

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Dec 1, 2019 Congregation Meeting Minutes with Attachments

Meeting was called to Order at 11:20 with an opening prayer and devotion by Pr. Dave.

June 2019 Congregation Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (October 2019)

- General comments by Charlotte explaining budget report. We fall far short each week of needed offerings.
- 2019 Budget Status: 68.99% of goal
- 2019 Budget: \$206,752.78; decrease of \$19,001.74 over 2018
- Review 2020 proposed budget (Nov. 20 letter)
 - * Capital improvement projects (Attached. Note: Electronic sign will be \$12,000 rather than the \$10,000 as stated on the attached sheet, making the final total \$95,555 +/-)
 - * Mission & Outreach consulting engagement. We will engage her for a six-month stint beginning in January.
(Tina Jasion, District Christian Outreach)
 - * Sunday service bulletin - It may be less expensive for us to have bulletins printed rather than use our in-house produced ones. Pastor will send out a Pastor's Pause concerning this issue.
- Financial Stewardship
 - * Budget deficit based on current giving trend
- Zac went over the 2019/2020 pending Capital Improvement Projects
Water access is not on the budget at this time but may need to be addressed later. We will revisit this budget in June depending on whether or not we get a new pastor.
- Proposed budget is approved for 2020.
- We are discussing getting an indication of how much each family might be able to commit to. This would give us an idea of the amount of money we could expect each month. Pastor spoke on this. What is your response to the abundance and generosity of God in your life? We should be transparent in our giving. The attached sheet – Financial Stewardship – a New Approach – addresses this. Pr. Dave encouraged us to read over this sheet and give it careful consideration. We seem to have a consensus that a sort of “giving card” will be given to each family.

Pastor's Report

- Vacancy Pastor Dave Betzner's comments & observations
- Pr. Dave will be taking the college kids out to lunch “on us.” This keeps them connected to us.
- We have made great progress here in the past year. Pr. Dave commended us for this.
- We need to focus on how our spiritual life is being renewed just as our physical building has been transformed.
- Discussed on how our bible class between services will be conducted.

Old Business

- Status of Call progress – Last March 28 we submitted our request. One month later we got a list of eleven candidates. We did not act on it so that we could continue with Pr. Dave. We have changed a great deal since we first submitted our profile. Our progress in the last year are represented in the new profile. The new profile will be made available to the congregation electronically. We have decided to dwell on our progress and not concentrate on the past. We will begin the call process in December. We want to get this new profile on the District's calendar in the next ten days. We would like a young pastor, a new graduate from Concordia.
- Congregational Profile - addressed above.

New Business

- 2020 Slate of Officers approved – Attached
- Altar remodel options – Dell presented several options for remodeling the front of the church.
- Standing Committee Reports are all attached:
 - Education - Judy Tribby – Zac presented.
 - Fellowship - Penny Courtney – Marilyn presented.
 - Outreach - Penny Courtney – Zac presented for Penny.
 - Property - Del Jenstrom
 - Web Presence - Patrice Jenstrom
 - Worship - Jane Felsentreger
 - Sunday School - Heidi Wood

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 12:31

Financial Stewardship - A New Approach December 1, 2019

Christian stewardship: Free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family and the church in managing all of life and life's resources, for God's purposes.

- A new way for St. Paul's to realistically manage expenses and finances
- If you do not wish to participate... THAT'S OK
- There is no pressure. People respond as God leads them, but keep praying about it
- For many this will be an opportunity to grow
- ...in the joy of living as a child of a generous God
- ...as participants in God's mission
- ...through your financial support
- ...as part of the missional community of your church, St. Paul's, and beyond
- The giving card
- ... Estimate of giving
- ... Take one step up
 - Not equal giving, but equal sacrifice
 - Step up in percentage
- So that we may praise God
- ... indicate if an increase
 - ...write weekly or monthly amount
- Take time now to
- ...Pray
- ...Talk with your family

- ...Present your card

St Paul's 2020 Slate of Officers, Board of Directors & Committee Chairs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS & MEMBERS

Section 2.5.1.2 of the Policy Manual states: "One term of office for any Board member, including officers, shall be three (3) years; no more than two (2) consecutive terms may be served unless decided by a special voter's meeting."

PRESIDENT: Zac Huffman - begins year 2nd of 3-year term; term ends 12/21

VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Cook - begins year 2nd of 2-year term; term ends 12/20

SECRETARY: Bernice Prescott - begins year '1 of 3-year term; term ends 12/22

(Replaces Madonna Howard)

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Cyndie Dixon - begins year 2nd of 3-year term; term ends 12/21

Rick Wood - begins year 2nd of 3-year term; term ends 12/21

Diane Segelhorst - begins year 2nd-of 3-year term; term ends 12/21

Jen Houck - begins year 2nd of 3-year term; term ends 12/21

Note: The terms of the MEMBERS AT LARGE will be adjusted so that the entire group of Members at Large does not end at the same time.

TREASURER: Charlotte Angeli - (paid position)

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Michelle Crislip - begins year 2nd of 3-year term; term ends 12/21

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

(Standing committee chair and/or committee members are not bound by term limits)

EDUCATION: Judy Tribby

FELLOWSHIP: Penny Courtney

OUTREACH: Penny Courtney

PROPERTY: Del Jenstrom

WEBSITE: Patrice Jenstrom

WORSHIP: Jane Felsentreger

Committee Reports follow:

Mission & Outreach

Report to Congregation, December 2019

The M/O Team and these efforts are very loosely organized with both actual team members and members-in-action.

This report will endeavor to cover all related M/O activities, some of which may be reported elsewhere.

-- donated school supplies were gathered in August and delivered to Crofton Elementary School in September

-- Sandi Corwin, Judy Tribby, Cyndie Dixon and others sponsored an info booth at the late September Crofton Festival on the Green. It was well planned and featured Kezia the Comfort Dog, a resource available through the South Eastern District. Folks stopped at the booth for kids' crafts, to pet Kezia, to learn about Sunday School and other St. Paul's activities.

-- Cyndie Dixon and WHATEVER Praise Band executed a successful Trunk or Treat in late October. Lots of kids, great weather, good participation by church members.

-- Bonnie Weinhold, Cyndie Dixon, and others sponsored a reading tutoring program on Tuesdays in September. Though St. Paul's folks donated snacks and were ready for kids to drop in, there was scant response and so the effort was dropped after several weeks. It may be tried again in the new year.

-- Pastor Dave asked the Quilters for some baby blankets and there is a current offer of a baby quilt for new moms who bring their infants to St. Paul's.

-- Thanksgiving and grocery staples were collected and delivered for 6 families of Crofton Middle School students.

-- We expect to provide Christmas gifts and food staples for 5 students' families of Crofton Middle School.

-- We've begun an informal process of contacting worship service visitors with letters or email after their church visit, thanking them for visiting St. Paul's. This has resulted in a couple of repeat visits and a new member. We plan to formalize this process in the coming months. Finding a database to support the information-gathering has been a trial and has negatively affected our efficiency in reaching out to visitors. We WILL find a way to do this better!

-- A Mission/Outreach seminar was sponsored in November, facilitated by a team of professional counselors from the South Eastern District. About 20 St. Paul's members participated in learning from a detailed demographic study of the area 3 miles around our church - local population growth in the near future will be a goodly number of single-parent households. A contract for professional coaching for outreach planning by one of these counselors is being considered by the Board of Directors.

-- Sharon Heineken is already planning ahead for participation in this year's Winter Relief Program when it's Crofton's turn to host the group.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Courtney November 27, 2019

Property Committee:

- Outside Water Control and Landscaping
 - Have completed trenching and sealing around church foundation. Outside sump pumps are now installed in the corners on both the east and west sides.
 - Planning to have Evergreen Gene's landscape the rear east triangle area soon, to include a dry river bed on a rubber membrane to ensure overflow from the roof is carried away from the church in heavy rains
- Continuing to replace inside fluorescent lights with LED fixtures. Getting quote from BGE or may continue to do it ourselves.

- Planning to redo basement floors and painting throughout the basement (except for kitchen and bathrooms) after the new year
- Still waiting for AA county to respond to our petition for connecting to city water and sewer. Cost is TBD.
- Ordering electronic sign panels for brick church sign. Also, Parker Retzer will be installing the church bell in a tower behind the brick sign as his Eagle Scout project.
- Lights shining on the front wooden sign were rebuilt.
- Altar Steps
 - Pastor and the Board are considering removing some of the altar steps to increase safety and usability of the altar. Several options are under consideration. We have determined that we can only remove one altar step; removing more would compromise the integrity of the walls on either side of the altar. Charlie Frater developed CAD models of the different options that were presented at the congregational meeting. We will likely hold a dedicated meeting to enable members of the congregation after the new year.
- Church groups are requested to label all of their items in the maintenance room and shed to facilitate cleaning and organizing of those areas.
- Blue Jeans Saturday is scheduled for Saturday, December 14 from 9 am to noon. Please come out to help clean up the church property.

Web Committee:

- Church website is StPaulsCrofton.com
- Includes up to date calendar of events, event highlights, newsletters, Pastor's page
- Church groups are encouraged to notify Cindy of upcoming events so she can put them on the calendar
- A password protected members-only page is now available on the website
 - Soon to include minutes from Board of Directors meetings and church financial information
 - Contact Cindy or board member for password
- Church Facebook page is very active; led by Michelle
- Committee is working to begin video recording of sermons for posting on the website sometime in the new year
 - Recently consulted with another church on how they implement recording and posting

Education Committee Report

October 22, 2019

Sunday School

Started in September. Has fewer than a dozen attendees most Sundays. Diane Segelhorst has volunteered to produce a Christmas program scheduled for December 22 at 10:00 service. All children attending have been provided with their own age appropriate Bible or Bible story book.

SPY

Kids assisted with booth at Crofton Fall Festival on the Green. Helped with Trunk or Treat. Need a young or middle age adult to work with the kids. Has been difficult to get parents out to meet with

Sandi and me and we are still trying. Difficult to make plans without parent participation. Will prepare bagged lunch for Winter Relief program.

Confirmation Class

No 7th or 8th grade kids in church at this time.

First Communion Class

Have identified two young ladies in 5th and 6th grade for a class to start at Pastor's and parent's convenience.

Adult Education

Pastor and Diane Segelhorst are teaching current class. Congregation participation is disappointing. The material being presented is very good and very interesting. Pastor will start a new class on January 5. Have put out an announcement seeking a volunteer to do a class after early service.

Education Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, Dec. 4 to discuss a reading tutoring program proposed by Bonnie Wienhold.

REPORT FROM ST. PAUL'S FELLOWSHIP TEAM, December 2019, for Congregational Meeting

Looking Back

- The FT sponsored themed fellowship activities once monthly for June, July, August (strawberry short-cakes / hot dogs / ice cream);
 - team members participated individually in summer Sunday fellowship organized by Jane Felsen-treger among various church groups
 - (Education Team/Men's Coffee group/Ladies' Breakfast/etc.)
- in addition, the FT provided light lunch refreshments for all of Pastor Dave's Meet & Greet sessions during summer
- team sponsored a potluck lunch after the outdoor worship on Sept 1st
- team sponsored a Homecoming Potluck Dinner in October
- team assisted our member Jan Retzer for her family's Confirmation reception in November
- team provided a working lunch for Mission/Outreach seminar in November
- team provided refreshments for Chelsea Fallstich's Baptism in November
- team sponsored the meal arrangements and decoration for the Thanksgiving Worship Service on Nov 24th

Looking Forward

- there are numerous church group fellowship activities (Advent by Candlelight/Empty Nesters'/Sunday School) in December, so the FT has nothing planned for December
- we will meet in December to plan Fellowship activities for the first part of 2020
- an Easter fellowship activity will be planned once the Easter worship service/s are determined (mid-April)

Looking in the Present ...

- the Fellowship Team greatly appreciates the cooperation and support of the Property Team and all those who so generously and dependably lend a hand during all our Fellowship activities. THANK YOU!!

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Courtney November 27, 2019

WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT - - December 1, 2019

Members of the Worship Committee are Michelle Angeli, Charlton Henry, Jackie Abend, Carole Cook, Kate Hausner, Cyndie Dixon, Sandi Corwin, and Pastor Dave.

On November 3rd — All Saints' Sunday — was celebrated at a 10:00 a.m. service. We remembered those that died during the year by reading their names, sounding a chime, showing the picture on the screen (if available), lighting a candle and planting it into the sand, and receiving a bulb to be planted to bloom in the spring as a remembrance of the loved one. One person commented that it looked like a birthday cake from heaven. Also, during this service Parker Retzer was confirmed. A reception provided by the Retzer family in the Fellowship Hall followed the service.

On November 24th a Thanksgiving Service was celebrated at a 10:00 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall. During the service a meal was served. The service also included communion. Sixty people attended the service. The Fellowship Committee organized the meal and we thank you for your help in making this service possible.

On December 3rd, 16th, and 17th a midweek Advent Service will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:15 p.m. and lasting for 30 to 45 minutes.

On December 22nd — the Sunday School will present their Christmas Program at a 10:00 a.m. service. A Birthday Party for Jesus will follow the presentation in the Fellowship Hall.

On December 24th — Christmas Eve — there will be two services. The Family Service is at 4:00 p.m. and the Candlelight Service is at 7:30 p.m.

On December 29th - - Lessons and Carols — will be celebrated at a 10:00 a.m. service.

January 5, 2020 is Star Sunday and will be celebrated at both the 8:15 and 10:00 a.m. services. During the service each person will take a star from the offering plate. Each star will have a word on it and is a gift from God. The word becomes part of your life for the year— think on it, act on it, and make it a part of your spiritual life.

Due to the fact that there were four 10:00 a.m. (one service) out of nine services during the months of November and December the Worship Committee recommended that Blue Jeans Sunday be held on a Saturday (December 14th).

The New International Version (NIV) of the Bible is used for both services. The Bibles in the pews are NIV.

The MY FAITH inserts in the bulletins are a daily devotional for the following week. MY FAITH is a contribution of Bonnie Weinhold.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Felsentreger, Worship Committee Chair

Sunday School Report

Things are going well with the children who are coming. We gifted each child in the program with their own Bible (they were pretty excited about that), we're continuing with our rotation based program (children rotate to different learning centers each week: crafts, cooking, movies, story and games) and we've learned about the Tower of Babel, Mary & Martha and the 23rd Psalm so far. Each month, there is a newsletter up on the table in the Narthex that reviews what we're learning and the plans for each rotation — along with the memory verse (prizes are given out at the end of each month to each child who knows the verse).

Our weekly average, over the first three months, has been 8 children/week. Started strong in September and have fallen off in October/November... we expect numbers to pick up in December (as they generally do) and will fall off a bit in January/February again (depending on weather). We've had 3-4 visitors and friends attend.

Big thank-you to Crislip girls for volunteering to teach.

Big thank-you to Diane Segelhorst for taking on the Christmas Pageant.

Need more bakers to sign-up to bring goodies on Sunday mornings. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.

2019 / 2020 Pending Capital Improvement Projects - Approximate Expense

- Capital Paving (19)	\$ 1,800 +/- due from initial project (\$9,311.00) \$ 1,800 additional asphalt
- Downstairs flooring (20)	\$ 23,000 (3 proposals)
- Downstairs painting (20)	\$ 5,000 +/-
- Exterior waterproofing	
ACS (19)	\$ 8,635 due from initial project (\$17,270) \$ 11,650 east front/side \$ 10,820 west corner
Matrix (19)	\$ 1,800 +/- evacuate, remove/replace AC units
Pastrana (19)	\$ 1,050 +/- concrete pad & sidewalk
- Evergreen Gene's (19)	\$ 3,000 +/- grading project
- St. Paul's Electronic Sign (20)	\$ 10,000 +/-
- Altar alteration (20)	\$ 5,000 +/- 12/1/19 cong. mtg. review
- LED Light replacement (20)	<u>\$ 10,000</u> +/- BGE proposal pending
2019 additional expenditure	\$40,555
2020 expenditure	<u>\$53,000</u>
Total expenditure	\$93,555 +/-