

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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## September BOND—2017



### Council Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2017 - 6 pm

**Present:** Emily Lewandowski, Cheryl Peters, Bob Rasmusson, Ardu Cleveland, John Heim, Nancy Jones, Merley Rasmusson, Joyce Wichelt, Julie Schroeder

**Excused:** Curt Everson

Call to order at 6:07 pm by Bob Rasmusson

**Devotion:** – Julie Schroeder – My Daily Devotion – The Real Issue: Love

- Ardu will do devotions for September

**Mission statement:** We are guided by the Holy Spirit in a Christ centered mission to love and serve God, those in need and one another.

**Lighting of the Christ Candle** – Julie

**Approval of minutes:** Motion made by John to approve June council minutes, second by Nancy, motion carried.

### Member Concerns

- A few members expressed favorably for Pastor Ted's suggestion of giving the church to the synod and LSS.

### Executive Committee

- The schedule when Pastor Ben will preach was changed. Pastor Ben will preach on August 6<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup> and September 17<sup>th</sup>. A letter was sent to the congregation with this new schedule.
- Bob has met with some of the members that weren't at the meeting to inform them of what we've been discussing and to catch them up. Bob wants all to be aware of what's going on. It worked out really well.

- October 22, the Chinese have requested to use the sanctuary to fit all of the Chinese that will attend to hear a speaker.
  - ◊ Motion made by Merley to allow the Chinese to use the sanctuary, second by John – motion carried.

### St. Paul's Future Options Discussion

- Bob will call Melanie, Bishop Arends office assistant, to make an appointment with him as soon as he returns.
- Bob will ask Bishop Arends if he, the synod, is interested in this.
- What are the next steps once we've finished our meetings with Pastor Ben?
- We should have a ballot for us to use to vote on the final decision.
- The vote will allow us to pursue the option that the congregation selected by majority.
- During this time, we should meet as a council to determine what options should or could be included in the proposal if Bishop Arends agrees to St. Paul's giving the church to the synod.

### Treasurer's Report

- June – we're at a breakeven point. Our net Income minus expenses is better than last year by \$1,541.13 but we are still slightly in the negative.

### Old Business

- none

### New Business

- A visitor came to the service on Sunday at 8:30. She mentioned that the website states start time at 8:30 am. Could it be Facebook? We'll look into this.

## Team Reports

- **Building and Grounds – Bob**
  - ◇ John Heim and John Cleveland hauled bark; Nancy did the watering and deadheading while Cleveland's were on vacation – thank you
- **Congregational Care – Ardu**
  - ◇ Meetings will be changed to 2:00 pm on Mondays
- **Stewardship/Outreach – John**
  - ◇ Salvation Army Feed the Kids – many are dearly engaged.
  - ◇ Washburn Neighborhood
    - ◆ Major emphasis is collaboration with the Washburn neighborhood. John would like to make a motion to accept the request to allow the group to use St. Paul's for the meetings on select Tuesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 as noted in the minutes, contingent upon Sheila checking the church calendar; second by Cheryl – motion carried.
  - ◇ Nation Neighborhood night out
    - ◆ Sister LaDonna requests that St. Paul's attends the 'national neighborhood night out.' Sister would like a head count so please RSVP to LaDonna at 784-2288 ext. 353. The committee will donate a gift basket to this.
  - ◇ Please participate in the upcoming meetings with Pastor Ben that are coming up.
- **Worship/Music – Cheryl**
  - as submitted
- **Youth/Education – Curt**
  - No report
- **WELCA –**
  - No report

## Closing – 6:53

**Next Meeting; we will not meet in August unless something comes up. We'll meet in September.**

Respectively submitted  
Julie Schroeder

*Unapproved—subject to change*

## TEAM REPORTS

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

#### JUNE REPORT

##### VISITATION – COMMUNION MINISTRY

- ( 6) Communion Visits
- ( 8) Telephone Calls
- ( 5) Visits, No Communion
- (11) Cards Sent

##### Communion Team Members:

Lorraine Bummert  
Ardu Cleveland  
Carol Dahl  
Judy Brockman, Coordinator

The Communion Ministry Team will meet Monday, July 17 at 10 a.m. in the Council Room.

##### HOSPITALITY

THANK YOU – Marsha & Aaron Alens, Clevelands, and Marcia & Clar Brodt for providing refreshments for Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship during the month of June.

#### JULY REPORT

##### VISITATION – COMMUNION MINISTRY

- ( 8) Communion Visits
- (11) Telephone Calls
- ( 4) Visits, No Communion
- (20) Cards Sent

##### Communion Team Members:

Lorraine Bummert  
Ardu Cleveland  
Carol Dahl  
Judy Brockman, Coordinator

##### HOSPITALITY

THANK YOU – Sharon Larson, LaVerne Ness, Beverly Scott & Lorraine Bummert for providing refreshments for Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship during the month of July.

## STEWARDSHIP TEAM


Our focus this early summer is on the salvation army 'feed the kids'. We have a very dedicated group of volunteers who make lunches every Monday morning. Please support the with your donations and prayers.

And we continue to work with and support the Washburn neighborhood association. As such, this committee proposes that the council accept the Washburn request for fellowship hall meeting space, as follows: 9/26/17(potluck), 10/24/17, 12/5/17, 1/23/18, 2/27/18, 4/24/18, 5/22/18(potluck). These are all Tuesdays from 6-8pm.

Sr Ladonna from Washburn also requests that St Paul's attend 'national night out' at Viterbo on Tues 8/1/17 from 5-6:30. She would like us to contribute a gift basket of about \$25-30 value. We are listed as a sponsoring organization. If our members plan to attend, they should rsvp to Ladonna at 784-2288 x353.

Lastly, this committee feels it is our responsibility to encourage all members to participate in the upcoming meetings with pastor ben to chart a course for St Paul's.

John Cleveland, Joyce Wichelt, John Heim



Church and office will be closed Monday, September 4th in observance Labor Day. Please plan accordingly.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Pastor Ben Morris will be here on Sunday, September 10 & 17 to continue further discussions on the future of St. Paul's. Plan to attend the worship and then the discussion that follows.



Sunday School starts Sunday September 17th @10:30 am. All children are invited.



We need sponsors for the altar flowers. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday, please put your name on the flower chart in the narthex



W-ELCA meets Thursday, September 14th @ 1:30 pm in the lounge. This will be the Shower of gifts for LWR. Lydia Circle will host. All women of the congregation are invited to join them.



**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
THANK YOU!**

Members of St. Paul's have again this summer worked Monday mornings at the Salvation Army preparing sack lunches for children who would not otherwise had a noon meal. Cold cuts and cheese or peanut butter and jelly were made into delicious sandwiches. Other goodies put in the sack included milk, juice, fruit, assorted crackers and snack bars.

St. Paul's provided the fresh fruit each Monday. John and Ardu Cleveland and JoAnn Hoeth brought the fruit each Monday. The following prepared the sack lunches: John & Ardu Cleveland, Dick Figgie, Lorraine Bummert, David MacPhetridge, JoAnn Hoeth, Barb Engh, Karen Sandvold, LaVerne Ness, Vicki & Maggie Haas, Jan Ostreng, Chris Everson, Troy MacPhetridge, Tori Wichelt and Natalie Horstman. If you see them, thank them for a job well done. Also, a big thank to all who donated money for the fresh fruit. Some of these children rarely see fresh fruit during the summer (what a shame!).

THANK YOU to all involved in any way. God Bless You!

LaVerne Ness



**BACK TO SCHOOL:** Again this year, the media, various charities and retail vendors have been highlighting the need for Back to School supplies. In the La Crosse Tribune, Jerome Christenson raised the question, "In the richest country in the world, where did all these poor children come from?" While we can't answer that question, we do know that all the children at Hamilton Early Learning Center are God's children and have the right to a free and appropriate public education. As God's stewards, and neighbor, we have been called to share our Gifts, Time, Talents and Passions in serving God and to positively impact our church, community and world.

Classes at Hamilton have been underway since mid-July. With 80% of the children qualifying for free breakfast and lunch, their needs are unique. After meeting with Principal Steve Michaels, St Paul's Outreach/Stewardship Team plans to focus on assisting the school in securing items related to health, clothing, personal hygiene, etc. needs throughout the school year. Such unique needs do not fall under the general heading of school supplies.

Please choose to support this mission by using the special envelope in designating your gift to "Back to School-Hamilton." A Thrivent Action Team Grant has been received to jumpstart this endeavor. Feel free to contact John C, John H or Joyce W with your questions. With God working in us and through us, we can make a difference! Thanks for your Generous Love.

### **God's left hand**

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."