

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting

April 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Myra Hanenkratt with council members including Tom Brandewie, June Oaks, Amy Opperman, Tracy Oldiges, Diane Gilberg, Abby Bushman, Barb Holdren, and Becky Strang

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

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report as of March was reviewed with a motion to accept by Amy Opperman and June Oaks seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Team Reports

Discipleship: Meeting May 3rd. Almost all champions have been found

Worship: Meeting May 1st

Finance: Need to schedule meeting in May

Stewardship: All planned

Deacon's Report: No Report

Elder's Report: No Report

Trustees Report: No Report

Audit: completed March 25th

Staff Reports

Maintenance Report: Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks. After several busy months this year so far, this past month has been rather calm maintenance wise. The only real thing noteworthy this last month was the strong odor that had us open the doors one Sunday morning. After a lot of searching for the source, we called Lima Pipe Organ to assist us. We found what we believe to be the source of the problem. There are two conduits with control wires going from organ console to the organ chamber where all the pipes and controls are located. These conduits go down into the basement and then back up into the organ chamber. The man from Lima Pipe Organ removed the top and the back panel off the console to access these conduits. The larger conduit (3 inch) had super strong odor coming out of it. He sprayed disinfectant in both ends of that conduit and stuffed rags in each end to prevent the odor from coming out and hopefully prevent anything else from getting in it again. We believe something got into the conduit in the organ chamber, fell down, could not get back out and died. He then checked every note on the organ to make sure no damage was done to any wiring. Everything worked. Put the organ council back together and all is well. There is only a very mild odor in a couple spots. Other small things taken care of as needed.

Abby's Report According to our youth, Easter is the only time of year when it is safe to put all your eggs in one basket! We hope you enjoyed the cross paintings on the education building doors, painted by the JH/ SR High Youth and cross mosaics hanging in the sanctuary created by the SPLASH during their end of the year celebration. We enjoyed Easter Lessons to focus on Jesus and Holy Week. He is not here for he has Risen! Hallelujah!

I would like to thank our youth, families and teachers for another great year for afterschool youth activities at St. Paul Church! Your time and talents are greatly appreciated. Thank you to Speedway Lanes for delivering pizza for our end of the year SPLASH pizza party! On April 6th, the JH/ SR and confirmands as well as teachers enjoyed fellowship at the Mexican restaurant for their end of the year party too. Please join us for our last Children's Worship; Holy Humor Service that will be presented in the Sanctuary during worship on April 24th at 10:15 am.

Sunday, May 15th will be our last day of Sunday School at 9:00. We will recognize our youth, teachers and 2022 seniors during worship at 10:15 am. Thank you to our youth families for your love and support of the ministry of St. Paul Church. It is my prayer that we continue to grow in spirit together, becoming more aware of the good works of God in the world, knowing that God can work in and through each and every one of us!

Thank you to the County Crossroads 4-H Club for serving our April Community Meal and to Bolly's for cooking! Join us May 16th for our end of the year community meal! If you would like to help serve or make a dessert, please call the church office. We would love your help!

We are working on our summer youth & family events! Bowling, swimming, fishing, basketball, sand volleyball, putt-putt golfing and Splash pad & park adventures to name a few! Save the Date for our St. Paul Art Camp Street Festival on Wednesday June 8th, from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Jesus didn't say, "I'm Finished" he said, "It Is Finished" He was just getting started. Good luck to all our youth as they begin their spring sports & events! Blessings, Abby

Pastor Becky's Report:

Worship

April 14. Maundy Thursday Healing Service at 7:00 p.m.

April 15. Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00 p.m.

April 17. Easter! Worship at 7:30 and 10:15 a.m. Sacrament of Holy Communion

April 24. Holy Humor. Sunday School and Youth will lead worship

May 15. Recognition of High School Seniors, Teacher and Youth Leader Recognition.

The Rev. David Long-Higgins, Preaching.

June 12. Trinity Sunday. Rev. Dr. Deb Krause, President of Eden Theological Seminary, Preaching.

June 19. The Rev. Dan Busch, Preaching (Becky recuperating from surgery)
June 26. Bryan Trego, Preaching (Becky recuperating from surgery)
July 3. The Rev. Jeanette Tangeman, Preaching (Becky recuperating from surgery)
July 10. Hopefully SALT preaching. (Becky recuperating from surgery)
July 17. Becky's scheduled return to the pulpit

I am visiting homes most Thursday afternoons to bring home communion. Anyone who would like to accompany me needs to let me know.

I am the point person for New Bremen High School's Baccalaureate service. I've met with the high school seniors to plan the service.

I begin a five-week Bible study using Adam Hamilton's Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times on April 28 at 6:30 p.m. Because this curriculum is DVD based, I will be unable to offer it by Zoom at this point.

Music Staffing: Becky Quellhorst and Connie O'Neill are very willing to help out as organists, but need us to hire someone more fulltime. This has become a more daunting task than I expected.

Lay Minister of Visitation/Parish Nurse Staffing: We need to start this process to fill this position.

We have two SALT Interns for Summer 2022: Elyssa Mullins and Eli Schmitmeyer

We confirmed 6 young adults this past Sunday.

Worship Team meets Sunday, May 1 at 11:30 a.m.

Discipleship Team meets Tuesday, May 3 at 6:30 p.m. Since January, I've been soliciting volunteers to "champion" various St. Paul Ministries. The plan is to have a large lay leadership base for the coming years.

Jim and I will host a Porch Party on Sunday, June 5 at 6:00 p.m. at the Parsonage. We will provide the main dish and drinks. We ask those attending to bring either a side dish or dessert. All are welcome!

Kathy Manbeck and Katie Dietrich are spearheading this summer's Art Camp Festival: Love Your Neighbor. Wednesday June 8 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. I have written grant applications for the New Bremen Foundation and the New Bremen/New Knoxville Rotary Club. In the congregational letters of the last two weeks, I have asked for donations for the Art Camp Festival. We will need a minimum of \$4900.

Stewardship 2022

Planting Seeds: October 16

Taking Root: October 23

Rain Come Down: October 30 (This is also All Saints' Sunday)

Thriving: November 6

Harvest: November 13 (and Stewardship Sunday)

*These five above themes will be lifted up during worship throughout the year as we give reports on the many missions/ministries of St. Paul Church.

Easter Stewardship letters went into the mail this week along with stamped envelopes.

Foot surgery scheduled for Thursday June 16 at St. Rita's hospital. Four weeks at home. 6+ weeks non-weight bearing, minimum. No driving for 10-12 weeks. Bryan Trego will cover bases part time in my absence. Foot surgeries will most likely span over at two summers. I have also consulted with a back surgeon. Your pastor is falling apart!

Vacation 2022 (6 weeks' vacation; 6 weekends per year)

Jan 27-February 1. Six days; one Sunday

April 20-25. 6 days; one Sunday

October 14-October 22 (8 days; one Sunday)

I am a facilitator for the Heartland Conference's Excellence in Ministry Program. My group has begun meeting in-person combined with our Zoom Room technology. Very handy!

Pastoral Care Documentation (March 7-April 10, 2022) *Please note the number of Easter postcards I've sent out in the last few weeks

Hospital: 3 Notes Written: **406** Continuing Ed: 0 Nursing Home Visits: 26 Office Visits: 10 Home Visits: 12

Phone Calls: 29 Funerals: 2 Baptism: 3 Coffee Shop Attendees: 24 Home Communion: 48 Wedding: 0

Old Business

New Business

Jordan & Jared Weigandt-Eagle Scout Project: The boys gave an update on the progress of their fundraising, and they are getting close. Council approved up to \$500 per project after the fundraising total has come in if they need it. Tom Brandewie made a motion to approve, Diane Gilberg seconded, and motion was passed.

CCLI License Renewal: It is time to renew this license and Diane Gilberg made a motion to accept. Tracy Oldiges seconded, and the motion passed.

Announcements: Next meeting – May 10th @ 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