

September 14th Council Reports

Visits & Communion Report- Jim Puhl

1. Church, last time at scout camp
2. Church
3. Church, visit Vibrant with Molly
4. Church
5. church, bulletins 18, hosts 30, cousin funeral
6. Off
7. Off
8. Church
9. VAPT 11:00, Fountain View 2:00,
10. Ann Arbor VA Hospital surgery follow up
11. Vibrant, all 3, pass out bulletins 18, host 30
12. Hampton Manor Dundee, work at church
13. VAPT 8:30, off, called to WSLH power was out help with residents
14. Off, be at Mount Carmel Catholic Church 11, someone need food
15. Church, visit at Toledo Church, 1:00 meeting with someone to talk
16. VAPT 8:30, church work
17. WSLH, Ivor Lindsey great time
18. Church, pass out host 30, bulletins 18
19. VAPT 8:30, Aspen Grove 10:00
20. Off
21. Off
22. Church
23. VAPT 8:30, visit to Dundee Hampton Manor
24. WSLH with Molly
25. church, bulletins 17, host 28, in season word books

26. Church, Hickory Ridge 10:00 service with communion total of 12, Molly did a beautiful job, we talked after, and she gave me new idea

27. Off, VAPT 8:30

28. Off

29. Church

30. VAPT 8:30, reports

31. Visit to wards 3

The next month, 2 VAPT are Sept 3, 8:30, Sept 7; 9:30 Sept. 14, 2021, 8:00, Ann Arbor, see doctor

Bulletins 71, Host 130

August 3rd Council Minutes Report- Molly Spitler

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 P.M. Present were Pastor Lew Carlson, Lona and Ray Balduf, Ron and Bernal Koch, Dean Yarger, Kathy Mozena, Rick and Linda Taylor, Linda Meinhart, and Molly Spitler.

Pastor Lew led the group in devotion. In times of crisis we should not blame God but ask how we can relate to those in need.

Dean Yarger moved to accept all reports. Second by Lona Balduf. Motion carried.

JIM PUHL

No additions.

SECRETARY

Ray Balduf noted that the bushes in front of the front door were trimmed for the wedding and not for security purposes.

TREASURER

Lou Ann Flick agreed to look at our QuickBooks program. There appears to be a surplus last month but it was noted that the daycare paid two months' rent but giving is still up.

WORSHIP, MUSIC & ART

No report. There is a lunch event planned at Ivor Lindsay on August 17 from 12:30-2:30 P.M. Jim Puhl will be calling Bingo.

CHRISTIAN ED

The blessing of the backpacks is scheduled for August 22nd. Donations are needed by August 15. Sunday school will begin the Sunday after Labor Day. An outside movie night is planned for October 1. Trunk or Treat is set for October 24th after church. Lona Balduf moved to approve all four events and dates. Second by Linda Taylor. Motion carried.

PROPERTY

Nancy Marietta took six bags of weeds out of the Angel Garden. The weeds in the parking lot were sprayed. Ray Balduf put ceiling tiles up in the fellowship hall. He also put sealer on the concrete steps on the building's north side, although it may be time to remove them and rebuild with lumber. Nancy will be recognized in church for her service.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

No additions.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Ron Koch was thanked for his time in resolving the Intuit payroll issues. The baptism of the Kohler baby is coming up. Heather Parker was sick last Sunday so there was no video of the service.

The Thursday study group will be attending Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church August 15th at 11:30. On Sept 19 anyone is welcome to join us for their 11:30 service.

Jim Puhl is preaching on Labor Day. Pastor Lew will be off the last Sunday of September. The Vanco online giving program was discussed. Pastor asked permission to let Vanco do a virtual presentation to a small group of younger members. Donations for special family needs have been put into designated giving account. Pastor and Rick Taylor will come up with a new system for council approval.

Mutual ministry has not finalized employee evaluations. They have a draft of a Pastoral Performance Evaluation. It was suggested that a page be added for Pastor's goals (no more than three). Either the whole council or several council members will do the evaluation.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No additions.

OLD BUSINESS

Ron Koch discussed the sound system repair/replacement. He got an estimate out of Ft. Wayne. The amplifier runs from \$500-\$1000 and the mixing board \$1800 for equipment similar to what we already have. Lona Balduf is working on getting a grant. Rick Taylor moved to form a sound committee comprised of Ron Koch, Mariana Steffan, Thomas Yarger, Pastor Lew and Skip Mozena. Second by Dean Yarger. Motion carried.

Rick Taylor will check with the bank as to a time for check signers to meet.

A draft of St. Paul's Personnel Policies was presented to council. There was a question about paid maternity leave. Ron Koch will find out the legal requirement. Rick Taylor will add a confidentiality clause.

NEW BUSINESS

Rick Taylor moved to approve the new St. Paul's Game League which will meet the third Saturday of every month at 4:00P.M. Beginning September 18th. The League will be a social group with cards and board games. Second by Dean Yarger. Motion carried.

Pastor Lew led the group in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Treasurers' Report- Rick Taylor

1. The wheels of justice (and banking) turn slowly. First Merchants informed me that in order to change the name of the Luther League account, we have to close the account and open a new one as Designated Funds account. This will require all authorized signers to come to the bank on the same day – not necessarily at the same time – to sign the bank form. Maybe it would be less stressful to keep the Luther League name and just order checks. Or maybe not. See the next item.

2. Our records indicate the following authorized signatures for the accounts (some of which are quite outdated):

General Fund:

Russell Stacy

Susan Haft

Linda Taylor

Richard Taylor

Ronald Koch

John Kreuchauf

Richard Mormon

Luther League:

Ronald Koch

Richard Taylor

Capital Improvement:

Linda Riley

Richard Taylor

Ronald Koch

After we decide what to do with the above, I can send Molly the appropriate resolutions.

3. PPP loan forgiveness application will be ready to send to First Merchants after I obtain form 941 for first quarters of this year.

Worship, Music, & Art Report- Bernal Koch

August 10th Minutes: In attendance remotely: Bernal Koch, Minister Jim Puhl, Pastor Lew Carlson, Mariana Steffen, Molly Spitler, Lu Ann Flick

Pastor opened the meeting with a devotion on Psalm 100. He emphasized creating a sense of prayer and thanksgiving and a sense of joy in our worship service.

Items brought up by the Chair:

- Need for review of sitting and standing for congregation according to Worship Service Hymnal
- Inviting new and veteran deacons to join our worship service
- Reevaluating our worship service in regard to masks and social distancing according to CDC recommendations.
- Putting Bibles back in the pews.
- August 17 Ivor Lindsay luncheon on August 17.

The Ivor Lindsay luncheon is still on for August 17 from 12:30-2:30. It will include lunch and a game of Bingo hosted by Minister Jim. About 10 people are planning to attend. Linda Taylor is organizing the luncheon.

Minister Jim will bring the Bibles back into the church. Pastor will review the protocol for standing and sitting in the worship service.

Some of the churches in Southern Michigan are reinstating recommendations to mask wearing and social distancing in the worship services because of elevated COVID cases. Chancel Choir should be postponed for now and masks should be worn by the Bell choir.

August 15 - Pastor will have Advent in August with a sermon on Mary's Song in Luke 2.

August 22 - Blessing of the Backpacks

August 29 - Blessing of the pets

It was recommended that all YouTube videos be updated to reflect the date when they were taped. The church is in need of a new mixer board for our sound system. A grant is being written by Lona Balduf to help pay for it. The plan is on hold until we can decide what is needed.

It was suggested that our church may want to encourage the formation of a young professional group (young couples with children). Women's retreat is the weekend of September 26.

Next meeting is scheduled Tuesday Sept. 7 at 6:00 pm.

September 7th Minutes: In attendance, remotely - Pastor Lew Carlson, Bernal Koch, Molly Spittler, Lou Ann Flick, Minister Jim Puhl, Mariana Steffen

The Ivor Lindsey Luncheon on August 17 was a success. 17 residents were in attendance. They enjoyed the meal (more food is needed if done again) and played Bingo with small prizes available to the winners. A Halloween event may be in the works.

A baptism is scheduled on October 10. Rosemary Kohler, child of Brett and Veronica Kohler, will be baptized. A small celebration (cake) is being planned after the service.

With the uptick of COVID cases, masks are encouraged to be worn in church and other church activities. Bell choir has started and will continue to use the coffee lounge as a rehearsal venue. Some choir members are meeting in a small group (masks required). Our music opportunities in church are increasing with small church ensembles (recorder and wind ensembles) practicing regularly. Mariana is currently working to develop a substitute for the church cantata.

All Saints Day, October 31, 2021- We will light candles for all who have died this past year. Thanksgiving eve service, Wednesday, November 24, 2021 - Pastor will not be here for this service and for the first Sunday in Advent. Ideas to include our young people in the service include bringing ears of Indian corn to the front of the church, dressing up as Native Americans, or having some skit about being thankful. Christian Ed might have some ideas.

Advent begins October 31 also. Theme will be remembering the refugees among us. Pastor would like to support Samaritans by bringing someone in to speak of their mission. Pastor would

also like to include relics from other faiths and cultures (in reference to our becoming an anti-racist church) to our altar during Advent. If you have some object that is important to your faith or the faith of your ancestors, please feel free to bring it to our church and we will share it with our members.

Our next meeting is scheduled via zoom on Sunday, October 3, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

Christian Education Report- Linda Meinhart

The back pack project was a success. Pastor, Linda Taylor and myself went to Mason Central Elementary School on Wednesday September 1st and delivered back packs full of school supplies and an additional bag of school supplies. A discussion was held to determine what additional ways our church good help the school. We talked with 3 office employees. They are in need of underwear, loose fitting sweat pants and leggings in the smaller sizes (4, 5, 6 and 7.) They also mentioned that coats, gloves, hats will be needed as the winter comes. We left them with the knowledge that our church is there to provide help when the need arrives. The school was thankful for the backpack and supplies that we supplied.

- An additional backpack with supplies that we provided with a 4th grade boy that attends the daycare at our church.
- An additional backpack with supplies was provided to a second grade girl whose grandmother I met while she was picking food up at the food closet. I did the delivery on August 31st.
- An additional backpack and supplies was supplied to a college student. Heather Parker delivered this backpack. Thanks to all that provided the supplies, back packs.

During the next months we will be working on Sunday School classes, and Trunk or Treat. Sunday October 24th from 11 - 12. We will need people to park and decorate their cars and handout candy.

Property Report- Ray Balduf

- Mowed and trimmed grass with help of Taylor's and Nancy Marietta
- We did extensive cleaning at road curb
- Helped set-up Grannies Attic
- Met with Frame's Exterminators'
- Checked lights and replaced as needed

Social Ministry Report- Kathy Knackstedt

We were able to service 16 individuals and families at our August 18th distribution. Thank you to all of the volunteers. We thought we might have a bigger crowd since we placed articles in the local papers. There are 7 extra boxes if walk-ins come. Our next distribution will be Sept. 15th.

We also delivered to Ivor Lindsay residents and added 2 more to our list so we now have 8.

We received our Mt. Zion Grant money of \$2000 which will go a long way especially during the holidays.

We are very grateful. Between the grant and generous donations from various groups, churches, individuals including anonymous donations, God has shown His abundant provision and Providence.

We brought a large donation of diapers, wipes, food, and women's personal products over to Mercy House. These items have been donated to our food closet over time. Thank you for your continued support.

President's Report- Ron Koch

You have received the draft of the employee guidelines. Also, Rick sent a draft to add regarding confidentiality and several other items that he has noticed. Please be prepared to discuss this in a succinct fashion this evening and possibly come to a decision. I made an effort to get some clarity on maternity leave, but as of this writing, had not received responses

Granny's Attic was held on Saturday and was very successful. Traffic was a bit lighter than in previous years as was the amount of offerings. Nonetheless, we will be able to donate \$900 to Oaks of Righteousness. Special thanks to Rick & Linda Taylor, Kim Hyde, Ray & Lona Balduf, Kathy Knackstedt and Bernal Koch for their assistance in making this a successful endeavor. Discussion was had amongst the workers about trying to promote a little interest from our civic leaders and Temperance business leaders to try to revive a low-key version of the Temperance Days of previous years.

A committee consisting of Thomas Yarger, Mariana Stefan, Skip Mozena and myself met to discuss the sound system. There is still concern that we haven't really located the problem. Therefore we are going to work with some of Skip's equipment to see if we can reach a conclusion in which we have greater confidence. This will be an ongoing project over at least the next two months. Following that, we will try to have some recommendations.

About a week before September 11, my neighbor spoke with me about the possibility of doing something in Temperance proper to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 attack. I made a call to the Pastor and he was able to put together a brief but meaningful program that involved several community members and the local fire department. Thank you Pastor!

Several people participated in a journey to Mt. Nebo Baptist Church in Toledo that was organized by Pastor Lew, as we continue learning about racism, where it is present even when we may not realize it, and how we can work to be agents of change. It was a great experience, and I look forward to the continuance of this journey. It is up to us to keep things moving, work on our goals, and lead St. Paul's to be all that it can be!

Old Business:

- First Merchants & QuickBooks reconciliation
- Black Lives Matter/anti-racism work
- Sound system repair
- Children's sermons
- Soundproofing of Pastor's office
- Employee evaluations
- New Check signers
- Funeral guidelines

- Contracts/policies for employees
- Review of goals
- Online Giving options

New Business:

Goals:

- Overarching goal: Be intentional; practice living our beliefs.
- Supporting goal: Reach out to the local community, reach out to the World.
- Supporting goal: Practice being good stewards.
- Supporting goal: Try to focus our mission work to meet the needs of the Congregation and to maximize our ability to serve.

Goals for Pastor Lew and Church Council:

1. Hold regular (quarterly minimum) Mutual Ministry meetings. We should review with the congregation the function and value of the MM committee and revisit this with the congregation frequently.
2. Set reasonable boundaries on duties of the Pastor. Having the Pastor stay away from finances seemed to be of utmost importance.
3. Pastor and Council need to work together to not overpromise and/or overextend. All need to realize that there are limits to what we can ask of each individual.
4. Council needs to endeavor to be very clear with directions/guidelines to Pastor. Pastor needs to endeavor to follow the intentions of directions/guidelines from Council, and ask questions for clarification.
5. Council needs to find a way to keep the Pastor's office locked and to make it a place of privacy, either through soundproofing, white noise or some other technique.
6. Set up a system for regular employee evaluations
7. Work to be an anti-racist church, community and world (New for 2021)