

September 15, 2020 Council Reports

Visits & Communion Report- Jim Puhl

- Aspen Grove 23 attended church, church bulletin pass out on all Fridays
- Taping church service
- Outside church at 9:30
- Funeral at Bedford Chapel 4:00
- 10:30 Vibrant 10 attended
- Taping church service
- Church service 7:00 p.m.
- Outside church
- Taping church service 7:00 p.m.
- Funeral at Pawlak 1:00
- Vibrant 10:30
- Reports

Tapings will be on Wednesday night from now on.

Treasurers' Report- Rick Taylor

No report this month.

Worship, Music, & Art Report- Bernal Koch

Meeting - September 1, 2020

Members in attendance remotely: Pastor Lew Carlson, Minister Jim Puhl, Bernal Koch, Linda Taylor, Molly Spitler, and Mariana Steffen

Pastor Lew would like to begin a book study on “Becoming an Anti-Racist Church” by Joseph Barndt. A news release is being put out about this study. He plans to begin on Sept. 24 at 7:00 pm via zoom and it will be open to anyone who is interested. The study should last 6-7 weeks. In addition, there will be a church Bible Study on the book of Mark on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm again via zoom beginning soon.

Sunday, Sept. 13 service - Pastor plans a dialog with Apostle Henry, Minister Jim Puhl, and Pastor. There will also be a Blessing of Students and Teachers and our Black Live Matters sign. Mariana suggested we circle around the sign as it is blessed and finish with the song “We shall Overcome”. Ice cream sandwiches will be served after the service.

Live streaming will begin with services Wednesday, Sept. 2. Pastor will have it available on his personal Facebook page.

Pastor is working with Sarah to create a user friendly bulletin for our Parking Lot services. They will be emailed for our service Sept. 13. Plans are in the works to put up a tent permanently over the area where Mariana and the Pastors stand for our service.. A tent has been donated that fits the space quite nicely.

The committee discussed how we can begin serving communion. Linda suggested bringing our own bread and juice that the Pastor could bless. There are also individually wrapped communion cups and wine but are a bit costly (about \$1.50 each). Pastor could pass out wafers using proper sanitation and tongs for distribution. Nothing was decided.

Calendar of Events:

September 13th - Blessing of Students and Teachers; Blessing and unveiling of our Black Lives Matter sign.

September 20th - Blessing of the Animals Service

September through October - Outside services in the parking lot every Sunday.

Church Council Action: WMA committee would like permission to remove the small pew next to the audio-visual cabinet so that a camera can be set up for live streaming and equipment for recording and making DVDs (for members who cannot attend church).

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept 29 at 5:00 pm.

Council Minutes Report- Molly Spitler

Christian Education Report- Linda Meinhart

Halloween Celebration to be held on Sunday October 18th following church.

- 10:45 - 11:00 preparation of trucks/decorations
- 11:00 - 12:00 Trunk or Treat Candy Hand out

What is the thinking on having hot dogs? Or other food?

Should we stick with handing out treats and have a quick craft?

Property Report- Ray Balduf

- Met with Frames Pest Control
- All the downstairs toilets would not flush. After much plunging and after using a 25ft plumbing snake in one toilet they all opened up.
- Removed Wasp nest between windows in Friendship Hall.
- Replaced light bulbs that had burned out.
- I need to find somewhere to re-cycle about 120 fluorescent light bulbs
- With the help of Rick Taylor and his son the grass was mowed.
- Cut the weeds in the courtyard.

Social Ministry Report- Kathy Mozena

President's Report- Ron Koch

Payroll Protection Loan funds are in a special bank account and are being used for payroll and utilities. We should see where that balance is and work on our forgiveness.

Rick Taylor & I met to try to reconcile some differences between our First Merchants checking account report and our QuickBooks report. We came up with some differences and are working on a plan to get the two to agree. We are still checking on reasonably priced QuickBooks training for Sarah.

The Black Lives Matter sign has been dedicated and set up. Special thanks to Monica for painting and Ray for installing! Now let's see how we can use our church to change some perceptions of racism in our community.

We received a thank you note from The Hunger Project for our \$745 contribution. I will share it with you, then ask Sarah to put it on the Website & Facebook page. Speaking of which, I have not worked out getting the minutes posted to the website yet, but will try to this month.

Let's continue to work to continue to make real and documentable progress on our goals. What are your thoughts on where we are and where we should go? 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! I repeat this note even though in this last month our world has turned upside down.

However, even as we learn how to “do church” amid COVID-19, our community still has needs and the world still has needs. It is incumbent upon us to still strive to meet those needs as best we can, while working to keep ourselves, each other and our church family as safe as possible.

Old Business:

- Black Lives Matter/ Anti-Racism Work
- Blizzardfest
- Soundproofing of Pastor’s office
- Employee evaluations
- New Check signers
- Appreciation for Sandee Bowman
- Review of Goals

New Business:

Goals:

- | | |
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| 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.