



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
Meeting held virtually through Zoom Conferencing
Tuesday, August 18, 2020 – 6:00 pm

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

X	Sarah Friesen-Carper, Pastor	X	Dale Brainard, Member at Large
X	Tyler Kroschel, President	X	Chris Clark, Member at Large
	Andy Stoyke, Vice President	X	Jaime Fraley, Member at Large
X	Julie Coozennoy, Secretary	X	Arlie Post, Member at Large
X	Chris Timmons, Treasurer		Karen Rozeske, Member at Large

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm by Tyler Kroschel and opened with devotions by Chris Clark.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A motion was made by Jaime Fraley to approve the consent agenda, Pastor’s, Committee’s & Financial Report. Seconded by Dale Brainard. Unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of July 31, 2020	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$ 10,425.00
Total Revenue	\$ 11,244.20
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$ 10,267.12
Net Income (after mortgage payment)	-\$ 4,850.92
Mortgage Balance	\$383,528.80
Edward Jones Balance	\$ 37,971.15

FINANCE REPORT: The finance team discussed the following topics in our August meeting:

- Insurance renewal is due at the end of August. Chris will call Church Mutual and inquire about how/if the suspension of AGC will affect our premiums.
- We discussed setting up a Church Zoom account. The account we currently use is the Pastors personal account.
- We discussed our copier contract and determined that we have one year left until renewal.
- The finance team hasn't received a bill for the cemetery tree removal at this time. Chris will follow up with the Building team.
- Contribution statements were discussed. Chris will reach out to Ann Umland to determine if she can enter by the end of September. If not, an alternative plan will be determined so 3rd quarter statements can be sent.
- Umbrella coverage for financial volunteers was discussed. Chris will inquire as to whether volunteers can be added to the policy renewal for august. If so what is the cost.

INTERIM PASTOR’S REPORT: For August 18, 2020

- I. Administration
 - a. Weekly staff meetings with Office Admin – Melissa and I continue to work remotely and are in the office one afternoon a week to prep for Sunday and get mailings out.
 - b. I have begun meeting with folks individually or in small groups outside with masks on.
 - c. Weekly note from the Pastor in Refresh and ReNEWS
 - d. Weekly video from the pastor with Announcements and Devotion
 - e. Regular Zoom check-in with the Executive Committee
 - f. Covid 19 Team planning – Great work Covid Response Team! They have worked really hard to get where we are today! Now it is time for implementation.
 - g. Monthly meetings with Saint Paul Area Synod Interims – now via zoom. Several consultation conversations with Synod staff this past month.
 - h. Monthly report to synod office

- i. The Ministry Site Profile Team asked me what I think is missing from pastoral ministry because I am part time instead of full time. The question was meant to help inform their survey questions. I wanted to include my thoughts here for reference of the Council and the congregation. I said that the areas I see lacking are education – I would teach confirmation differently and be able to prepare for Adult Studies differently if I were full time – and pastoral care – I would have more time for fellowship events and to do regular visitation.
 - j. Follow up from All God’s Children Preschool temporary closure.
- II. Education
- a. On-line Bible Study has 3-5 participants Wednesdays at 1pm and will continue into the fall on zoom.
 - b. Acts Bible Study – wrapped up July 29th. 12 people participated.
 - c. Confirmation classes will begin September 9th with Parent and Student meeting. The Confirmation Team, Andy Stoyke, Angie Olson, Joanna Kroschel and I are meeting August 19th (tomorrow) to discuss details. Especially important will be: how/where to meet, usual requirements for church and community service hours. We expect 11 students.
 - d. 5 session Bible study on Isaiah “In the Days to Come...” begins August 26th and goes through September 23rd. The time depends a bit on Confirmation timing but will definitely be held via zoom.
- III. Worship
- a. Worship continues to be outdoors. Around 10 people sit outside of their cars each week. We have averaged 40 people in person each week. We average 90 views online both from Facebook and YouTube.
 - b. Theme for the Season After Pentecost, is The Book of Acts: The Holy Spirit Moves!
 - c. 6 worship services; 5 sermons; 5 children’s sermons
 - d. I am grateful to those who pitched in to host Carrie Reed’s family for her funeral. It was a really beautiful service and very meaningful.
 - e. We are back to celebrating birthdays and God sightings on Sundays in worship. Please remember to keep turning in those God sightings!
 - f. See attached for readings through the summer
 - g. First Communion continues to be postponed until the families and I determine a time we feel confident to have a class and celebrate communion.
- IV. Pastoral Care
- a. Pastoral care and congregational care
 - i. Regular phone calls with those who are not connected via internet
 - ii. Sunday Zoom Coffee Hour at 11am – average 4 participants
 - iii. Birthdays and anniversary cards mailed twice a month
 - iv. I continue to slowly working my way through the directory calling each household to check in
 - v. Pastoral contacts: 29
- V. Consultant’s recommendations
- a. Breakthrough Prayer Initiative – I think it is time to change up the Breakthrough Prayer a bit.
 - b. The List of Loving Behaviors was adopted unanimously at the Annual Meeting. Tyler and Pat have created a large print banner that everyone can sign and hang in the narthex. A dedication will happen this summer.
 - c. Ongoing
 - i. Communications plan/Team – in process
 - ii. Fellowship opportunities – happening
 - iii. Establishing Personnel Team – Andy Stoyke and I are working on this
 - d. Yet to Come
 - i. Mutual Ministry Team/healthy, proper channels for concerns and feedback and teaching the congregation to utilize them

- ii. Further training for congregation and leadership on conflict transformation
- iii. Governance – especially clarifying teams and duties and updating the constitution
- iv. Clarifying identity and purpose – this will go hand-in-hand with the work around our financial future

Worship Plans September The Season after Pentecost

THEME The Book of Acts: The Holy Spirit moves the church!

- September 6 Ezekiel 33:7-11; Acts 16:16-34; Matthew 18:15-20
- September 13 Genesis 50:15-21; Acts 17:16-33; Matthew 18:21-35
- September 20 Jonah 3:10-4:11; Acts 18:1-11; Matthew 20:1-16
- September 27 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Acts 19:1-7; Matthew 21:23-32

COMMITTEE REPORTS

All God's Children Preschool

- We are sad to announce All God's Children Preschool will not be serving students for the 2020-21 school year. There is a long history of All God's Children having an important presence in the community and we look forward to being a part of the community in the fall of 2021. We will be taking this year to regroup and plan for the future. We consider it a sacred gift to be able to care for your children and welcome them in the name of Jesus. We look forward to being able to welcome children again in the future. Continue to follow our website and Facebook for future updates on All God's Children Preschool.

Education Report

Sunday School

- Katie and Chris are still trying to figure out a plan for virtual lessons and whether there would be enough interest to make it worth the time to do it.

SPLASH

- Joanna is looking through our current books and videos and trying to determine if we could do classes online or in person. If online, would it be feasible to show videos via Zoom? We may have to contact the curriculum company, once the curriculum is decided, to ensure we're legal.
- Kim suggested doing online three times per month and a fun activity outside once a month. We also discussed having each kid have a parent online with them to help with discussions, like a Bible study, and focusing on living as a Christian.

Christmas Program

- Kim and Joanna started talking about the idea of doing a Christmas video.
- We discussed the idea of incorporating puppets into it, with each kid being a voice of a character.
- Joanna brought the idea up to Janet to help coordinate the puppet side. We would like to honor Carrie in this way.
- We discussed the idea of having multiple squares of characters visible on the screen, much like some of the choir songs that were performed online this spring. We would need someone with the technical knowhow to pull that off.

Confirmation

- Pastor Sarah is meeting with a few parent guides on Wednesday, Aug. 19th to discuss what confirmation will look like this year.

Mission Trip

- YouthWorks is encouraging us to pre-register for this coming summer.
- We have not discussed dates or locations.
- Fundraising will be difficult this year.
- Brandy and Joanna briefly discussed holding a car wash this summer. Joanna will bring it up to the safety team for discussion.
- Joanna's mom is willing to do a tea towel sale. We may need to do a pre-sale to comply with social distancing.

National Youth Gathering

- The National Youth Gathering, originally set for the summer of 2021 in Minneapolis has been postponed to 2022. Youth must be going into 8th-12th grade in order to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Paycheck Protection Program:** SPLC received the \$21,416 PPP payment, of which 100% was spent on payroll & benefits. Loan forgiveness will be applied for at a later date (when the bank notifies us of the proper time).
- **Sealcoating the parking lot:**
 - Tyler Kroschel made a motion to have Real Seal sealcoat the church parking lot, with the cost not to exceed \$13,000. Motion seconded by Chris Timmons. Unanimously approved.
- **COVID-19 Response Team:** The council reviewed the COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Document.
 - Julie Cozenoy made a motion to approve the COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Document. Seconded by Chris Timmons. Majority approved; one abstains.
- **Call Committee:** Tyler announced we have a talented and diverse call committee of seven individuals. Rev. Justin Grimm, Assistant to the Bishop from the St. Paul Synod, will work with the Call Committee on training for the call process.
 - Tyler Kroschel made a motion to approve the following individuals to serve on the call committee: Steven Cozenoy, Katie Fetterly, Neil Gatzow, Pam Heaton, Paulette Miller, Karen Rozeske, and Brian Young. Seconded by Dale Brainard. Unanimously approved.
- **Ministry Site Profile:** The Ministry Site Profile Team has completed the survey and the survey will be sent out later this week. Once completed, the team will compile the results, and finalize the profile to submit to the Synod.
- **Hallberg Foundation Gift:** The church received a \$2500 gift from the Hallberg Foundation; it was determined this money will be used toward COVID expenses.
 - Tyler Kroschel made a motion to allocate the Hallberg money for COVID expenses. Arlie Post seconded. Unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- **All God's Children Preschool:** With the resignation of the director and teacher, the Executive Council and All God's Children team met to discuss options for the upcoming school year. It was decided to take this year as a year to reevaluate the preschool and how it can best serve our community. Later this year, a team will be formed to begin the evaluation process.
 - Julie Cozenoy made a motion to remove Julie Hyrkas' name from All God's Children's checking account, and cancel the All God's Children debit card. Dale Brainard seconded. Unanimously approved.
- **Operation Christmas Child / Metro Dining Club Cards:** Discussion was held around whether we would participate in the OCC and sell Metro Dining Club Cards this year. We will contact Katie Edwards, who coordinated this effort last year, to discuss with her.
- **Annual Meeting / Special Meeting:** During this time of COVID, we will be looking into the adoption of a contingency plan for the annual meeting and/or a special meeting (for calling a pastor). Currently our constitution states we must hold congregational meetings in person.
- **Breakthrough Prayer to Transitional Prayer:** We have been praying our Breakthrough Prayer while our church has been healing and getting ready to move forward. As we are transition into the next step, Pastor wrote a new prayer:
 - *God of hope, As we tread the path of transition, we praise you and ask you to make straight our path. As we seek to call a new pastor, surround and ground the Ministry Site Profile Team and paperwork, the Call Committee, and the Synod staff in your Holy Spirit. Give the Pastor you are preparing for us clarity of call and joy in finding us. Sustain in this congregation, and in each of us, trust in your Holy Spirit, patience in the process, and generosity for the future of your church. Resolve any conflict and break down any barriers that remain among us. Give us open minds and hearts as we welcome our new pastor and a new season of this congregation's ministry. Through the abundant love of your Son, Jesus, we pray. Amen.*

- Jaime Fraley made a motion to accept the Transitional Prayer as St. Paul Lutheran's new prayer to pray together. Dale Brainard seconded. Unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Arlie Post to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chris Clark. Unanimously approved.

Date & Time: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 6:30 pm

Devotions: Arlie Post

Julie Coozenoy

Julie Coozenoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

Summary of motions made at August Church Council Meeting

- A motion was made by Jaime Fraley to approve the consent agenda, Pastor's, Committee's & Financial Report. Seconded by Dale Brainard. Unanimously approved.
- Tyler Kroschel made a motion to have Real Seal sealcoat the church parking lot, with the cost not to exceed \$13,000. Motion seconded by Chris Timmons. Unanimously approved.
- Julie Coozenoy made a motion to approve the COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Document. Seconded by Chris Timmons. Majority approved; one abstains.
- Tyler Kroschel made a motion to approve the following individuals to serve on the call committee: Steven Coozenoy, Katie Fetterly, Neil Gatzow, Pam Heaton, Paulette Miller, Karen Rozeske, and Brian Young. Seconded by Dale Brainard. Unanimously approved.
- Tyler Kroschel made a motion to allocate the Hallberg money for COVID expenses. Arlie Post seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Julie Coozenoy made a motion to remove Julie Hyrkas' name from All God's Children's checking account, and cancel the All God's Children debit card. Dale Brainard seconded. Unanimously approved.
- Jaime Fraley made a motion to accept the Transitional Prayer as St. Paul Lutheran's new prayer to pray together. Dale Brainard seconded. Unanimously approved.
- A motion was made by Arlie Post to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chris Clark. Unanimously approved.

Summary of motions made via Email between the July and August Council Meeting

- On July 22, 2020 Chris Timmons made a motion to approve the July Church Council Minutes via email. Seconded by Chris Clark. Majority approved.