

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting

August 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Roland Dicke with council members including Myra Hanenkratt, Tom Brandewie, June Oaks, Lindsey Quellhorst, Bryan Trego, John Mohrman, Elyssa Mullins, Barb Holdren and Rev. Becky Erb Strang.

Secretary's Report: July's Secretary's Report was reviewed and tabled until August. Questions for Amy.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report as of June was reviewed with a motion to accept by Myra Hanenkratt and Bryan Trego seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Team Reports

Discipleship: Met on July 19th-Champions doing a great job. One last push for Community Meal Champion.

Worship: Meets August 28, 2022

Finance: Hoping to Meet September/October

Stewardship: All planned

Budget: Meet October-gathering numbers

Deacon's Report: No Report

Elder's Report: Assisted with communion and two baptisms.

Trustees Report: Sprayed weeds

Staff Reports

Maintenance Report: Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks. Wrote "St Paul NB Maintenance" document. Gave copies to the trustees. The document describes the maintenance department here at St. Paul New Bremen. Replaced two ballasts in one light in the pastor's office. They were about to melt down. Other small things taken care of as needed.

Ministry Assistant-Abby's Report: "Be still, and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10 As we live our life with God, there will be times to be busy and times to be still. We have many things to do although there are times when God wants us to stop everything and be still. Rest in his Presence, listen to him and let him prepare you for your day! July began with 6th grade through graduates meeting at Speedway Lanes for an afternoon of lunch, bowling and fellowship enjoyed by all! Along with another successful day spend at John and Nancy Knost's pond for fishing and swimming with our younger youth! I enjoyed going to Elmwood worship this summer, as the folks always love to sing along and see our smiles too! We finished out the month at the Auglaize County fair where the youth of St. Paul church shined inside and outside of the show ring! Congratulations to all who participated in pee-wee shows, 4-H shows and completed their projects! We are proud of your hard work and dedication! Exciting preparations are being made for our upcoming Sunday School and youth this year! Join us on Sunday, September 11th for our Kick-Off Sunday beginning at 9:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. Preschool (including potty-trained 2 year olds) through 5th graders will meet for Sunday school from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. September 11th – May 21st. We are looking for JH and HS helpers for this hour. If you feel called to lend a helping hand, please contact the church office. This year our Sunday School offering will be going to the life and work of St. Paul Church and Youth. In order to give our youth family time together, we will not have Sunday School on the following Sundays: November 27th, December 25th, January 1st and April 9th. Save the date to join our St. Paul Youth who will lead worship five times throughout the year at our 10:15 a.m. service. Please mark the following dates for your family calendar. October 16th, December 11th, February 19th, April 16th and May 21st. St. Paul Student Ministries Permission Forms were sent home in August, please call the church office if your family or if you know a family who did not receive their forms.

Sunday September 11th during the 10:15 a.m. worship service, youth bibles will be presented to 3 year olds, 1st grade and 4th grade students. Please let the church office know by Sunday, September 4th if your child will be present to receive their new bible. If we missed your child last year let us know so we can include them this year. We are excited to have our Splash Youth, grades 3rd- 5th students back together! We will begin on Wednesday, September 14th at 5:30 p.m. and go to 6:30. We will then join with the Junior High and High School Youth Group to have dinner at 6:30 p.m. ending at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served to all youth each Wednesday, beginning on September 14th at 6:30 p.m. JH and SH Youth Group along with Confirmation will follow dinner, beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending at 8 p.m. Splash, Confirmation & Youth Group will run until Wednesday, March 29th. There will be NO Splash, Youth Group or Confirmation on the following Wednesdays: November 23rd, December 21st, 28th and January 4th. If you are able to provide a meal for the youth, please contact *Mimi Messick (937-477-6724)* to choose which Wednesday evening best fits your schedule.

Looking Ahead:

- Sunday, September 11th – Kick-Off Sunday beginning at 9 a.m., Bible Presentation, Commissioning of Sunday School teachers & youth leaders at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, October 16th – Children's Fall Worship at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, December 11th – Children's Christmas Worship at 10:15 a.m.
- Youth Group Christmas Outing Dinner at Do Good, Wednesday, December 14th
- Saturday, December 24th- Christmas Eve Service
- Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day Service at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, February 19th – Children's Worship sharing our St. Paul Church History at 10:15 a.m.
- Wednesday, February 22nd – Ash Wednesday Service
- Sunday, April 2nd – Palm Sunday Service at 10:15 a.m. children's palm parade, Rite of Confirmation
- Sunday, April 9th – Easter Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, April 16th – Children's Worship Holy Humor at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, May 21st – Youth, Teacher & Senior Recognition at 10:15 a.m.

SALT Report: Eli and Elyssa assisted Barb, Becky, and Deb with office jobs around the church. We have visited people at their homes, in nursing homes, and in hospitals throughout the entire summer. We have updated the church website and helped with other tasks

involving the community and worship services. We have also led Daily Devotions this summer and helped Becky with home communions. Eli and I have also assisted with reading in church, cleaning the educational building, writing and sending postcards, and more. We have had a great time interning this summer and have learned a lot about ourselves, the church, and the members. Thank you for this opportunity. -Elyssa Mullins and Eli Schmitmeyer, SALT Interns

Pastor Becky's Report:

Worship

August 21. Sam Simon, Preaching
Saturday, September 3. Private baptism at 3:00 p.m.
September 3 & 4. Communion Weekend.
September 11. Kick-Off Sunday. Bible Presentations. Commissioning of SS teachers and youth leaders.
September 18. Blessing Pantry update during announcements
October 1 & 2. World Communion Weekend.
October 16. Children/Youth lead worship. Five-week stewardship process begins.
October. 30. All Saints Sunday

***Worship Team decided to offer Saturday worship services on Communion weekends only, beginning September 3.**

Many thanks to the St. Paul Family for my month off to recover from foot surgery. A special thanks to staff members: including SALT interns Eli and Elyssa and Pastoral Supply, Bryan Trego.

I have written 20 weeks' worth of character-based curriculum for all ages. We will begin using this with youth groups in the fall.
Lay Minister of Visitation/Parish Nurse Staffing: Application deadline is August 18.

I meet with confirmation youth and their parents this Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

Discipleship Team Reboot: We currently have lots of "Champions" of ministries of St. Paul. The one large missing piece is Open Table Community Meals.

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.

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 December 27-January 3 (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 (June 13-August 9) Hospital: 3 Notes Written: 20 Continuing Ed: 0 Nursing Home Visits: 0
Office Visits: 15 Home Visits: 4 Phone Calls: 22 Funerals: 1 Baptism: 2 Coffee Shop Attendees: 19
Home Communion: 43 Wedding: 0 Nursing Home Worship: 0 First Communion: 0

Old Business

North Ed Building Ramp/Ground Repair & East Sanctuary Sidewalk/Ground Repair: Ramp is installed and sidewalk repaired. Roland will Jeff Weigandt know ground work can be done.

Lawn Mower: Should be here by tomorrow.

One Call: We are working on getting set up.

New Business

Parsonage Air Conditioning/Furnace: Parsonage upstairs air conditioner was serviced and needed coolant added. The coolant it required is no longer made. The duct work is also falling apart. A quote was received from New Knoxville Supply for a replacement Air conditioner for \$5,595.00 and a replacement 95% efficient Furnace for \$3,695.00 for a total of \$9,290.00 (includes Parts/Labor/Installation). An Air Purifier could be added for an additional cost of \$650.00. Bryan Trego made a motion to replace the parsonage upstairs air conditioner/furnace and add the air purifier for a total cost of \$9,940.00. Lindsey Quellhorst second, motion passed.

Outside/Inside Sanctuary South Window: There is a crack in the cement façade at the top of the window, letting water seep inside. This is causing the plaster inside at the top of the arch to crack/crumble and fall off. Roland and John will work on fixing both outside and inside.

Website Upgrade: Our website hosts Agile technology have enhancements/upgrades available such as live streaming services. Quote to upgrade is \$799.00. Decision was tabled until next month.

Vacation Policy: Vacation policy has not been reviewed for at least 15 years. Updates were made and presented. Bryan Trego made the motion to accept the new policy, June Oaks seconded, motion passed.

Lighting Upgrade Chapel/Assembly Room: We have received a donation to change the lights in the Chapel/Assembly room area. We will be removing the old lights and fans. These will be available to anyone who would like for a donation to the current Project of the Year.

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

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