

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting

October 11th, 2022

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

Secretary's Report: Secretary's Report was reviewed and approved by Diane Gilberg and 2nd by Lindsey Quellhorst, minutes approved.

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

Team Reports

Discipleship: Still looking for someone or a group to take on the Open Table meals.

Worship: Meets again in November

Finance: No Report

Budget: Meet in October after Council Meeting

Stewardship: Starts October 16th

Deacon's Report: No Report

Elder's Report: No Report

Trustees Report: No Report

Staff Reports:

Maintenance: Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks. Replaced the rollers in the expendable gate in the north hallway with double rollers. The gate is too heavy for single rollers. Replaced a ballast in a hallway light in the educational building. New lights and ceiling fans were donated for the chapel and assembly room. With help from Rolland Dicke, Tom Brandewie, Steve Imwalle, and Mike Hanenkratt, we removed the old lights and fans. New Knoxville supply installed the new lights and fans. The emergency light in the south entrance to the sanctuary failed the yearly test. Replaced the battery. Rented a high lift from the hardware and patched broken concrete at the top of the south large window of the sanctuary. Water had come in and caused some plaster on the inside to fall. Turn on boilers for educational building. Other small things taken care of as needed.

Lay Minister of Visitation: Participated in online webinar "Technology, Older Adults and Churches: Opportunities and Challenges"

- Registered and attended the first class of the Northwest Ohio Association Lay School of Religion "Caring Ministry" course. This course is held every other Tuesday from 6:30-9:30pm and will go through mid-November. The class is by Zoom. I appreciate St. Paul covering the cost of the class!
- Participated in the service at Elmwood Assisted Living
- Mailed ten greeting cards – I used pre-made cards that were in our library. Within the next month I'd like to make my own cards and incorporate my photography and photos to make it more interesting and personal along with a personal hand-written note inside
- Two home visitations
- My plan is to get more cards out in October and then begin calling people I have mailed cards to and scheduling home visitations to those that want a visit

Ministry Assistant: The noise and energy has now filled the halls of the education building gathering our St. Paul Youth on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings! Imagine laughter, singing and praying together as it is such an amazing gift to hear! Sunday School lessons are being built from the Narrative Lectionary Kids Program and many activities from their Hands on Bibles too! Join us for the first Children's Worship on October 16th as our youth have been practicing songs and speaking parts ready to lead. Save the date to join us for the following Children's Worship: December 11th, February 19th, April 16th and May 21st.

Youth Group on Wednesday evenings are taught using a new curriculum based on character development with Splash, Jr. High and Sr. High Youth this year. We have completed lessons on caring, cooperation, fairness and forgiveness thus far. This curriculum encourages action and outreach, knowing your faith and using it every day. The youth will take their first outing to VanDemark Farms on October 12th enjoying fellowship, bonfire, teambuilding, mini golf, hay ride and much more. 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.

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday, October 12th – Youth Group Fall Outing to Van Demark Farm in Sidney
- Saturday, October 15th – Mom to Mom Sale 8am – 12 Noon
- Sunday, October 16th – Children's Fall Worship at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday, October 30th – Trunk or Treating 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
- Sunday, November 6th – Veteran's Day Children's Moment at Worship
- Sunday, November 20th – Family Bowling & Pizza at Speedway Lanes 11:30-1:30 pm
- Sunday, December 11th – Children's Christmas Worship at 10:15 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 14th - Youth Group Christmas Outing Dinner at Do Good 6:00 pm
- Saturday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm. – 7:00 pm.
- Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day Service at 10:15 a.m.

There are many ways to share your gifts and talents with youth programming! We can always use help with lesson and activity preparation, game leaders, meals, clean up and special events too. We would like to say "Thank You" for volunteering with love and support of all of our Youth Activities! We are healthy and blessed!

Pastor Becky's Report:

Worship

October 16. Children/Youth lead worship. Five-week stewardship process begins.

October. 30. All Saints Sunday

November 5 & 6. Sacrament of Holy Communion. Veterans' Recognition
Saturday night dedication of Lighting/ Cross/Candles/Fans
November 13. Stewardship Sunday
November 27. First Sunday of Advent
December 3 & 4. Second Weekend of Advent. Holy Communion. Congregational
Meeting on Sunday at the end of worship.
December 11. Children's Christmas Worship
December 18. Service of Lessons and Carols
December 24. Christmas Eve Open House 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion worship 11:00 p.m.
December 25. Christmas morning worship.

January 7 & 8. Sacrament of Holy Communion. Installation of Council Members
***Worship Team decided to offer Saturday worship services on Communion
weekends only, beginning September 3.**

I have written 20 weeks' worth of character-based curriculum for all ages. We will begin using this tomorrow evening for Splash and Junior/Senior High Youth Groups

Confirmation is off to a great start. We have three students. Jeff Paul, Shelly Smart, and Lisa Weigandt will team teach on a rotating basis. Amy Opperman is heading up a Women's Bible Study beginning Thursday October 27 at 6:30 p.m.

We didn't have a huge response to the Time and Talent forms, but they are still coming in. Six people have expressed an interest in accompanying me on home visits.

Justine Homan is our Nursery Champion. Nursery is now staffed during worship services.

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

2023 is St. Paul Church's 190th anniversary. I am working with Church Historian, Lisa Weigandt, and her team to create events for next year.

Art Camp Festival 2023 will be Thursday June 8 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Theme: Happy Birthday, St. Paul!

Jim and I have contracted covid19 twice in 2022—the second time was exponentially worse. I will be masking even more diligently in public settings.

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 5 (10 days; one Sunday)

Vacation 2023 (6 weeks' vacation; 6 weekends per year) March 9-14. Six days; one Sunday

I've been asked by the UCC to write a stewardship worship service for an upcoming stewardship series. 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 (September 12-October 10)

Hospital: 7 Notes Written: 398 Continuing Ed: 1 Nursing Home Visits: 13 Office Visits: 6 Home Visits: 12 Phone Calls: 18

Funerals: 2 Baptism: 0 Coffee Shop Attendees: 26 Home Communion: 68 Wedding: 1 Nursing Home Worship: 0 First Communion: 0

Old Business

One Call: Work in progress

Lighting Upgrade Chapel/Assembly Room: Completed

Outside/Inside South Window Repair – Sanctuary: Completed

Website Upgrade: Council approved to upgrade and continue with our monthly fee with a motion made by Diane Gilberg and Amy Opperman seconded the motion. Motion passed

New Business

Evening Sexton – Cory Schroer Volunteer: Cory will be responsible for the evening activities that happen in the church to answer questions, unlock the doors if needed, and help with anything that comes up during this time.

Memorial Gift Signage: More to be discussed at our next council meeting.

President/Vice President Term/Constitution Change: We are proposing to change these two positions to a year term or a max of two years instead of the current four year commitment.

Building/Property Insurance Update: Looking into a different company with better rates and is familiar with Churches.

Announcements: Next meeting – November 8th @ 7:00 p.m.

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