



September 18, 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		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 6:34 pm by Tom Miller and Tom opened meeting with devotions.

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda, Finance & Committee Reports)

- **A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to accept the Consent Agenda (September agenda with additions, Finance & Committee Reports). Seconded by Shirley Zierke and unanimously approved.**

AUGUST MINUTES

- On August 23, 2018, via email, a motion was made by Tom Miller to approve the August Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Pastor Grant and unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

AUGUST 2018	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$15,347.19
Total Revenue	\$22,484.41
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$21,470.28
Net Income (after mortgage payment)	-\$4,313.87
Mortgage Balance	\$474,927.03
Edward Jones Balance	<i>no updated \$</i>
Matching Funds from Congregation	\$5,500.00

- This meeting we primarily discussed the upcoming budget.
- Jerry Nelson will be looking into a quote to change from Frontier to Midco for our phone/internet.
- Dave Nordhausen will be looking into quotes for trash service to see if we can get the same service for cheaper with a different carrier.
- We briefly discussed finance team members working with Council members to discuss budgetary needs with the various ministry groups. We will wait on further info from Council to know which groups we need to meet with and who will be assigned to each group.
- We also had some discussion about the \$0 line items in the budget where we are actually spending money, but nothing is budgeted. Nothing conclusive was determined about these lines, other than realigning the chart of accounts may fix some of these issues.
- We did spend a bit of time talking about the computers/technology budget. We think we really need to sit down with the tech team and other ministry groups to see what the needs are. We know in the finance office, we likely need to upgrade our Office suite software. We also discussed what might be a cheaper alternative to the PowerChurch software.
- Pastor closed the meeting with a prayer.

PASTOR'S REPORT

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

Worship:

- We concluded our summer schedule and returned to two worship services. We finished up Jesus' discourse on bread and launched into the Fall theme: "Adventures in Discipleship: real questions, real challenges, real joys and real faith." We also put away my liturgy with the plan of bringing it back out next summer.
- Planning is underway for a few special services this fall (Rally Sunday, the 150th Celebration, Tanzania Sunday and the Family Focused Christmas service). I still hope to form a preaching series team to discuss what might engage the hearts and minds of congregants and visitors. We have been regularly receiving visitors during this time.

Education:

- Education is in full swing. Wednesday adult classes started on September 12th. We are talking about the early church and the book of Acts this fall and looking toward talking the Book of Revelation in the spring.
- The Sunday Evening group reconvened on Rally Sunday (September 9th) and are finishing up with Romans before moving on to other material.
- I am also compiling a list of Bible study resources for the Loaves and Fishes "Amazing (G)Race", which kicks off on October 7th.
- Confirmation is meeting Wednesdays. This year we will be focusing on the Old Testament using the Re:Form Curriculum.
- I am offering a Bible 101 class for Adults over 2 sessions September 16th and 23rd. I had three folks sign-up and four folks show up for the first session. We answered some questions and dove into the history around and in the Bible, as well as what the Bible is. Next week we will be answering questions and focusing on characters, themes, reoccurring motifs, and if there is time, start engaging individual passages.
- 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. I will wait for further offerings to see what gets people's interest in the Amazing (G)Race.

Congregational Care:

- Congregational 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, the communication team met to continue on our goals including working on online volunteering forms and how to go about making an online directory.
- External communications met and laid out plans for Facebook and projects for the semester. They ordered some chip-clips with our website printed on which are being handed out with other material about the church.
- We made balloon animals at Stagecoach Days and handed out about 350 balloons and information about the church.
- I continue to meet with Claudia Nelson in a summer/fall project to identify and address questions and inefficiencies in our recording and reporting of finances.
- Work also continues on the Wedding and Funeral booklets, we hope to have the wedding booklet finalized soon and the funeral booklet completed later this fall.
- The Narthex and Nursery teams met and formulated some plans. Now we need to prioritize and get things done.
- The Tech Team met, they are: Steve Lundgren, Jessica Tilley and Sean Cable. The Tech Team can be accessed over email using the handle: techteam@sharingchristслоve.org. They have several projects they will be working on, including setting-up Square to use at the church.
- Altar Guild will also be meeting soon to discuss transition from Cindy's leadership.

- 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.
- Now that All God's Children has hired a director, the preschool board has turned its attention to finding an aid/teacher for the classroom, and filling in in the meantime. Joanna Kroschel, Lucy Stoyke and I have gone through the requisite checks and have been serving as aids in the interim. We have now hired an aid, who will start on Friday. Kathy (our new director) is quite excited about working with her.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Grant

COMMITTEE REPORTS

150th Anniversary

- The 150th Team is working hard at finalizing the details for the 150th Anniversary Celebration on October 7th. There will be one service (9:00 am) followed by a German catered meal and presentation. Please RSVP to 150@SharingChristsLove.org.
- Jamie Hyrkas made beautiful wooden pens from our old church pews, with our 150th logo engraved in them. The team is selling these on Sunday mornings.
- There are commemorative Christmas ornaments for sale on Sunday mornings honoring our 150th Anniversary.

Administration

- Blessings! This is the first report coming from the Office Administrator per the request of Pastor Grant. I would also love to hear from council on what they wish reported out from Administration going forward. Possibly a formalized report that will benefit the council and church in general. This first report is primarily through the summer and early fall planning. Please let me know if you need additional information. Summer. A time to breath and embraces new found blessings through a local volunteer. Mrs. Susan Rice was a godsend and offered many tasks in assisting office staff and primarily answering phones while in the office and organizing many files and binders within the church office that otherwise would not have been gotten to. Please read her attached summary and see how a few months of volunteerism can make a huge difference for any part of the church!
- Pastor and I spent time preparing for fall worship in regard to the website, themes, and changes to bulletins, as I prepared the calendar with the many fall events and programs. Pastor and I are also continuing conversations on many fronts, which has led to my participation on the Communication/External Communication, Nursery and Narthex teams.
- Attached is a brief summary of worship attendance and its comparison with calendar year 2017, through August. A more formal spreadsheet is being worked on that will provide more detail and graphics going forward. A quarterly calendar was issued in August by the External Communications team. It was put in bulletins for two consecutive Sunday's and will be displayed again during the 150th celebration on Oct. 7th. No feedback received at this time whether it has been helpful to members or visitors.
- Pastor and I are also working on developing new "Who's Who in the Pew's" attendance/communion/contact me pads. We appreciated working with Shirley on this project as well. The new Pew sheets will be on clipboards (which have been ordered) and should be in use the end of September.
- There is always plenty to do in the church office. A brief list of other things being worked on or completed are listed here:
 - Finalize process for Severe weather, post on website, and instruct congregation on this process.
 - In conversation with Steve Lundgren and how we might monitor our website traffic as we aim to increase SPLC's ministries and visibility in the community. For example, May - August our page views were down by 15%, Unique Visits down by 11% and Average Pages Per Visit was also down by 6%. It seems understandable the summer months would have a great deal to do with these lowered numbers.
 - Myself and the tech team are working on a way we can monitor this going forward and also review cost effective ways to promote our presence better.
 - Working on developing the best way to monitor colored copies. During our last billing cycle, we were charged nearly \$100 for copies over our contract. I will work on this and present my finds and ideas to the council.

- Working with Narthex Team, including Pastor, to develop the new Welcome Center, even if improvements are slow in making, they are improvements. This process will include time to develop ways to display pertinent information, and creating a new Welcome Center team who can volunteer to represent the Welcome Center consistently each worship service.
- Was very pleased to review/edit both the wedding and the funeral bulletins. They are now with the coordinators for a final review and approval.
- Effective November 1, I will take over ordering supplies for Altar Guild on a regular basis.
- Still hoping to encourage the various ministry teams to provide stories of their events, requests for more volunteers, etc.
- Working on how we can get people to submit more photos to me for "Out and About" and SPLCs presence in the community.
- Awaiting new building usage form and consistently using the form for all members or visitors using the church.
- Prepared a change to the Reimbursement Form so people are clearly informed on our exempt status for "no tax" when they are making purchases for the church.
- September 9th, I took over preparing the slides for the projectionists, including announcements, for all services. Pastor did a great job of recruiting those that assisted in the Summer on the soundboard. Steve and I are now working on a schedule that will hopefully work for everyone, but not interfere with worship participants teams they already volunteer on.
- I am having the ushers give me the left-over bulletins for the foreseeable future. I am noticing people do not take the bulletin or any inserts home. Finding the best solutions for sharing information will be important as we compare it against the costs for printing and copying.
- The office had a 14-year-old that needed service hours and spent some time volunteering with us. This young man did things like cleaning up, bleaching, and spraying down the outside preschool area; cleaned up the outside chapel, and assisting with the outdoor worship song books.
- I am certain there is more to report that I have not listed above. Going forward I will maintain a spreadsheet of action items and accomplishments to present to the council going forward.

All the praise and glory to our Lord and Savior!

All God's Children Preschool

- No report

Building & Grounds

- No Report

Children's & Youth Report

- Sunday School: *Sunday School is for Children 4- 4th Grade, and takes place during 10:00 Worship on Sunday Mornings.*
 - Our Sunday School year has begun! This Fall, We're going to be walking through the Operation Christmas Child Bible Study "The Greatest Journey" that they do with children who receive the OCC Boxes- 12 stories from the Bible that invite children to know Jesus, be His friend and to follow HIM!
- SPLASH 5/6: *SPLASH 5/6 is kind of a "Pre-Confirmation" period for our 5th and 6th Graders, and meet most Wednesdays.*
 - We start our SPLASH year this Wednesday, September 19th.
- Confirmation: *Our Confirmation Program is for 7th, 8th and 9th Graders in our Church.*
 - Our Confirmation year is in it's 3rd week, and I am busy organizing Registrations, fees, Confirmation Roster, Retreat Planning and the Confirmation Volunteer Schedule for Fall and Winter.
- Mission Trip:
 - Our 2018 Mission Trip group will be sharing their trip with us on Mission Trip Sunday September 23rd.
 - 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. Our deposit has been paid to Youthworks

.Fundraisers: The Fundraisers that are planned for this year so far are:

- Friday October 26- Sunday October 28 Mission Trip Craft Retreat
- Saturday November 17 Turkey BINGO
- Tuesday November 20 4-9 Mission Trip Bagging Groceries at Cub Foods
- Friday January 25-Sunday January 27 Mission Trip Craft Retreat
- Saturday February 9 Spaghetti Supper
- Sunday March 10 Chili Contest (this date is not for sure yet either)
- There will likely be more added as the year goes on, but this is what I have planned right now.
- Other Stuff that Janet Does:
 - 150th Anniversary - I'm adding on some fun stuff to what the 150th Anniversary Committee has planned to add to the fun, especially for the kids, but really for everyone. One of these projects is taking pictures of the various committees at SPL to display, so I'll be taking a picture of the Council on Tuesday night. Also, we'll see who really reads to the end of my report!

Communications

- See Pastor's Report

Counters

- No Report

Global Missions

- September's meeting is delayed until September 27 due to Creation Vacation

Loaves & Fishes

- Amazing (G)Race:
 - We have eight teams ready for kickoff Sunday. Team leaders are: Dave Haselbauer, Adam & Jessica Tilly, Tyler Kroschel, Chris Clark, Jon Quale, Shirley Zierke, Brandy Timmons, and Frank Edwards. Shirley will do a big announcement at both services to recruit team leaders and team members.
 - We will continue having a signup table through the end of September. It will also be available during Confirmation. Shirley will man the table 9/16 and 9/23. Jan and Brent will man the table on 9/30.
 - Shirley will print all the packets the week prior to October 7th. Each packet will have project ideas, contact information for organizations with multiple volunteer opportunities, SPL ministry team leads, and learning opportunities.
 - Shirley & Julie will order a 20 x 30 poster at UPS Store next week to track the team progress during the event.
 - Brent is going to secure an Action Team for the prizes.
 - There will be prizes for two checkpoints (2-week mark and 4-week mark) as well as a grand prize for the winning team.
 - We have 11 teams already with over 75 people signed up. Additional team leaders are: Sam Hubrich, Ruth Koehly and Dave Haugen.
- Pledge Drive:
 - We talked a long time about a visual that would be easy to understand and explain, yet wouldn't feel negative or threatening. We settled on asking for the budget to be separated into Needs, Wants, and Wishes. Then having a confidence meter for each level of pledging. So, for example, if pledges are at \$250,000, the confidence meter for Needs would be 100%, while the confidence meter for Wants would be 50% and the confidence meter for Wishes would be 25%. If the pledges are at \$300,000 the confidence meter for Needs and Wants would be 100%, with Wishes at 75%. We are going to ask the Ministry Team leads to organize their budget items in this manner. It will make it much easier for Council to know ahead of time what the levers are should we have a shortfall. Also, the congregation will know up front what those levers are.
 - Given this new way of explaining the budget, we are dropping the idea of using the videos we had taken for the 2018 narrative budget. It no longer matches.

- **Stagecoach Days**
 - SPLC participated in Wyoming Stagecoach Days on September 15; made balloon animals for the kids, and handed out chip clips with 150 Amazing Things about SPLC brochure for adults. Kids loved the balloon animals. It was an extremely hot day, interaction with parents was very limited due to the understaffed booth. Pastor Grant does an amazing job of making balloon animals for 7+ hours -- with no breaks! The kids love watching him make the animals.
 - The Wosika's generously donated the use of their popcorn machine, the popcorn, oil and bags so we could hand out popcorn at Stagecoach Days. Thank you Wosika's!
 - Recommendations / Concerns for future participation in Wyoming Stagecoach Days: Overall, the number of booths at Stagecoach Days is very small. Due to family schedules, we have a hard time getting adult or youth volunteers to staff the booth. If we are to continue making balloon animals, we have to be sure we have enough adult volunteers to promote our church. May want to look at taking a year off from this activity.
 - Possibly move this activity to External Communications Team.

Martha's Servers

- No Report

Outreach

- No Report

Prayer

- No Report

SPPRT

- No Report

Visitation

- We currently have five people who regularly receive visits and eight visitors. We reviewed the list. Cards are sent and prayer shawls given when appropriate. We discussed the council request to submit a budget request for next year and the use of the \$250 the team was given by the Outreach Team this year. We agreed to request \$250 for Team needs in 2019. This would be used for an additional communion kit, greeting cards and postage and for small gifts for the folks we visit at Christmas time.

Worship & Music (WAM)

- No Report

OLD BUSINESS

- Welcome Center: Progress is being made on the updated nursery and Narthex. They are prioritizing their ideas and implementing.
- Scrip Fundraising: Scrip has raised \$600 in six weeks of Scrip participation. We are hoping to get more people to join this easy fundraiser. Also, looking for volunteers to assist with selling Scrip cards on Sunday mornings.
- Insurance Claim for Roof: Insurance has approved a claim on the roof. Details have not come in.
- Matching Gifts program: To date, the congregation has given \$5,500 in matching funds. This program will end December 31, 2018.

- CPR Puppet Trailer: Due to the CPR Puppet Trailer deemed not roadworthy (and the cost of repairing the trailer exceeding the cost of a new trailer); the Church Council recommended disposal of the CPR Puppet Trailer.
 - On August 24, an email motion was made to transfer ownership of CPR puppet trailer to a member of our congregation who requested ownership.
 - Due to some confusion on exact wording, the motion was finalized at the council meeting. Confirmation of terms to transfer ownership of puppet trailer:
 - **The CPR Puppet Trailer may be transferred to individual with the understanding the trailer cannot be used for any church activities and the CPR logo must be removed from the trailer before it leaves church property. Initial motion was made by Tom Miller, seconded by Pastor Grant and unanimously approved.**

NEW BUSINESS

- All God's Children Preschool:
 - **A motion was made by Jon Quale to approve the 2018-19 All God's Children Budget, hire the past Director for consulting (two hours/month) and hire of teacher's aide. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.**
- Parking Lot Maintenance: Seal coating will be postponed until 2019 due to lack of funding.
- 2019 Budget: The Church Council/Finance Team is asking for input from each ministry team on their anticipated expenses for 2019? What expenses do they foresee for 2019 and to put them into three categories: Needs, Wants, Wishes. Church Council members have been assigned as a budget liaison to each team. The council member and finance team member will meet with teams to discuss their 2019 budget during the month of October.
- Nominating Committee: A nominating committee is being formed to find replacements for the Church Council positions expiring January of 2019. Expiring positions: Vice President (Shirley Zierke – vacating), Secretary (Julie Coozenoy – agreed to run again), Member-At-Large (Arlie Post – agreed to run again), Member-At-Large (Tyler Kroschel – agreed to run again), Member-At-Large (Julie Hyrkas).
- Veteran's Day: The church council will be honoring the veterans of our congregation on Sunday, November 11th.
- Church Council Service Day: The church council members will be the worship participants on December 2nd at both services.
- Cub Scout Troop: The new liaison for the Cub Scout Troop sponsored by SPLC is Tom Miller, Council President.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 16th (executive session BEFORE)

Devotions: Tyler Kroschel

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

Submitted by:

Julie Coozenoy

Julie Coozenoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

Summary of Motions Made at September Church Council Meeting

- **A motion was made by Tyler Kroschel to accept the Consent Agenda (August agenda with revisions, Finance & Committee Reports). Seconded by Jon Quale and unanimously approved.**
- **The CPR Puppet Trailer may be transfer to individual with the understanding the trailer cannot be used for any church activities and the CPR logo must be removed from the trailer before it leaves church property. Initial motion was made by Tom Miller, seconded by Tom Miller and unanimously approved.**
- **A motion was made by Jon Quale to approve the 2018-19 All God's Children Budget, hire the past Director for consulting (two hours/month) and hire of teacher's aide. Seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.**
- **A motion was made by Shirley Zierke to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tyler Kroschel and unanimously approved.**