

St. Paul UCC Council Meeting
July 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Myra Hanenkratt with council members including, Tom Brandewie, Matt Ranly, Lynda Ranly, Lindsey Quellhorst, Staci Jones, June Oaks, Tim Nevels, Lisa Weigandt, John Mohrman, Abby Bushman, Jeff Paul, Janet Eilerman and Rev. Locke present.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report was reviewed. A motion to approve minutes was made by Tom Brandewie and seconded by June Oaks, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report was reviewed. It was noted that the insurance and property taxes were due in July. There was no other discussion. Matt Ranly made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with Lynda Ranly seconding the motion. Motion Carried.

Team Reports:

Discipleship: No Report

Worship Team: Worship team will meet after services on July 16, 2023. To discuss services, any changes to services, and the upcoming Advent Season.

Finance: A meeting of the Finance Team will be scheduled in September.

Budget: No Report

Blessing Pantry Report: The pantry continues to be very well visited! In 2022 we averaged 35 families each month, in 2023 so far we are averaging 49 families per month. Our pantry continues to be visited by clients who come periodically; however, we do have 7-8 families that seem to need us more.

Some challenges we are facing is continuing to get freezer meat (our current supplies are stretched thin and we are getting less meat less often). The pantry crew have created an essential list of groceries we are going to keep on hand at all times, this will make it easier for the shoppers and for the clients to know what they can expect. With that being said, we don't have a clue what will come in from donations, Agape, Loaves and Fishes, so we are planning to rearrange the pantry in a way that has the essential items in one area and the "here today/gone tomorrow" items in another area. Another area of focus is creating some guidelines as to how many groceries each family, depending on size, should be taking. We have been using a "use your judgement" approach but some of the volunteers have been asking for more of a set guideline.

Our next meeting as a pantry crew is July 12th. Patty from Agape is coming in to share their best practices and their guidelines on how much to give per family, so we are looking forward to her insight.

Good stuff happening all around. We are feeding our community, we have a great team of volunteers making it happen and our budget continues to amaze me due to donations continually coming in.

Stewardship: No Report

Trustees: The trustees reported that there are some areas of concrete around the Sanctuary that needs repair. Specifically, the wheel chair ramp that is used to bring caskets into the Sanctuary. They will look into patching it one more time and see how it holds up. Homan/Stucke may be called in to advise or give a quote for the repair. The room numbers have arrived and the trustees will look into installing them.

Deacons Report: No Report

Elders: No Report

Staff Reports:

Maintenance Report:

- Performed weekly and monthly preventive maintenance checks.
- Picked up pedestal fan motor from Irish Electric. Reassembled to its stand in the auditorium.
- Contacted Moeller Door about programmable door locks for educational building. They are seeing what is available for our doors.
- Changed a faulty light switch in parsonage upstairs bathroom. Put covers on light switches and outlets that were missing.

- Women's handicapped toilet in the educational building was not flushing properly. Had to replace a shutoff valve and rebuilt the flush valve.
- Had firefighter Dan Voress look at the parsonage and make recommendations for smoke and carbon monoxide CO detectors. It is time to replace all detectors in the parsonage.
- Other small things taken care of as needed.

Abby's Report:

Youth Ministry Assistant Report Church council July 11, 2023

Thank you to Kathy Manbeck and Katie Dietrich for coordinating another outstanding Art Camp Street Festival at the St. Paul Community Park! Everyone enjoyed the hamburgers & hotdogs as well as the bouncy house, petting zoo, K-9 officer and games too! Thank you to all who were part of this wonderful community event! On Wednesday, June 28th several members joined us for Miniature Golf at K.C. Geiger Park in St. Marys! We laughed, lost golf balls in the water and enjoyed much needed fellowship along the way! Keep an eye out for our next golfing outing! We would love for you to join us!!

The month of June and the beginning of July have been spent planning and researching the new Sunday School and Youth Group curriculum with our youth leaders. I continue to make phone calls, assist Leah in the office, check-in with Myra, meet with our youth leaders and meet with Pastor Ken too! If you are interested in helping serve our youth at St. Paul church, please reach out to us! We would love to have you join our team! Peace and Blessings, Abby

- **Tuesday, August 1st Auglaize Co. Fair Kids Day, 12pm-4pm**
All are welcome! Arts, crafts, yard games, face painting, prizes, Mike Hemmelgarn: comedy juggler and ventriloquist.
- **Sunday, September 10th –First Day of Sunday School 9am-10am**
- **Sunday, September 10th- 190th Anniversary Celebration 10:15 am**
All are welcome to join our Homecoming Sunday Celebration with Rev. David Long-Higgins, Heartland Conference Minister, preaching as we present Bibles to our youth, have a special children's moment and bless our upcoming confirmands. After worship we will take a group picture of our congregation, share lunch together, and special crafts for all to enjoy! Happy Birthday St. Paul Church!!
- **Wednesday, September 13th – Youth Group begins**
- **Wednesday, October 18th – Youth Fall Outing – (No Confirmation)**
- **Wednesday, December 20th – Youth Group Dinner to Do Good Restaurant**

Lay Minister of Visitation Report:

- Participated in the monthly service at Elmwood Assisted Living.
- Designed, printed, wrote notes and mailed 53 cards to those on my pastoral care list
- 1 home visit
- Text and email prayer concerns to the prayer chain two times over the past month.
- I have taken numerous emails and texts for prayer requests and numerous follow-up emails and texts
- Called, emailed and texted 6 people on my list for pastoral care
- Thoughts for the upcoming months: I'm considering delivering the photos I've taken of people for the pictorial directory (those that are on my pastoral care list) and working that into my home visitations.
- Also, Kathy Topp and I are considering taking our photo sessions for the pictorial directory "on the road" to the local nursing homes to take photos of our members. This would be a nice time to visit and make contact with our members as well.

Pastor Locke's Report:

June 8 through July 5, 2023

Sermons 4
Saturday Worship
Visits 6
Hospital Visits 3
Funerals 3
Coffee Hours 4
190th Anniversary Celebration Meeting
Miniature Golf Outing
Men's Club
Mercy Hospital Clergy Gathering

Since we last met, I have experienced God's presence in the conviviality and friendliness of several of our gatherings. I particularly noticed the way everyone seemed to appreciate each other at the Miniature Golf Outing and the Men's Group Field Trip.

I am looking forward to being part of some of our upcoming meetings and being a more integrated part of the life and ministry of our congregation.

Old Business

John Mohrman received a quote from Moeller Doors for a keypad lock to be installed on the outside doors. Their quote was \$2,800 for each lock. John will get a quote from Denny's Doors for comparison purposes and also talk to Jim Strang about possibilities for locks that can be operated remotely through wifi.

Licensures Update: No update at this time. Jeff Paul is to pursue after the pictures are taken for new directory.

Membership Role update: Pastor Ken has drafted a second draft of a letter that will go out to all St Paul members. This request is separate from the directory update in that it is a request for all to update their membership status with St Paul UCC. Draft B will be sent to the council members for review.

New Business

Lisa Weigandt gave an update on the plans for Homecoming Sunday, scheduled for September 10, 2023. We will be celebrating St Paul's 190th anniversary. Letters have been sent to all past ministers to ask them to our celebration. RSVP by August 20th.

- The congregation will be asked to sign a picture frame which will then be used to frame an updated congregational photo taken that day.
- There will also be a sign-up sheet for a carry in lunch.
- There will be a history of St Paul table of pictures and people will be asked to bring and share any interesting history they may have about St Paul.
- There will be crafts for the children.
- Lisa and her group will need help setting up on Saturday, getting the auditorium setup on Sunday during services, and help tearing down and cleaning up after the event.

Parsonage Renovations

Matt Ranly will take the lead on a project to make repairs to the exterior of the parsonage. A generous donor has reached out to Matt and asked if they could help by funding repairs and renovations to the parsonage. The donor had a team come in and inspect and make recommendations for repairs. Most of the repairs seem to be to the outside of the parsonage with an estimated \$5,000 to \$10,000 of work. John Mohrman will obtain and submit quotes to the donor for the following repairs:

- Front porch – woodcap plate
- Broken Window – basement
- Roof over porch painted

-Garage roof was repaired by tin company in 2015 and painted in 2019. It will need painted again. A motion was made by Lindsey Quellhorst to accept the donor's generous offer and seconded by Lynda Ranly. Motion carried.

Two quotes have been obtained for new window treatments for the parsonage.

Music Director

Randy Clark has made several helpful suggestions for filling the music director's position. Patty Ruckman has agreed to help fill in as an organist/pianist. She will be playing for us on July 23rd.

Audit

Myra Hanenkrafft will reach out to John Wierwille to see if he will chair an audit team to audit the 2022 payables transactions.

New Monitor

Jeff Paul brought a proposal to council to add a third monitor in the sanctuary. Rev. Locke would like a third monitor mounted on the back wall that he could control from the pulpit as a visual aid to his sermons. Rev. Locke feels that most likely our new settled minister will preach in this manner and may be a selling point for a new minister. Jeff brought photos to show a proposed placement, which would be in the North corner of the Sanctuary. John Mohrman suggested mounting it on the balcony. The quote from Fowler's TV was \$3,656.80. It was agreed that if we decided to add the monitor Fowler's should do the installation as they installed the two existing monitors. The discussion was tabled for the month so we could give it some thought.

Announcements: Next meeting – August 8th @ 7:00PM

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

Mimi Messick, Secretary

Myra Hanenkrafft, President