

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting

May 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Roland Dicke with council members including Myra Hanenkratt, Tom Brandewie, Amy Opperman, Tracy Oldiges, Lynda Ranly, John Mohrman, Lindsey Quellhorst, Abby Bushman, Barb Holdren, and Becky Strang

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

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

Team Reports

Discipleship: Still looking for someone or a group to head up the Community Meals

Worship: Decided to start once a month Saturday service in the fall

Finance: Need to schedule meeting

Stewardship: All planned

Deacon's Report: No Report

Elder's Report: No Report

Trustees Report: No Report

Staff Reports

Maintenance Report: Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks. Norm Holcomb repaired wiggly library chairs. Jim and I removed the existing speakers and old audio system components to make way for new speaker system. Torrence Sound Equipment Company installed a new speaker system in the sanctuary. The system included new state of the art speakers, a new rack type cabinet, additional new components, connections to our existing sound controls and tuning of the system. Sounds very good throughout the sanctuary. Called Nitro Roofing about rain leaking in along the sanctuary wall where the educational building roof connects. Showed them what I found they will get back to us. Removed anchors that held up the old speakers, patched and touched up paint. Other small things taken care of as needed.

Abby's Report: I would like to thank our youth, their families and our teachers for another great year of afterschool youth activities and Sunday School at St. Paul Church! Your time and talents are greatly appreciated. We celebrated our last Children's Worship of the school year on Sunday, April 24th with the Holy Humor service. It is wonderful to see the growth of our youth in their signing, singing and reading over the course of the year. The youth did an outstanding job! I have prepared 13 graduating senior and 15 youth teacher gifts and handwritten cards in preparation for our Senior and Teacher Recognition Service on Sunday, May 15, 2022.

I continue to assist Barb and Rev. Becky with daily office jobs around the church, staffing and being available for those who come to the blessing pantry, attend church meetings and currently a five-week evening Bible Study. Our youth have enjoyed handwriting thoughtful messages to our St. Paul members who are homebound or whom are in our prayers. These cards continue to bless our community members each and every month bringing a smile to their faces! The youngest Sunday School youth have even added their names to the cards to brighten each of their days. Thank you to Terri Mullins and Hannah Blanke for helping the youth create a special Mother's Day gift with our youth this year. We have some extremely special moms in our congregation! Join us May 16th for our end of the year community meal from 4:00-6:00! If you would like to help with community meals, please call the church office. We would love your help! I am 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. Good luck to all our youth as they prepare for the end of the school year events! Blessings, Abby

Pastor Becky's Report:

Worship

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

June 5. Pentecost! I'm inviting everyone to wear RED in worship that day

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

August 7. Rowan Sharp Baptism

August 21. Sam Simon, Preaching

September 11. Kick-Off Sunday. Bible Presentations. Commissioning of SS teachers and youth leaders. Beth Bretz to give a Blessing Pantry update

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

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. Baccalaureate Rehearsal is this Friday morning.

This Thursday is our third week of Bible study using Adam Hamilton's Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times. Attendance has been 4 people plus me.

New Business: hire Arianne Henry for worship musician. She'll start out on piano. Connie O'Neill will give her organ lessons this summer.

Lay Minister of Visitation/Parish Nurse Staffing: Information will go to the congregation in late June with the hope of interviewing candidates by late July

Letters will be sent to confirmation families in late June/early July.

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

Discipleship Team Reboot: We currently have lots of "Champions" of ministries of St. Paul. The one large missing piece is Open Table Community Meals. At this point, tomorrow evening's meal may be our last.

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 week of April 4 along with stamped envelopes. Return/response was very good.

Foot surgery scheduled for Tuesday, June 14 at OIO. Four weeks at home. Several weeks of non-weight bearing. No driving for 10-12 weeks. Bryan Trego will cover bases part time in my absence. Foot surgeries will most likely span over two summers. I have seen a chiropractor for my bulged back disc and am currently pain free! **While I am on medical leave, I will set my texts, Facebook messages, and voice mail to a message that tells folk to contact the church office instead of contacting me. I need to completely and fully take this time off!**

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 (April 10-May 9, 2022)

Hospital: 1	Notes Written: 17	Continuing Ed: 0	Nursing Home Visits: 5
Office Visits: 11	Home Visits: 8	Phone Calls: 25	Funerals: 1
Baptism: 1	Coffee Shop Attendees: 34	Home Communion: 43	Wedding: 0

Old Business

North Ed Building Ramp/Ground Repair & East Sanctuary Sidewalk/Ground Repair: We are hoping to start in May as long as the weather does not cause any delays.

New Business

Organist-Arianne Henry: A motion was made to hire a new organist by Tracy Oldiges and seconded by Lynda Ranly. Arianne will start part time in May and will be our full-time organist in early October.

Announcements: Next meeting – June 14th @ 7:00 p.m.

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