

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting

June 8th, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Roland Dicke with council members including Barb Holdren, Amy Opperman, Tom Brandewie, John Mohrman, Erin Topp, Myra Hanenkratt, and Abby Bushman and Pastor Becky Strang.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's Report was reviewed and approved by Erin Topp and 2nd by Tom Brandewie, minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report as of May 2021 was reviewed with a motion to accept by Tom Brandewie and Amy Opperman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Mission: The group met and are coming up with mission ideas for the months ahead.

Discipleship: No report

Worship: No Report – meeting in August

Finance: No Report

Art Camp: A team has been assembled and are planning an evening activity this summer. They are planning on having crafts, games, and prizes. They have asked for a little funding to provide food during their event. Erin Topp made a motion to approve the funding and Abby Bushman 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Deacon's Report: No report.

Elder's Report: No report.

Stewardship: No report

Maintenance Report: Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks. Fixed small issue with the west entrance door of the educational building not closing properly. Allen Bushman, Tom Brandewie and I recoated the exposed wood areas the shelter house in the park. Looking into improving our handicap accessibility of our buildings. Checked filters for all AC units. Took recycles to recycle center. Turned off the boilers for the season turned sanctuary units to cooling. Other small things taken care of as needed.

Trustees Report: The trustees worked hard this past week on projects of painting around the shelter house and spraying weeds around the Church.

Abby's Report: "Only God's Spirit gives new life. The Spirit is like the wind that blows wherever it wants to. You can hear the wind, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going" (John 3:8) Our Spirit is like the wind. You can't see the wind, but you know it is there because you see the leaves, trees and grass moving. In the same way, you can't see the Spirit. But we know that our Spirit is within us by the Peace, Love, and Joy that flows out of our hearts! I have prepared the Summer Script Challenge which is upon us in full swing! Below are June Summer Script Challenge Scriptures and Youth Activities planned for children of all ages! Mark your calendars to join us, as always all are welcome!

➤ **Wednesday, June 9th- Meet at St. Paul Community Park at 10:00 am-11:15 am 119 North Franklin Street New Bremen,**

Weekly Scripture: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

➤ **Wednesday, June 16th- Meet at Redskin Memorial Park (Fort Loramie) at 10:00 am.- 11:30am Corner of East Park Street and State Route 705**

Weekly Scripture: Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)

➤ **Wednesday, June 23rd- Komminsk Legacy Park & Splash Pad at 1:00-3:00 pm. behind New Bremen Library, 45 South Washington Street, New Bremen**

Weekly Scripture: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)

➤ **Wednesday, June 30th- Sunshine Playground at Bremenfest Park at 9:30am-11:15 am North Jefferson Street,**

Weekly Scripture: Do to others as you would have them do to you. (Luke 6:31)

➤ **Wednesday, July 7th-Fishing at Kuenning-Dicke Natural Area at 9:30am-11:15 am 4336 Lock 2 Road, New Bremen, Ohio 45869 Bring your grandchildren, fishing supplies and get ready to catch some fish for fun!**

Weekly Scripture: Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)

I am currently preparing Summer Fun Buckets for the Blessing Pantry, planning Youth Activities for July, attending coffee shop hours, assisting with Daily devotions and seeking volunteers for Summer Sunday Worship. Looking ahead I plan to meet with the Sunday School teachers and youth leaders to gather ideas and discuss what the fall activities may look like.

Pastor Becky's Report:

Worship July 4, 11, 18. Pastor Becky on sabbatical.

Summer Safari Carnival: Let's Reconnect is on Wednesday, July 21 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. A team of volunteers is meeting regularly to make this Art Camp-style festival happen.

Julia Mullins, Kennedy Topp, FaithAnn Voess, Levi Bushman, Parker Bushman and Hallie Bushman assist me each week in worship by signing the hymns and other songs.

I am now fully immunized against Covid19.

I continue to lead Daily Devotions weekdays at 11:30 a.m. I have eliminated Fridays from that schedule in order to have one day a week off of work. Bible Study is now on break until September. Book Clubs are on break until September.

Lauren Miller has begun her ministry among us. It is wonderful to have her on board!!!

Vacation 2021 (6 weeks' vacation; 6 weekends)

August 21-22. Wedding offsite in Indiana

September 27-October 1. Time with Family in Cleveland and Canton

I am a facilitator for the Heartland Conference's Excellence in Ministry Program. My group is currently meeting every other week via Zoom. I am also on-call at Joint Township Hospital as an emergency chaplain.

Pastoral Care Documentation (May 10-June 8, 2021)

Hospital: 7 Baptism: 0 Notes Written: 0 Nursing Home Visits: 15 Office Visits: 3 Home Visits: 12 Wedding: 0

Phone Calls: 34 Cookie Deliveries: 0 Funeral: Attended one Coffee Shop Attendees: 32 Home Communion: 23

Old Business

Rev. Becky Benefit Change- An agreement was made previous that if health insurance became available thru Jim again, then the difference would go towards a raise for Becky. Likewise, if a life changing event happens and they no longer have insurance coverage, then the added bonus/raise would be used to cover their insurance instead.

Copier: Is doing good per Barb

Council Positions: If you hear of anybody that is interested, please let Becky know.

Nitro-Church Steeple: We have the money lined up to cover this project. Roland is working on getting this on their schedule so that they can start as soon as possible.

Spouting: The new spouting around the education building will begin in the next couple of weeks.

Ramp North Door-Ed Building: Estimates are coming in for this and it has sparked some issues/obstacles that were not realized. The ramp will need to be angled and how to accomplish this and which direction the ramp should go need to be worked thru. The landscaping will also need to be reconfigured after this project is completed.

Wheelchair lift: John has a company coming in this week to look at our current lift and look at options to improve. More to report after this meeting.

Rhianna Paul Girl Scout Gold Award: Rev. Becky is working with Rhianna and trying to better access what kinds of projects she is interested in completing. More to follow

New Business

Christmas Market 2021: Jen Snider attended our meeting to discuss the discipleships team plans to hold another Christmas market in November this year. They are looking to extend the time to hold this event and are very excited to make this a bigger and better event for the community. If anyone is interested in being a vendor or helping in any way, please see a member of the discipleship team.

Digital sign: Ann Kuhn attended our meeting proposing a much-needed project of replacing the sign in front of the Ed building. She brought with her quotes from different companies for a digital sign. Committee discussed the possibility of changing to a digital sign and it was agreed that a new sign was needed. All approved that a digital sign would be the best way to go. Ann will be contacting the village to learn about permits for a digital sign. Rev. Becky also stated that she may have option for the funding as well. More to follow

Bathroom facelift: Ann also brought to our attention the dire need of giving our bathrooms a little TLC. The baseboards are starting to fall off and look bad and an all over facelift would improve them so much.

Announcements: Next meeting – July 13th @ 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Amy Opperman, Secretary

Roland Dicke, President