



## February 13, 2018 Council Meeting St. Paul Lutheran Church

ATTENDING COUNCIL MEETING			
X	Pastor Grant Applehans	X	Chris Clark, Member at Large
X	Tom Miller, President		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
	Janet Nutter, Guest	X	Patti Lichtscheidl, Guest

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

### February 13, 2018 Council Agenda

- Motion was made by Shirley Zierke, seconded by Katie Fetterly, and unanimously approved to accept the February Agenda

### January 20, 2018 Council Minutes

- Minutes were approved via email in January.

### Financial Report & Finance Team Report

<b>General Fund Giving</b>	\$14,360
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$21,828
<b>Total Expenses</b> (before mortgage)	\$23,114
<b>Net Income</b> (after mortgage payment)	(\$6,614)
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	\$501,501
<b>Edward Jones</b> (end of January)	\$34,451

- Motion was made by Shirley Zierke, seconded by Tyler Kroschel, and unanimously approved to accept the January Financial Report
- The Finance Team is reworking the Workers Comp

### Pastor's Report

- In worship, we concluded the season of Epiphany with The Baptism of Maree Ann Ohmann on Transfiguration Sunday. All services during this period went according to plan. A special thanks to Kathie Marabella for preaching at both services on Jan. 21st while I was taking time for continuing education.
- Lent is centered on themes of cleaning and fresh starts as we celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> and continue the refreshing and renewing initiative started last year.
- Sundays will focus on the Old Testament readings from the lectionary under the banner of "Fresh Starts." Lucy Stoyke agreed to put together a drawing that utilizes a symbol from each week's text. She has done some tremendous sketches and will have a color version available for the first Sunday in Lent.
- Mid-week Lent services will be using Holden Evening Prayer and rotating preachers with 3 other area congregations under the banner of "Spring Cleaning." The "preaching series imagination group" will be launching in the next month or two.
- I have also joined puppets for this semester for personal growth and support of the program.
- Education opportunities continued in Jan/Feb. In the 12:30 adult class we are working through the Gospel of Mark and then will focus on the book of Revelation. 6:30pm Sunday Bible study is briefly touching on Mark before launching into the book of Acts and the letters of Paul.

- Confirmation continues to study the New Testament through the “Re:Form” Curriculum. This is a strong and relatable curriculum, but one weakness is its minimal focus on Paul and his letters, as a corrective, during Lent I will have mentor groups pick from among several passages in the New Testament (most from Paul’s letters) and walk through a process of study and imagination ending with a creative way to engage the rest of the group with their passage. I did something similar in Montana, and consistently those passages were some of the most vivid in the kids’ imaginations.
- I have also passed out Faith Paper requirements and did a Q&A with this year’s confirmation class. 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. Class is progressing well and is on schedule.
- Preschool continues with stories from Jesus’ Life and songs from the USA and around the world.
- The Table Talk collaboration with Jan Taylor took place Jan. 17th on an epiphany theme of “Light in the Darkness.” No further Table Talks are scheduled for this year. 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. I will be pursuing these as time and congregational interest allow.
- For Continuing Education, I was invited once again this year to attend the Global Musicians Training for the ELCA. At the training I learned some new music, took classes on using theater games to open conversation on cross cultural and other difficult topics, and engaged speakers on approaches to mission and accompaniment.
- Congregational Care continued with pastoral visits to couple parishioners at home, and telephone communication with a few others. During this time all direct requests for pastoral care were embraced, encouraged, and swiftly acted upon.
- On the administration front, I have met with the new president a couple of times to get to know one another better and help launch the new year well. Coffee is being brewed in the smaller pots in the narthex. This is working for the time being until we have a more permanent solution.
- After conversations with several folks last year, I believe we have sufficient interest to form a softball team for this summer. I will get that ball rolling soon.

### **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.
- The Team is in the process of putting together a book showing our church’s history.
- Calendars will be handed out on Sunday, February 18, 2018.

### **Adult Education**

- See Pastor’s Report

### **All God’s Children Preschool**

- Preschool saw a positive balance for January. They are making progress towards shrinking the deficit for the school year.

### **Audit Team**

- Team is approximately two-thirds completed of the church audit.

### **Building & Grounds**

- No report
- We are looking for a volunteer to care for the lawn this summer (includes the church and cemetery)

**Children's & Youth Report**

- **Sunday School** (*meets Sundays during 10:00 Worship, for Children P-4<sup>th</sup> Grade*)
  - Jan 21- We continued our Journey through the Old Testament and FINALLY got to meet Joseph- and his many-colored Polo Shirt.
  - Jan 28- We had our LEGO Diorama Museum on Display for our Annual Meeting, and our ongoing Quilt Square projects.
  - Feb 4- We collected canned goods for the SOUPer Bowl to replenish our Food Shelf and had a Bible Trivia Bowl where we battle it out using Bible Trivia.
  - Feb 11- We traveled to the SPL Olympics- complete with Opening Ceremonies and lots of relay races and Bible Verses.
- **SPLASH 5/6** (*meets Wednesday during Confirmation, for Kids in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades*)
  - Had an evening of "The History of SPL" Lesson, with Special Guest Neil Gatzow, an evening with the Trinity and some Bible Jeopardy, and an evening with Paul, to get them ready to join the Confirmation Kids for the Lenten Season.
- **SPLASH 1-4**
  - Last Tuesday, February 6, We had 8 little Warriors at Warrior Party-We talk about putting on the "Armor" of God and learning how to fight for God- and have messy snacks and do messy scienc-y fun things.
  - Tuesday February 13th- We are having our Princess Party- They'll be wearing their fanciest dresses, and we'll have a Tea Party and Dance Party and learn the expectations as a Princess to our (heavenly) Father.
- **Confirmation**
  - Both SPLASH 5/6 and Confirmation Kids will meet in Lenten Mentor Groups Ash Wednesday- Easter. I have recruited our Lenten Mentors for this year, and have divided them in to groups in preparation of their first gathering on Wednesday.
- **Mission Trip**
  - We held a Craft Retreat at the end of January, hosted 25 women, and made \$523.28, after a \$58.14 Tithe to the Congregation.
  - We held our HUGE Fundraiser this past Saturday Feb 10, our Spaghetti Supper and Silent, Live and Servant Auctions. It was well attended and a really fun evening. It looks like money-wise we are a little behind last year, but lots of adding has to be done before we have final numbers.
- **Other stuff that Janet is doing/ has done:**
  - Vacation Bible School- We have starting to get Organized for VBS 2018 "Shipwrecked". It will be July 30-August 3<sup>rd</sup> this Summer. We will go to FMSC Tuesday and Neighbor's Night out Picnic is Thursday. Registration Forms are available!
  - First Communion Class is coming up February 25<sup>th</sup>. We have 11 in the class this year so far. First Communion will be during Maundy Thursday Service on March 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - SPL Women's Book Club- We had a Gathering January 22, and another coming up February 19th

**Communications Team**

- Has not met.

**Counters**

- All existing team members agreed to remain on the team for 2018-2019.
- The new counters' schedule for March 2018-Feb 2019 was completed and sent to the team.

**Global Missions**

- \$2400.00 was sent to Mtera and Migoli (\$1200 to each site) for a total of six student scholarships, \$1000.00 was sent to the Equity Fund for student scholarships, which are students who do not have a sponsoring congregation.
- Planning continues for our Creation Vacation event which will be February 23-24, 2018 @ St. Paul Lutheran Church. This is a fundraiser for the Global Missions Team and all are invited to attend.
- Global Missions brought forth a request for a quilt raffle to coincide with the Creation Vacation in February. Tickets will also be available to the congregation on Sunday mornings.

- Motion made by Pastor Grant, seconded by Jon Quale and unanimously approved to allow the Global Missions team to hold a quilt raffle.

### **Loaves & Fishes**

- Lenten Offerings: SPLC wants to partner with Hosanna Lutheran Church for the FMSC Food Pack Program
  - They need money and volunteers; L&F wants to put a sign-up sheet in our Narthex.
  - Motion made by Julie Coozenoy, seconded by Arlie Post and unanimously approved to donate Lenten offerings to Hosanna Lutheran Church for FMSC Food Pack Program.
- Narrative budget follow-up - we will have video clips in March for each of the four areas of our budget: worship, learning, care and outreach. We will have members telling their story of the impact each of these areas has had on their life.
- Counting our blessings - We had 839 people blessed for January. This will be communicated via website, Refresh & ReNEWS, bulletin and Facebook. Shirley, Julie and Wendy are working on a poster that will be displayed in the narthex.
- Calling all members - Shirley will have call lists ready for council on Tuesday along with a calling script.
- Lenten challenge - The Lenten theme for our Wednesday services is "Spring Cleaning". To go along with this, we will be promoting a spiritual discipline called "40 Days 40 Bags". It encourages people to clean out the clutter each day during Lent. Jan Brainard will be announcing this on Sunday, Feb 10th. We will have written material ready to hand out Ash Wednesday.
- Fall Service Event - To commemorate our 150th anniversary, we will be holding the SPL150 - The Amazing Race to Serve. We will be asking people to form teams and participate in service projects at their convenience. We will be contacting local organizations to find out what kinds of volunteers they can use. Kickoff will be October 7th and will conclude on November 19th.
- Once again, we would like to have November 19th be our Celebration Sunday. We will return our pledge cards that Sunday as well as review all of the things that have been done throughout the year.
- Our supplemental giving cards received a total of \$3,200 in additional pledges.

### **Prayer Team**

- No report

### **SPPRT Team**

- SPPRT team will look into who has the keys to the employee personnel files. Currently only the President and Vice President have keys to the employee personnel files. Arlie Post will provide a lock box for the bottom cabinet so that Pastor Grant will have access to all employee files but his own.

### **Visitation Team**

- No report

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

- Discussed Christmas worship for 2018.
  - Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> will have 1 service at 9:00 am.
  - Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> will have 2 services 4:00 and 10:00 pm.
- We also discussed summer worship planning. Little progress has been made regarding musicians, technical/sound/equipment people. Have emailed Arlie Post regarding her potential musician ideas but no response as of my report.
- Pastor reviewed preaching themes for Wednesday worship with area churches sharing preaching throughout Lent.

### **Old Business**

- Mission of the Month: If we decide to go forward with replacing the preschool windows, we will advertise in March & April's Mission of the Month will go towards the cost to replace these windows.

- Volunteer of the Month: In 2018 we will be honoring groups, not individuals
- Fish Fry: Too short of time frame to make it happen this year. Recommend the team goes and visits congregations that have fish fries to see how they work.
- Coffee Pots: Discussed the benefits of the new system to purchase vs the large coffee urns (we own)
  - Jan Taylor did extensive research on the benefits of purchasing a new system
  - Some of the benefits are: Volume (#1), speed of brewing, hot water for tea, taste
  - Rescinded of the January Motion to purchase new coffee pots.
  - New Motion was made by Tom Miller, seconded by Tyler Kroschel, and unanimously approved to purchase the Curtis Brewer (Model No. GEM-12D-10) and two coffee warmers (Model No. GEM-5) not to exceed \$1,800

### New Business

- Council Vision: Tom would like the council to start thinking about the council's vision.
- Synod Toolkit for Congregational Leaders: Information was passed out to all council members inviting them to attend classes. Shirley Zierke will also share the information with others to see if they are interested in attending.
- Spring Retreat: Julie Coozenoy will send out an email asking for dates that work with the majority of council members for a Council Spring Retreat
- Fundraising Ideas: Looking into possible ideas for fundraising – if the church needs to come up with more money to balance the budget. Men's Bake-Off was suggested.
- Church Council Picture: We will take a picture of the Church Council at the April meeting
- Office Administrator trained to be a Notary: There is an occasional need for a Notary in the church office. We found we have a few council members and others that are current Notaries. After discussion, it was decided to table this until June; let's see if the current Notaries can meet the demands.
- Wedding Policies: The Wedding Coordinators have been meeting with Pastor to review the booklet of guidelines for weddings. The council was given a copy of this booklet to review and approve and the March meeting.
- Discarding Old Sound Booth Materials: After carefully going through some of the old material, there is some equipment that no longer has any benefit to the congregation (even as back-up equipment). The council agreed they could get rid of this equipment. They will first offer it up to anyone in the church that would like it. If there is still equipment left, they will find a recycling center for this.
- Several people have reported that their keys are not working on the front door. We tested Shirley Zierke's key in the front door as it is the same type as the ones that don't work. It works with no problem. We suspect it is a key problem, not a lock problem. Pastor Grant will have new keys made to see if this will fix the problem before we proceed with a more expensive option.
- A request was received from the Praise Band Coordinator to change a few of the responsibilities of that position.
  - Tom Miller made a motion to allow the Praise Band Coordinator to have summer's off (no pay), relinquish leadership duties of WAM and have two (paid) Sundays off during the September – May time frame. Discussion. Unanimously passed.
  - Pastor Grant will take over leading the WAM group.
  - Arlie Post, Julie Coozenoy and Shirley Zierke will be responsible for finding guest musicians for outdoor music. Jon Quale, Tyler Kroschel, Chris Clark and Tom Miller will be responsible for organizing the "roadies" to help with set up and take down.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Devotions: Julie Coozenoy

Motion was made by Shirley Zierke, seconded by Tyler Kroschel, unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 pm.

Submitted by:

*Julie Coozenoy*

Julie Coozenoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary