



# March 19, 2019 Council Meeting

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

### COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

X	Pastor Grant Applehans		X	Chris Clark, Member at Large
	Tom Miller, President		X	Dale Brainard, Member at Large
X	Tyler Kroschel, Vice President		X	Julie Hyrkas, Member at Large
X	Katie Fetterly, Treasurer		X	Arlie Post, Member at Large
X	Julie Coozenoy, Secretary		X	Jon Quale, Member at Large
X	Suzanne Nienaber			

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Tyler Kroschel and Julie Coozenoy opened meeting with devotions.

### CONSENT AGENDA

- A motion was made by Julie Hyrkas, seconded by Jon Quale to approve the consent agenda and February Meeting Minutes. Unanimously approved.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

As of FEBRUARY 28, 2019	ACTUAL
<b>General Fund Offering</b>	\$28,089.43
<b>Total Revenue*</b>	\$28,357.16
<b>Total Expenses</b> (before mortgage)	\$6,771.24
<b>Net Income</b> (after mortgage payment)	\$16,257.92
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	\$447,766.49
<b>Edward Jones Balance</b> (January 31, 2019 Balance)	\$35,332.34
<b>*This reflects an annual gift and a transfer from our emergency savings account to cover payroll/expenses for January/February.</b>	

**Guest:** Susan Nienaber, District Superintendent of Big Waters District. Susan met with the council to discuss congregational conflict transformation work. This would include providing an initial assessment of issues currently causing conflict in the congregation. After the initial assessment, Susan will meet with the Council to present recommendations and then provide facilitation, training, consultation and support as needed to reduce further conflict and increase the health and vitality of the church.

Initially, some members of the congregation said they would like to see a facilitator and would be willing to help offset some of the cost. Council will get back in touch with these members and discuss the monetary donations.

Further discussion will take place at the April meeting to decide how to proceed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

We reviewed what we discussed at the last meeting. We focused on fundraising ideas to give to council for the council led fundraising. Ideas included: Craft retreat, Lefse bake, Workshop day, Wild Game Feed, Taste of Wyoming, Wyoming's got talent, Community garden. The finance team was willing to look into any ideas that council was interested in pursuing.

**PASTOR'S REPORT**

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

In worship, we finished up Epiphany and began Lent. Preaching topics included "You don't have to love your enemies...but boy what an opportunity!" Moses and the exodus that Jesus leads us through, "Be a neighbor to those who need a neighbor" Preparing in the wilderness, and resting in the comfort of Jesus, the mother hen. We celebrated Children of Christ Sunday with a balloon confession and leadership from our youngest members. It was a grand unified service, and a good time was had by all! In Lent we are taking time at the end of each Sunday sermon to "be in the Wilderness" breath deep and focus on where our help comes from. The Kids have an action saying "Jesus loves me, and the whole world too, Jesus is with us, all the way through" adults are taking a minute of silence to breath and focus on good news that they heard. We also celebrated Ash Wednesday and began a mid-week worship series singing Holden Evening prayer under the banner "perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18) with different area pastors preaching each week. The band continues to develop, we have auditioned a couple drummers and are working toward ever expanding song list and a deeper bench. We are still looking for more participants if anyone is interested in joining us for a Sunday, or a season. I invite anyone interested to join us with the talents God has given you! Choir has picked up again and will be singing at the 8:30 service this coming Sunday. Plans are well under way for Holy week with a single service on Palm Sunday, with a party afterward. First communion will be celebrated on Maundy Thursday with 9 children celebrating this milestone. Good Friday will be a Tenebrae service with the Choir and Easter will be back to two services. On Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, the "Crosswalk" will be set up for folks to walk the stations of the cross at their own pace and engage in activities to focus devotion and reflection.

Education rolls on. Wednesday adult classes continue to follow the arc of the confirmation curriculum and this month we have spent some time digging into the life and times of Samuel, David and Solomon. The Sunday evening group is engaging the "God Pause" from Luther Seminary through Lent. Lenten Mentor Groups have begun with each group choosing a text from the Easter Vigil, engaging it deeply and coming up with a creative presentation of its heart, and where Jesus (and his death and resurrection) are echoed in it. First Communion class went well, though for next year making it 3 hours instead of 2 would give better time especially for adding more activities.

Service to our neighbors was carried out this period through each of our members in their individual lives and through the Food Truck (we had an especially full cart of groceries from the congregation to share this month, and after a slow start, plenty of help to distribute food on Food Truck Saturday. This period we also had a Splash initiative to make and distribute bags of supplies for the homeless in which the kids received more than expected and were happy to repackage for distribution. Thank you, Splash kids for leading us in this good endeavor! During this period, a ride back home to Hibbing was also given in the name of Jesus, and this congregation to a person in need who was passing through the community. This ride was appreciated by the person as well as the staff at Casey's General Store who heard her story and called the congregation looking for help.

Social fellowship events were also held during this time. Keenagers met at the Village Inn on free pie Wednesday. We also held a "Snow Fun Day" in which we painted the snow around the parking lot with food coloring and had fun sliding, climbing, dunking on the basketball hoop and finally coming inside for hot chocolate. Tyler and Adam also got a sign-up sheet out for Softball in the spring. We had a lot of fun last year, and I am looking forward to even more this year. All are welcome, high school age on up can play.

Congregational Care continued with a few pastoral visits in homes, my office and over the telephone. I also had the opportunity to attend the Forest Lake Middle School musical in which our own Eva Lundblad and Elizabeth Stenberg had prominent roles. They did great! The visitation team continues to do their work well. During this time all direct requests for pastoral care were embraced, encouraged, and acted upon.

On the administration front, the position description for the Office Administrator is almost complete. When that is approved by the council Tyler and I will post it and begin interviews. Kathy DiMeglio, our Preschool director has notified the preschool board that she will be stepping down from the directorship at the end of this school year, in order to free-up time and focus for other pursuits. This did not come as a surprise as she originally interviewed not for the director slot, but for the teacher slot, but agreed to step up this year in order to support the preschool and its mission. She has served well in this year in running the preschool and making space for newcomers from other preschools that have recently shut down. Kathy has expressed interest in continuing on as a teacher. The Preschool Board is taking that desire into consideration, but cannot promise anything until a director is found. The search for a new director has already begun, and we look to have someone hired no later than mid-July. This information will be shared with the congregation and the parents this week. The next task will be to make sure we are advertising Holy Week, and planning some exciting events for the time after to connect with folks that may be looking to have Jesus and His good news as a bigger part of their lives. A big thank you to Lucy Stoyke who has stepped in to cover when Julie Hyrkas was on vacation and whenever the preschool has had need, and to Julie Cozennoy, Shirley Zierke, Kathy Mills, Zella Oswald, Darlene Petrey, and Ruth Koehly who continue to make the office not only function, but develop the office as they go!

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Grant

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

#### **All God's Children Preschool**

- No Report

#### **Building & Grounds**

- No Report

#### **Children's & Youth Report**

- Sunday School
  - Chris Clark has graciously stepped in as the large group leader and coordinator for the lessons each week. I greatly appreciate his filling in this role regularly. In addition to the regular classes, we had one movie day on a day when not many adults were in attendance.
  - March 3<sup>rd</sup> was Children of Christ Sunday. We had a number of Sunday School and SPLASH aged children leading the service. They were very proud of the roles they had. Feedback from the congregation was in favor of continuing this on unity Sundays so that all can see the youth involved.
  - March 17<sup>th</sup>, we had a family play in the snow day. The kids enjoyed painting the snow, sledding, shoveling, and playing king of the hill. They all enjoyed a snack and hot cocoa afterwards.
  - The Mother's Day plant sale planning has begun and the Sign-Up Genius will be going out soon. The proceeds from this go toward the curriculum for the following year. If anyone that does not have young kids, wants to be involved in the teaching and/or fundraising efforts, please let me know so that I can add you to the Sign-Up Genius.
- SPLASH
  - SPLASH continued meeting weekly with fairly regular parent volunteers. The group is a bit smaller now, but as chatty as ever! They decided to create bags to deliver to the homeless, took up a collection, and packed them on March 17<sup>th</sup>. We will deliver them over Spring Break.
  - They have joined the confirmation students in the Wednesday evening Lenten mentor groups. The first communion class was held March 3<sup>rd</sup> with nine kids going through the training.

- Confirmation
  - Confirmation held their spring retreat. They are currently meeting in the Lenten mentor groups and will be working on a project to present at the end of the Easter season.
  - The sign up has gone out for the confirmands to present their faith papers.
- Mission Trip
  - Planning is ongoing. We are still short two guides, but have ideas on potential candidates. We would encourage anyone interested in being a guide to talk to Angie, Brandy, or myself.
  - About half of the students have reached their fundraising goal. We will be having a brunch on Palm Sunday with the students in charge. Jodie Beaudette and I will be meeting to coordinate this.
- VBS
  - I will purchase the VBS curriculum after I have access to the youth account. There are a number of people interested in helping to plan this. We will meet closer to the end of the school year to finalize plans. In the meantime, there's a Facebook group with members adding ideas to it as they come across them.
- We will have another education board meeting in April.

**Communications**

- No Report

**Counters**

- No Report

**Global Missions**

- No Treasure's Report this month.
- Global Missions Team will have a Fall Creation Vacation, dates October 4-5th, 2019.
- 2019 Lenten Offerings designated to the Mtera Secondary School "Raise the Roof" campaign.
- Team in agreement fall is a good time for Tanzanian Sunday, with date still to be chosen.

**Loaves & Fishes**

- No Report

**Martha's Servers**

- No Report

**Outreach**

- No Report

**Prayer**

- Dee brought home-made sugar cookies! Dee opened the meeting with a devotional reading based on Psalm 148. Prayer Team assignments were made for April services. Read an article from "Living Lutheran" magazine: Don't Stop at Just Confession. Discussion followed about repentance and confession. Ended the meeting with prayers of intercession, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

**SPPRT**

- No Report

**Visitation**

-

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Fundraisers Ideas:
  - Lefse Sale, Craft Retreat, Bake Sale, Wild Game Feed, Taste of Wyoming, Wyoming's Got Talent, Land behind the church – Community Garden, Selling Pies, Bake Sale: Palm Sunday, Garage Sale
  - It was decided we will hold a Bake Sale on Palm Sunday (one service) with proceeds from the Bake Sale going to the fundraising account for general funds.
- Unexpected Company Chorale
  - Unexpected Chorale requested to use our sanctuary to hold a concert on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.
    - **A motion was made by Jon Quale, seconded by Arlie Post to allow Unexpected Chorale to use the sanctuary, fellowship hall (no kitchen), narthex and restrooms for a cost of \$200. Unexpected Chorale is responsible for all damages to the property. No alcohol is permitted. They are responsible for any security needed. A member of St. Paul Lutheran will be present. Unanimously approved.**
- Frontier Bill
  - Additional information is needed to make a determination. Table until April meeting.
- Administrative Position.
  - Job description was reviewed with the change of hours per week to have a range of 24 to 30 hours per week.
    - **A motion was made by Chris Clark, seconded by Jon Quale to approve the revised Office Administrator Job Description. Unanimously approved.**
- Janitorial Duties / Schedule
  - There is now a schedule for cleaning. Encouraging everyone to take turns cleaning the church so it is not left for just a few to do. Schedule can be found in the Welcome Center.
- Boy Scout Garage Sale
  - Boy Scouts have requested permission to hold a garage sale outside on Saturday, July 13.
    - **A motion was made by Arlie Post to allow the Boy Scouts to hold a garage sale outdoors. In case of inclement weather, they will need to delay the garage sale as they are not permitted to move the garage sale indoors. Only Scouts can use the bathrooms. Kitchen door (to the outside) to remain locked. They may use the older, thicker tables. Pastor Granted seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ministry Team Liaisons: Each council member has been assigned to be a ministry liaison to the team.
- Over the next month, check with your team -- do we still have the correct team lead? Is the team currently meeting? If yes, please ask them to submit council reports so we can share what they are doing with the congregation. Is there anything the council can do for the team?
- Summer Council Schedule: May, June and July Tuesday night council meetings conflict with Softball. We will be moving the council meetings to Wednesdays for May, June and July – third WEDNESDAY of those months.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 2019**

**Devotions: Tom Miller**

- **A motion was made by Dale Brainard to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Julie Hyrkas and unanimously approved.**

Submitted by:

*Julie Coozennoy*

Julie Coozennoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

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

- A motion was made by Julie Hyrkas, seconded by Jon Quale to approve the consent agenda and February Meeting Minutes. Unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Jon Quale, seconded by Arlie Post to allow Unexpected Chorale to use the sanctuary, fellowship hall (no kitchen), narthex and restrooms for a cost of \$200. Unexpected Chorale is responsible for all damages to the property. No alcohol is permitted. They are responsible for any security needed. A member of St. Paul Lutheran will be present. Unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Chris Clark, seconded by Jon Quale to approve the revised Office Administrator Job Description. Unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Arlie Post to allow the Boy Scouts to hold a garage sale outdoors. In case of inclement weather, they will need to delay the garage sale as they are not permitted to move the garage sale indoors. Only Scouts can use the bathrooms. Kitchen door (to the outside) to remain locked. They may use the older, thicker tables. Pastor Granted seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Dale Brainard to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Julie Hyrkas and unanimously approved.