



# November 20, 2018 Council Meeting

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE			
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		X Kathy DiMeglio, Guest

Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm by Tom Miller and Arlie Post opened meeting with devotions.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda, Finance & Last Month’s Agenda Committee Reports)**

- A motion was made by Tom Miller to accept the Consent Agenda (November agenda, Finance & Committee Reports & October Council Meeting Minutes). Seconded by Jon Quale and unanimously approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

As of OCTOBER 31, 2018	ACTUAL
<b>General Fund Offering</b>	*\$24,742.14
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$30,880.88
<b>Total Expenses</b> (before mortgage)	\$25,108.11
<b>Net Income</b> (after mortgage payment)	\$5,772.77
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	\$467,237.31
<b>Edward Jones Balance</b>	\$34,752.27
<b>Matching Funds</b> from Congregation	\$7,640.00

*\*last week of September Sunday offerings were deposited in October*

**PASTOR’S REPORT**

Greetings in the LORD!

This is a summary of my activity during the October/November period. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like more information.

Worship: we have continued on the theme: “Adventures in Discipleship: real questions, real challenges, real joys and real faith.” We engaged stumbling blocks in faith and life, the witness of those who have shared the flame of faith with us, two kinds of righteousness (self righteousness and righteousness from God) and Generosity in and through the church. We also celebrated All Saints Sunday, Children of Christ Sunday and Reformation Sunday, in which Jason Solomonson preached, which was well received. I also Preached at Parmly, which was well received. I also was on vacation during this time, going to Iowa to perform the Wedding of Anna Roeder and Devin Johnson. Advent Wednesdays coming up will use Holden evening prayer, light candles and center on the theme: “Joy to the Word!: Global voices reflect on the coming of Immanuel, God with Us!” I still hope to form a preaching series team to discuss what might engage the hearts and minds of congregants and visitors. On Friday, November 16th, we had held Bob Pogue’s funeral and laid his remains to rest in our cemetery November 17th.

Education: continues in full swing. Wednesday adult classes are following the confirmation curriculum and enjoying the journey, comparing today’s material with their own memories of confirmation. It is enjoyable for me too, as I can dig in a little deeper with them while still giving a wide survey. The Sunday Evening has engaged a bible study on Philippians by Max Lucado led by Shirley Zierke and two nights of exploring my “Family Photo Album prototype” This year we are focusing on the Old Testament using the Re:Form Curriculum. As part of my continuing education, I attended the Bishop’s Theological conference, in which we engaged catechism with Presiding Bishop Eaton.

Congregational Care: continued with pastoral visits to homes, my office and over the telephone. During this time all direct requests for pastoral care were embraced, encouraged, and acted upon. On the administration front, External communications met, considered some wishes for the future and projects on the horizon. I continue to meet with Claudia Nelson in a project to identify and address questions and inefficiencies in our recording and reporting of finances. Karen Rozeske and I also met to discuss the Funeral booklets, which should be done within the month. The wedding booklet is now finalized. The Narthex and Nursery teams purchased materials that will be utilized over the next couple of months. Altar Guild met to introduce and celebrate new leaders and their roles, celebrate Cindy's work among us, and continue in the normal flow of duties. Three people that we should be considering how to honor this year are Cindy for her long tenure as head of Altar Guild, Arnie Ranta for his time directing the choir and Patti Lichtscheidl for her time as director of All God's Children preschool. I am gathering the nomination committee, with Michelle Ihfe on board and several others considering. I hope to meet with that team next week to generate a list of potentials.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Grant

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS (submitted by Team Leads)**

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

- There are still commemorative Christmas ornaments for sale.

#### **Administration**

- Worked with Jan Brainard to align with an online account for the National AED Registry. Jan is now listed as our inspector. We found out that we can track all inspections online, so Jan will be showing me how to do this and I will keep the online account current. I also contacted Fire Chief Hastings about the possibilities of CPR/AED training from his department. We are waited to hear back from him. Pricing for new battery and electrodes are in progress.
- We now have a picture of Julie Hyrkas on the website as our preschool assistant.
- Worked with Carole England to take back the New Member Packets. I prepared them for our October new members; however, Pastor and I will continue to work on getting them updated with the most current church information.
- Worked with Cheryl Glassel to verify current information for our churches Safeguarding God's Children program. Current documentation is now identified on the church's L/drive. This discussion also led to a new MN New Hire form, which we now have in place and verified it is being sent as it should be.
- Recruited Mary Haselbauer to straighten out our library system. Mary did a phenomenal job of cleaning the space, rearranging the books on the shelves, providing a hardcopy of her book classification information, as well as adding a shelf marked for returning books. What a blessing of Mary's kind and through work in our church's library!
- Working with the External Communications team to look into information for an outside digital sign for the church. Also contacted Fred Weck at the Wyoming City office to find out about codes, etc. Two companies have been selected at this time: Demars Signs and Think Digital Signs. No quotes have been received at this time. While it is only a 'wish,' the team will gather the appropriate information should the church be able to move forward on this type of external communications for our church events and worship.
- Took some time to meet with Georgia Burg to hear the history of the Meals on Wheels program. She had informed me that they are low on people to deliver meals and we hope this is something we could possible offer to people within the congregation as a continued area of ministry for those in need within our local communities.
- Asked Darlene Petrey to organize treats for our Family Night/Yule Log making on November 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Scheduled a meeting with Claudia and Katie (Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>) to discuss roles between their positions and office administration to bring clarification and correct placement of duties per our job descriptions.
- Received a call from local business who would like to help with donations of gently used outerwear, gas cards, and food truck during November and December. I am waiting to hear back from them on what they have decided. A also recommended the collection of outerwear again this year to be put out during the November/December food truck dates. We are "Filling the Bench" with great items for those in need!

- External team asked that I create Advent Joy quarter-sheet postcards and ask local businesses if we can leave for their customers. We are also looking at spending some of our ministry dollars on launching a further reach through FB for Advent Joy.
- Received the transfer of Brent Eidenschink and his two boys from their previous church and recorded information on PowerChurch, etc.

### All God's Children Preschool

- We are currently on the Letter "H" of the alphabet
- Conferences were held in October and all but one parent or family member attended with the exception of one family who reported that they would rather wait until the 2nd round of conferences, knowing that their child was late to enroll.
- Initial enrollment was 14 students - 2 children were added within the first month of school.
- On Monday Nov. 19th a new local family with a 3 year old would like to "Meet & Greet" stating they would like to enroll their child 2 days a week, which would give us a class room of 17.
- We had our yearly field trip to Lendt's Pumpkin Patch and it was well attended by parents. Fun was had by all.
- We are at full staff now with Julie Hyrkas and that is going very well. We make a great team!
- We quickly found a local vendor to do our school photos and pictures and they were done on Monday Nov. 12th.

### Building & Grounds

- No Report

### Children's & Youth Report

- Sunday School: *Sunday School is for Children 4- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, and takes place during 10:00 Worship on Sunday Mornings.*
  - We are working our way through the Operation Christmas Child Bible Study "The Greatest Journey" that they do with children who receive the OCC Boxes. This month's highlight was Children of Christ Sunday, which was Nov 11th. This is such a fun Sunday for the Children, and it's fun to see them involved in the Service. They greeted, ushered, did the communion blessing and prayers of the people, and did the readings. We also sang three songs and played bells. Totally busy, and totally fun. THEN, after Worship, we had our annual Operation Christmas Child event, where we packed 103 boxes to be sent to children all over the world!
  - We are now onto preparing for our annual Christmas Program, which will be Sunday December 16th. Scripts and Parts were handed out last Sunday, and we started practicing lines and songs. We will be doing this and some Christmas lessons now through the big day! By the time of the program, the goal is for the children to really understand the Christmas Story and what a big deal this day is for us!
- SPLASH 5/6: *SPLASH 5/6 is kind of a "Pre-Confirmation" period for our 5th and 6th Graders, and meet most Wednesdays.*
  - We completed our Random Acts of Kindness BINGO boards, had a "Small Group" night the same night that the Confirmation Groups did, and spent an evening talking about "Superheroes", and fantasizing about our superhero superpowers and how we can fight the "villains" that are not living according to the 10 Commandments. We had a couple of weeks break, so Janet could hold SPLASH 1-4. SPLASH is now on Advent Break until January 2.
- SPLASH 1-4
  - I had a few week's Fall Festival with our kiddos 1st-4th Grades. The first week was about fall and Halloween- Minute to Win it Games, discussions of pumpkins and costumes and Halloween, and ending with apple bobbing. The second week was about camping (ironic since there was snow on the ground), Stories relating to catching fish like Jesus "fished" for his disciples, protecting yourself while camping with a tent and sleeping bag, with stories attached. The kids put on skits and there were quizzes, a campfire, sleeping bags, and of course, s'mores...even if they were the tiniest s'mores ever! It's good to check in with this group from time to time and for them to continue the bond with their church family.

- SPLASH 3
  - We offer “My Bible” Class every few years for (typically) 3rd graders and their parents. This year there were three in the class, ranging in age from 3rd-5th Grade. It was held over 3 evenings, and we discussed who wrote the Bible, how the Bible is organized and how to use the Bible, lots of facts about the Bible, and a run through of each book of the Bible. We each picked out some books of the Bible that looked like ones that we would be interested in reading. And THEN we highlighted 99 Important Bible Verses. They “received” their Bibles during Children of Christ Sunday.
- Confirmation: *Our Confirmation Program is for 7th, 8th and 9th Graders in our Church.*
  - Confirmation is on Advent Break now through January 2. Each grade has a week that they will be ushering for the Wednesday Night Advent Services.
- Mission Trip: Our 2019 Mission Trip will be a return to Benton Harbor MI, (We went there in 2014) work dates July 7-12, so Trip Dates are approximately July 6-14. We have 14 Students and 4 Guides going on the trip this summer.
  - We have now Planned and Held our first two Fundraisers:
  - Friday October 26- Sunday October 28 was our Mission Trip Craft Retreat and this past Saturday November 17 was our annual Turkey BINGO night.
  - Tonight we will be Bagging Groceries at Cub Foods for tips.
- Other Stuff that Janet Does:
  - Trunk or Treat
    - We hosted our Annual Trunk or Treat night in our parking lot again Halloween Night. We had a small but mighty crew (6 vehicles) but, we had a LOT of kids visit (maybe 100?), and it was so fun to see all the costumes and be part of their Halloween Celebration! It’s fun to see kids from our own church, their friends and family, but also see kids from VBS and visit with their parents!
  - Safeguarding God’s Children
    - With Cheryl Glassel, we held this year’s round of Safeguarding God’s Children in early November. Approximately 60 Adults came to our class, which is awesome. It isn’t 100% of course, but we do our best. It is a class that is definitely well received now, much due to the support of the Council. I received a few “thank you for holding this class” messages afterwards. It’s encouraging and worth the “ugh” that I feel the week of these classes. Thank you to Cheryl Glassel, who has the perfect background to be able to hold these classes with me and to answer questions that people have.
  - Advent Joy
    - With Sheila Byl, Andrea Klostermann, and Joanna Kroschel, we have been busy preparing a few musical treats for the Advent Joy Concert. It is so fun to have a vision, gather the people and the songs together, and then partner with musical people and see the vision come to life. We’ve been here Sunday afternoons. It’s fun for the fellowship time, and fun to see the songs work, but fun preparing for and enjoying the Advent Joy Concert.
  - WABA Turkey Meal Distribution
    - Another fun thing that I do every year, is to distribute turkey dinners donated by the Wyoming Area Business Association. They donate 10 meals, and I contact 10 of our families that I feel are in need of these meals, and TODAY is distribution day. It’s my favorite part of Thanksgiving.

### Communications

- See Pastor’s Report

### Counters

- No Report

**Global Missions**

- Pr. Grant opened the meeting with song and prayer.
- The September 2018 meeting notes and the Treasurer's report were approved
- Julie Coozenoy explained the council's request for "needs/wants/wishes" in connection with preparing the 2019 budget.
  - The team submitted a "want" for \$125.00 to cover a guest pastor for Tanzanian Sunday.
- Old Business:
  - Creation Vacation / held September 21-22
    - We made approximately \$1,500. We need more help!!!
    - Tentatively selected March 8-9, 2019 for our next event.
  - Tanzania Sunday / held October 14
    - Jenn Cockburn and Bill England's personal testimonies were well received. There were only a few comments about "missing" the auction. Offering received: \$1683.50. It appeared more people stayed after the service to visit and greet one another, including the Swahili Choir.
- New Business:
  - Scholarship commitments for next year
  - We agreed to submit \$1,200.00 per congregation (\$2,400.00) for student scholarships in 2019.
  - In addition, we will send \$1,000.00 for the Mtera multi-purpose building.
  - Discussed the need to engage the two parishes earlier in the decision-making process next year to have their input.
- Upcoming Events:
  - St. Paul Partners Dinner – October 20 (Fran and Dave plan to attend)
  - Bega Kwa Bega Fall Festival – November 10 (Fran, Dave, Ruth, Pr. Grant and Kathie plan to attend)
- The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

**Loaves & Fishes**

- Loaves and Fishes had 2 big events during this fall: The Amazing (G)Race and the Pledge Card drive. The Amazing (G)Race had 11 teams with 94 members participating. The final team standings will be announced Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Generosity Sunday was November 18<sup>th</sup>. To date, we have received 50 pledge cards for a total of \$129,770. This is slightly behind last year, but we expect that more pledges will come in over the next few weeks.

**Martha's Servers**

- No Report

**Outreach**

- No Report

**Prayer**

- Shirley opened the meeting with prayer. Kathie read Psalm 95:1-7.
- Prayer Team assignments were made for December services.
- The prayer quilt is back in the Prayer Corner in the Sanctuary.
- Read from Holy Ground: An Alphabet of Prayer by Julie K. Ageson; the topic was Thanksgiving.
- Ended the meeting with prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

**SPPRT**

- No Report

**Visitation**

- We reviewed the folks being visited and signed and addressed Thanksgiving cards to be mailed to those visited as well as others we felt might appreciate a contact
- Wendy is ordering another portable communion kit from Concordia Supply to be used when visiting. We understand that Outreach has donated \$200 from their funds to be used by the Visitation Team and these funds will be used. The cost is \$64.60.

**Worship & Music (WAM)**

- No Report

**E-MAIL VOTING**

- The following motion was made on November 1, 2018:
  - **Pastor Grant made a motion that St. Paul Lutheran Church welcome Karl and Crystal Juergensen and Jeffrey and Pam Heaton as full voting members of the congregation. Seconded by Katie Fetterly and unanimously approved.**
- The following motion was made on November 9, 2018:
  - **Katie Fetterly made a motion to obtain a new quote from Midco and act upon so long as it is not substantially different from the original quote. In the event there is a large increase in price, the quote would come to the council for additional consideration. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 2019 Budget: goal is to have a finalized budget ready for the December 18 council meeting
- Council Service Day: December 2
- Insurance Claim for Roof: To date, three quotes have been received. Due to the early winter, repairs will be made in the spring.
- Parking Lot: Due to the early winter, repairs will be made in the spring
- Nominating Committee: Pastor will have the names to the council for approval by week of November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Contemporary Music Director: requested a three-month sabbatical from January – March. Request was approved by the council.
- Unity Service: received some feed back from team leads, mainly favorable.
  - This may give us the chance to test Sunday School at a different time from worship
  - Poll congregation as to what they would like to see
  - WAM team to review the logistics of one service
- Member & Church Concerns: Discussion continued about congregation's concerns; responding to individuals concerns/questions. We will be holding one additional listening session for our youth after the first of the year (there is no more Confirmation sessions for the remainder of the year).
- Team Retirements: looking at when to honor team leads who are retiring
- Pew Damage: One of the pews in the cry room has received damage. The pew will need to be reupholstered with a fabric that blends, not match the current material.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> (executive session BEFORE)**

**Bring a snack/dessert to share**

**Devotions: Pastor Grant**

- **A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Julie Coozenoy and unanimously approved.**

Submitted by:

*Julie Coozenoy*

Julie Coozenoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

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

- A motion was made by Tom Miller to accept the Consent Agenda (November agenda, Finance & Committee Reports & October Council Meeting Minutes). Seconded by Jon Quale and unanimously approved.
- Pastor Grant made a motion that St. Paul Lutheran Church welcome *Karl and Crystal Juergensen* and *Jeffrey and Pam Heaton* as full voting members of the congregation. Seconded by Katie Fetterly and unanimously approved.
- Katie Fetterly made a motion to obtain a new quote from Midco and act upon so long as it is not substantially different from the original quote. In the event there is a large increase in price, the quote would come to the council for additional consideration. Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Julie Cozennoy and unanimously approved.