

St. Paul Lutheran Church - Church Council Meeting

Monday, July 16, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

~ **Make Disciples, Live Faithfully, Serve Others** ~

Tom Michael called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and Deb Wallace led us in devotions. Stephan Schindehette, Pastor Rebecca Grate, Deb Wallace, Scott Beckett, Amy Drake, Jean Forsythe, Andy Schall, Tom Michael, and Pastor Jon Bull present.

Guests/Visitors- none

Administrative Reports

- Secretary's Report –Amy Drake presented electronically.
 - Approval of May Minutes. Andy Schall moved to accept the corrected minutes and Deb Wallace second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.
- Treasurer's Report - Andy Schall presented electronically. We are a bit further behind than last month, but ahead of last year. We are still recovering from several large ticket necessary property items. Scott Beckett moved to accept as presented and Jean Forsythe second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.
- Pastor Bull's Report - Pastor Jonathan Bull presented his report electronically. There are no council action items. We are actively looking for a 9:30 am keyboardist for the Praise Band.
- Pastor Grate's Report - Pastor Rebecca Grate presented her report electronically. A lot of youth action items happening with LOMO/LMC camp week, Houston National gathering week, and LOMO Day Camp happening this week. After the week in Houston, and thinking outside the box, the youth have suggested we, SPLC, host a Synod wide youth event (gathering in miniature) to potentially be hosted at the church next summer. There would be worship, service project, music, food, interactive activities and speakers. If we were to host, it would be set to a maximum of 250, if even more interest we would move to a larger venue such as Capital. Scott Beckett moved and Andy Scahl second the motion for Pastor Rebecca to explore further this idea and all the possibilities. Motion unanimously passed.

Scott Beckett moved Pastor Rebecca also to apply to the Lilly foundation for a grant award of \$50,000 plus to host such an event for our synod and beyond for non ELCA Gathering years as early as 2019, 2020, etc. Andy Schall second the motion and motion unanimously passed.

Terry Bull has resigned as SPYKids coordinator due to increased work hours. Jean Forsythe moved and Deb Wallace second the motion to accept the resignation. Motion unanimously passed.

Committee Reports

- Education/Youth - Amy Drake presented many summer youth activities were/have happened including LMC LOMO camp, Houston and VBS/Day camp. Pastor Rebecca met with Carol Rackley and they have determined at this time, up to 16 active youth and 6 chaperones will be needed to go to the next ELCA youth gathering to be held in Minneapolis. These preliminary numbers indicate fundraising needed will be \$50,000 plus.
- Inreach/Outreach - Jean Forsythe presented the Houston Hoedown was a big success with 65 reservations and 71 in attendance to hear of the youth's experience. God's Work Our Hands will happen in September and Trunk or Treat in October as well as a Ministry Fair in October.
- Scholarship - Tom Michael shared that one scholarship was pending due to the final grades and approval. Total of 3 scholarships were given.
- Property/Cemetery/Interior Design - Scott Beckett presented that the committee was slowly working through the approved list. Currently it is a very busy time for contractors, therefore it takes a bit of time to work through the scope of work and miscellaneous items. Drawings and the permit process are moving forward for the new Fires System. All boiler cleaning and updates are scheduled for August. The sump pump for the basement has been purchased and just needs to be installed.

Roof leaks that were "fixed" seemed to be having further issues. We are moving to another contractor to repair the leaks and the chimney repair is complete. Scott is also working on new wheels for the Live Nativity barn.
- Technology - Stephan Schindehette reported this committee did not meet. They are rescheduling a work day. Domain control is in place and up and running. Computers are migrating slowly to ensure all are working properly. Video camera in the Sanctuary is in process. All refunds and rebates have been received and being deposited. We were returned \$1500. A training session for new members to run the sound board is to be scheduled.
- Worship/Music - Karla Kruse reported the committee met on June 18 and are moving through how all to use the new liturgy. Putting together and looking for sub lists for organist/keyboardist for all services. Also discussed what has worked and what could be better for the various special services, Music Sunday, youth Sunday, etc. Blessing of Brains and Backpacks on Aug 12. Rally day on 9/9, Choirs will begin on 8/29 and adult bells on 8/30.
- Personnel/Administration - Deb Wallace reported the committee did not meet but will meet in August.
- Stewardship/Finance - Andy Schall reported there are 5 giving units that did not pledge but are giving this year. At this point there is no cause for alarm, but monitoring the situation.

Old Business/Action Item Follow-Up

-Financial Management Task Force – the committee will be meeting on 7/17. Report to follow.

-Update on property action items approved by council at its April 16, 2018 meeting

New Business

Stewardship for all Seasons – The Bishop has invited SPLC and 12 other congregations for a pilot program process to increase giving through a fundraising company in North Carolina. This company has helped multiple synods and many congregations to create a generosity of giving. We would commit to 2 years and sign a covenant to participate. This commitment would include 7 sessions with our stewardship committee and council, promotional items with the intent to teach us how to ask and promote giving of time and talents through the congregation and by the congregation. The cost to us is \$2,000 a year and tithe our percentage of change to the Southern Ohio Synod. We should expect a median increase in giving of 10-15%. The full cost is \$11,000, the synod will pay the difference from our cost of \$2,000.

As a pilot program, we are responsible for 2 year commitment, feedback to the synod and consultants, individual responses, to help the synod see our successes. We were chosen by the Bishop for this customized program for our congregation that will be different from that of other congregations.

Scott Beckett moved, based on the favorable endorsement from the Stewardship committee and favorable rating with the professional fundraisers association, to move forward with our participation in the pilot program for two years. Deb Wallace second the motion and the motion carried.

Devotions For August – Andy Schall

Next Meeting – August 13, 2018 at 7 PM

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer at 9:07 pm. Scott Beckett moved and Jean Forsythe second the motion to adjourn. Motion unanimously passed.