Having settled into these changes, the time has come to:
  - \*Assess how these changes have been working in practice and do some fine tuning
  - Consider Facebook and how we can further develop and integrate it to enhance our life together
  - Develop an online directory for the congregation
  - \*Finalize some projects in process (developing a system to pay online first among them)
  - \*Launch an external communication/marketing team to enhance our profile in the community
  - Better coordinate online volunteering
  - Figure out ways to better support social connection across the congregation
  - Expand the base of people who know how, and have the passwords to run our systems

### Counters

- Guidelines will be reviewed at the May Council Meeting

### Finance

- As mentioned at the last meeting, we had a couple issues with counter not counting on time or getting the deposit to the bank. Claudia and I have worked with Kathie Marabella to get some guidelines in writing and communicate those to the counters. The general guidelines have been drafted and need to be approved by the council. A more specific/detailed instruction list on how to count will be forthcoming. Kathie also wanted me to council that we need to be training all ushers to remove the offering plate from the altar. There have been several instances that the offering has been left on the altar for some time after the second service.
- We discussed what people have found in regards to alternative funding sources. Being that we are a church there is not a lot out there for religious organizations. However, we may look into grants focusing on Youth activities or ways to decrease our utility costs through grants. Additional research will be needed.
- A suggestion was made by Ben Storlie to do a narrative budget segment by the finance team. Focusing on the actual costs to run meetings/services/events at the church. The church's major costs are utilities and salaries. We'd like to look into putting something together to convey the monetary benefit an individual is getting when they attend an event at SPLC.
- Neil Gatzow approached me regarding possibly putting on an estate planning seminar to relay information to the congregation on how they can leave a bequest to the church. He'd like this to be in memory of Judy since

she was a proponent of our endowment fund. I've discussed this with Tom Miller and we are going to try to come up with something to honor these wishes.

- Per the last meeting, the Finance team was tasked with looking into renting out the preschool space. Jerry Nelson indicated that Trinity in North Branch rents part of their building and was willing to talk to them to see how they went about that.

### **Global Missions**

- No Report

### **Loaves & Fishes**

- No team meeting due to inclement weather

### **Martha's Servers**

- A total of 19 volunteers participated in Judy Gatzow's funeral luncheon over the course of several days leading up to and including March 11, 2018. 168 people ate lunch following the funeral.

### **Outreach**

- Food Truck served 19 families totaling 38 individuals served, 488 lbs of food collected. This amount includes a special donation of 30 hams @ ~11 lbs each

### **Prayer**

- No report

### **SPPRT**

- We reviewed the draft of a "Policy for Placement of Gifts in the Sanctuary" that Kathie Mirabella developed in response to the Council's request. We made very minor suggestions; Kathie agreed to include them, and then forward the policy to Arlie Post for review at an upcoming Council meeting.
- We also reviewed a separate Goals & Objectives form that we felt would be appropriate for use at the beginning of each performance year, for the Pastor, Children's Ministry Director, Office Administrator, and Pre-School Director. The Goals & Objectives would be discussed by the supervisor and the employee during the year, with performance on each goal evaluated as a part of that year's performance appraisal. Karen Chapin will make minor edits to the Goals & Objectives form and share it initially with Pastor Grant. A decision would be made later on whether to use the format for music and custodial staff.
- Kathie Mirabella also reported on her discussion with Cheryl Glassel. They discussed the team's progress on the Records Retention policy last year. There had been a good deal of discussion on various aspects of the policy, but the team did not finalize the policy at that time. Some resources are available on the synod website. We agreed to meet again on April 25 at 6:30, when we will work on the Record Retention Policy. We will utilize the 2009 draft policy as a base for our discussions.

### **Visitation**

- No report

### **Worship & Music (WAM)**

- Reviewed how things went over Lent, Holy Week and Easter
  - All Holy Week services and the Good Friday Crosswalk received positive comments. Coordination went smoothly. We would like to mic soloists for Holden Evening Prayer next time we use it and designate someone to get out the palms for Palm Sunday.
- Looked forward to events and planning around 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Confirmation, Mother's Day and Graduation Sunday
- Discussed the possibility of an usher's checklist, and how it might be used.
- Discussed how we want to operate as a group going forward. Perhaps doing more creative planning and meeting less often than every month. (we will continue this discussion at our next meeting)

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Council Spring Retreat, April 28. Reminder to have the book Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship for a Changing Church read.
- Summer Lawn Care Team. Chris Clark is working on putting together a team of volunteers to do summer lawn maintenance. If interested, please contact Chris Clark
- Summer Worship Schedule: We are in the process of finding musicians and roadies for the outdoor summer worship services.
- New coffee system has been installed
- Audit Report
  - **A motion was made by Jon Quale to accept the Audit Report. Seconded by Katie Fetterly and unanimously approved.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Students to be Confirmed: Pastor Grant brought the following
  - These students have completed three years of once a week instruction on the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, as well as Martin Luther’s Small Catechism. They have each completed 30 years of community service and 30 hours of service within the congregation and taken notes on 45 services of the church. I have met with each to discuss a 1000-word essay that they have written and their faith in our God. Each having accomplished these things, I recommend each for confirmation in our faith and adult status within our church
 

HalleJo Baldwin	Abby Jones	Grace Solomonson
Emma Bergman	Riley Lundgren	Madison Walters
Maddie Galatowitsch	Talia Martinson	Madilyn Zak
Heidi Hyrkas	Anna Russ	

    - **A motion was made by Shirley Zierke to approve the above list of candidates for confirmation and inclusion in the church as adult members. Seconded by Jon Quale and unanimously approved.**
- Policy for Placement of Gifts in the Sactuary
  - **A motion was made by Katie Fetterly to approve the Policy for Placement of Gifts in the Sanctuary the SPPRT team presented with the change of “The Pastor shall be included on the ad hoc team, instead of may be on the ad hoc team”. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.**
- Communications Team brought preliminary information on using Square and/or Swipe for credit card payments. The communications team will continue researching this and will have recommendations for the May Council Meeting.
- Church Cancelation: In case of inclement weather, the Pastor will contact the executive council to decide if church should be cancelled. Office Administrator is getting the information needed to put the closing onto TV and radio. Constant Contact (email), website and Facebook would be updated at the time cancelation of church is decided.
- Girl Scout Request: Bria Merrell requested permission to place a box for collecting pet supplies for three weeks in the Narthex. She will be donating these supplies to an animal rescue.
  - **A motion was made by Arlie Post to grant permission for a box to be placed in the Narthex for three weeks to collect pet supplies. We ask the Girl Scout announce her project to the congregation. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.**
- Council Vision and Goals: come to the May council meeting with goals and visions you would like to see for the church council.
- Installation of Church Council Members: will be held Sunday, April 22
- Quarterly Statements: Statements will be going out within the next week.

Next Meeting: May 15, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Devotions: Chris Clark

**A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Tom Miller and unanimously approved.**

Submitted by:

*Julie Coozenoy*

Julie Coozenoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

**Summary of Motions Made at March Church Council Meeting**

- A motion was made by Jon Quale to accept the April agenda with adjusted changes. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to accept the April Finance Report. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Jon Quale to accept the Audit Report. Seconded by Katie Fetterly and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Shirley Zierke to approve the above list of candidates for confirmation and inclusion in the church as adult members. Seconded by Jon Quale and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Katie Fetterly to approve the Policy for Placement of Gifts in the Sanctuary that the SPPRT team presented with the change of "The Pastor shall be included on the ad hoc team, instead of may be on the ad hoc team". Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Arlie Post to grant permission for a box to be placed in the Narthex for three weeks to collect pet supplies. We ask the Girl Scout announce her project to the congregation. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Tom Miller and unanimously approved.