



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
Meeting held virtually
Tuesday, January 19, 2021 – 6:30 pm

X	Christoph Schmidt, Bridge Pastor	X	Dale Brainard, Member at Large
X	Tyler Kroschel, President	X	Chris Clark, Member at Large
X	Andy Stoyke, Vice President	X	Jaime Fraley, Member at Large
X	Julie Coozenoy, Secretary	X	Arlie Post, Member at Large
X	Chris Timmons, Treasurer	X	Karen Rozeske, Member at Large
X	Katie Fetterly, Guest from Call Committee		

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm by Tyler Kroschel and opened with devotions by Pastor Christoph and God Sightings.

GUEST

- Katie Fetterly, Co-Chair of the Call Committee presented the Pastoral Candidate’s name: Pastor Dale Stiles and answered any questions on the call process

CONSENT AGENDA

- **A motion was made by Arlie Post to approve the consent agenda, Pastor’s, Committee’s & Financial Report. Seconded by Karen Rozeske. Unanimously approved.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of December 31, 2020	ACTUAL
General Fund Offering	\$ 15,512.00
Total Revenue*	\$ 17,586.50
Total Expenses (before mortgage)	\$ 12,444.21
Net Income (after mortgage payment)	\$ 5,142.29
Mortgage Balance	\$ 366,814.88
Edward Jones Balance	\$ 43,628.67
<i>*This includes a Grant we received from Chisago County.</i>	

- The finance committee discussed and approved the 2021 proposed budget. We also giving envelopes, December council minutes, and Thrivent Choice giving.

BRIDGE PASTOR’S REPORT:

Happy New Year (How long are we allowed to say that?)! Let’s all hope that 2021 and the coming of your new pastor brings new life to you, your families, and to St. Paul. The potential for future ministry here is exciting, and I know and trust that good things await!

We transitioned from outdoor to fully online worship at the beginning of December. I have to admit, recording sermons and liturgy alone in the sanctuary is weird. And difficult! My sermons have always depended on getting visual feedback from live congregations. Not having you, the Body of Christ present has forced me to learn new ways to write and deliver my sermons. I hope that my efforts have been meaningful to you and to the members of St. Paul, despite these challenges.

I’ve thanked these folks, before, but I’ll thank them again - THANK YOU to those who have helped with music (Kim Clark!) and video production (Chris Timmons!) for our online services - your efforts and dedication have been a critical piece of St. Paul’s ministry.

For confirmation in December our students recorded speaking parts to be used in Advent. They recorded the weekly descriptions of the Advent Wreath candle lighting, along with reading our prayers and lessons. They also completed video projects of various Old Testament characters. In January now we have switched to Wednesday night classes online. Thanks to Angie, Joanna, and Andy for serving as mentors! Lastly, I'd like to congratulate everyone who took part in the planning and execution of our Sunday School Christmas program and our "Drive-Through Bethlehem" event. Both of these endeavors involved a lot of time and energy and were both well received. The drive-through event was a lot of fun - you might just have a new annual tradition at St. Paul!

Thank you for continuing to support and lead St. Paul in the midst of this difficult time. The Holy Spirit is alive and well within you! Let us hope for some widespread vaccinations so that we can once again gather together in person.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Christoph Schmidt

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Children's Ministries

- Sunday School has continued to meet virtually via Zoom the past two weeks. Their theme for the first six weeks is love. All of the lessons relate to this topic.
- We are hoping to have the kids sing a song for the February 14th service.
- Katie and Chris have continued their work on updating the second preschool room to be used by the Sunday School kids when we can meet in person inside again. The vinyl decals have now been applied.
- This year the SPLASH group has switched from meeting over Zoom to meeting over Google Meet. The kids are more familiar with this platform and meetings can go the full hour. We spent the first week talking about resolutions and discussed the "one thing" holding each of us back from following Jesus with our whole heart.
- The kids are working on memorizing Matthew 5:16. We then started using the Re:Form curriculum and are learning things like who wrote the Bible and is the Bible true? This curriculum allows for more discussion. With all of the kids doing distance learning, it's become apparent that they need the time to talk to their peers and offer their own opinions rather than just listening to a teacher for another hour.
- The confirmation class is also meeting via Google Meet and using the Re:Form curriculum. We've continued our lessons on the Old Testament characters, focusing on women in the Bible the last two weeks. The confirmands have been asked to do some readings and/or prayers to earn service hours.
- We are tentatively planning on holding the annual plant sale fundraiser on Saturday, May 8th. Holding it on Saturday, rather than Sunday morning, and outside rather than inside, worked well last year. Given the state of the pandemic, we will likely need to hold the sale in the same manner as last year.
- We are hopefully optimistic that we'll be able to hold VBS this summer. The likely dates would be July 26-30.

Communications

- Communications team would like to start building excitement around when we can be together again – as in outside worship (in cars). Doing a "countdown" on the website.
- Contacting the local papers about doing an article about the new pastor joining our church.
- Set a schedule for Facebook posts, Office Administrator will be doing the FB posts.

WAM – Worship, Arts & Music

- Pastor Christoph requested that others video record the Prayers of Intercession and the readings for the next few weeks for virtual Sunday services. This would allow folks to see a variety of people continue in worship leadership roles.
- The Call Committee requested some general clean-up/organization of the narthex and sanctuary due to in-person interviews this week.
- Services will remain virtual at this time and will include a brief prelude and two additional songs.
- Tyler informed us there will be an Annual Meeting and it will be offered virtually.

OLD BUSINESS

- **2021 Budget**
 - **Chris Timmons made a motion to accept the proposed 2021 Operating Budget. Seconded by Julie Coozenoy. After conversation it was decided to wait until we had complete information for the new pastor.**
- **2021 Council Elections:** Waiting for confirmation on one name before bringing forth the list of nominees
- **Annual Meeting / Annual Report:** Continuing to work on the Annual Report, Annual Meeting will be held virtually with limited in-person seating.
- **COVID Guidelines:** No updated information on the guidelines

NEW BUSINESS

- **Call of a Pastor: A Continuing Resolution:** In order for the Annual Meeting to be held virtually, we need to adopt a resolution to our constitution:
 - **Karen Rozeske made a motion to accept the Call Committee's recommendation to call Pastor Dale Stiles as St. Paul Lutheran's next settled call pastor. Seconded by Dale Brainard. Unanimously approved.**
- **Meet & Greet:** A virtual and limited, in-person Meet & Greet is scheduled with Pastor Dale at 10:00 am on Sunday, February 7th.
- **Lenten Offerings:**
 - **Tyler Kroschel made a motion to send this year's Lenten offerings to Family Pathways Food Shelf. Seconded by Arlie Post. Unanimously approved.**

A motion was made by Dale Brainard to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tyler Kroschel. Unanimously approved.

Date & Time: Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 pm

Devotions: Tyler Kroschel

Julie Coozenoy

Julie Coozenoy

St. Paul Lutheran Council Secretary

Summary of motions made at January Council Meeting

- **A motion was made by Arlie Post to approve the consent agenda, Pastor's, Committee's & Financial Report. Seconded by Karen Rozeske. Unanimously approved.**
- **Chris Timmons made a motion to accept the proposed 2021 Operating Budget. Seconded by Julie Coozenoy. After conversation it was decided to wait until we had complete information for the new pastor.**
- **Karen Rozeske made a motion to accept the Call Committee's recommendation to call Pastor Dale Stiles as St. Paul Lutheran's next settled call pastor. Seconded by Dale Brainard. Unanimously approved.**
- **Tyler Kroschel made a motion to send this year's Lenten offerings to Family Pathways Food Shelf. Seconded by Arlie Post. Unanimously approved.**
- **A motion was made by Dale Brainard to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tyler Kroschel. Unanimously approved.**

Summary of motions made via Email between the December and January Council Meeting

- **On January 10, 2021, Tyler Kroschel made a motion that we move the Annual Congregational meeting to February 14th at 10:30 am. Andy Stoyke seconded. Unanimously approved.**