

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting

September 13th, 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, Abby Bushman, Barb Holdren, and Becky Strang.

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

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

Team Reports

Discipleship: Meets at the end of September

Worship: Meets again in November

Finance: Meets in October

Budget: Meet in October after Council Meeting

Stewardship: All planned

Deacon's Report: No Report

Elder's Report: No Report

Trustees Report: Changed light bulbs, tightened playground equipment, and pulled weeds

Staff Reports:

Maintenance Report: Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks. Replaced two ballasts in the second light in the pastor's office. Repaired broken downspout tile on the west side of the educational building. Tom Brandewie and I replaced all the bulbs in the light for the curtains behind the altar. Tom also helped me check / tighten the fasteners of the playground equipment. Cleaned the fans a couple of the MINISPLIT air conditioners in the educational building. Connected CD player to new sound system. Other small things taken care of as needed.

Abby's Report: It has been a month of gearing up for our St. Paul Youth Kick- Off and here we are! Cleaning the Sunday School and Youth rooms, preparing all teacher materials and curriculum, gathering activities and waiting patiently for the noise and energy to fill the halls of the education building are among the duties I have completed. Noise filled with laughter, singing and praying is such an amazing gift to hear! Sunday School is beginning our second year learning from the Narrative Lectionary Kids Program. Most importantly, many activities and discussions are directly from the Hands on Bibles that St. Paul Church has been handing out for several years. These Bibles were presented to 3 year olds, 1st graders and 4th graders on Sunday, September 11th to children in worship. If you have anyone in your family who is in need of an age appropriate bible, please call the church office. Sunday School Youth begin their morning in the auditorium learning sign language songs, parading to their classrooms for lessons and activities, then reuniting back in the auditorium for the Lord's Prayer. 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.

Youth Group Evenings are held on Wednesday starting on September 14th. We are looking forward to using a new curriculum based on character development with Splash, Jr. High and Sr. High Youth this year. This curriculum encourages action and outreach, knowing your faith and using it every day. 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.

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. I would like to Thank EVERYONE for volunteering with love and support of all of our Youth Activities! We are healthy and blessed!

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.

Wednesday, October 12th – Youth Group Fall Outing to VanDemark 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, December 11th – Children's Christmas Worship at 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday, December 14th - Youth Group Christmas Outing Dinner at Do Good

Saturday, December 24th- Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm. – 7:00 pm.

Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day Service at 10:15 a.m.

Pastor Becky's Report:

Worship

September 18. Blessing Pantry update during announcements. Nursery Open! Dedication of Eagle Scout Projects in the Community Playground at 2:00 p.m.

October 1 & 2. World Communion Weekend.

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

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

Dr. Jeffrey Paul began as Lay Minister of Visitation on September 1.

I will lead a Funeral Planning Workshop on Sunday, October 9 at 11:15 a.m. in the Zoom Room.

Confirmation begins tomorrow night. We might have as few as 3 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. A couple of people have expressed an interest in Trunk or Treating. I will reach out to them soon.

Justine Homan is our Nursery Champion. The nursery will be staffed beginning this Sunday, September 18, during Sunday 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 April 10-20 (tentative). 11 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 (August 8-September 13, 2022)

Hospital: 6 Notes Written: 6 Continuing Ed: 0 Nursing Home Visits: 6 Office Visits: 19 Home Visits: 2

Phone Calls: 55 Funerals: 3 Baptism: 1 Coffee Shop Attendees: 18 Home Communion: 36 Wedding: 0

Nursing Home Worship: 0 First Communion: 0

Old Business

North Ed Building Ramp/Ground Repair & East Sanctuary Sidewalk/Ground Repair: Done and the grass has been planted. A new railing was also ordered.

Lawn Mower: Delivered and works wonderful

One Call: Work in progress

Parsonage Air Conditioning/Furnace: In and working

Lighting Upgrade Chapel/Assembly Room: Ordered and waiting for delivery

Outside/Inside South Window Repair – Sanctuary: Need to pick a good day and then this will be completed

Website Upgrade: work in progress

New Business

Buckeye Exterminating Contract: Motion was made by Tom Brandewie to accept the contract and Lynda Ranly 2nd his motion. Motion approved

Announcements: Next meeting – October 11th @ 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