

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Voters' Assembly Minutes**

October 11, 2020

Opening Prayer by Pastor Bruner. 2 Cor. 1 - Live by faith, not by sight. Sung verse one of Beautiful Savior.

Meeting called to order by President John Petzold at 1:36PM.

Moved and supported to accept the Voters' minutes of August 9, 2020.

Motion Carried.

No new voting members.

Old Business:

New Business: - Church Elections Nov. 7th and 8th in the Parish Hall before and after services.

- If anyone wants to run for a board, please call the church office by Mon., Oct. 19th. People especially needed for Vice President, Board of Evangelism and Stewardship. Please prayerfully consider serving in this way.

Board Reports

Principal/Board of Education

- Unusual challenges this year. Focusing on the health and safety for children and staff. The school is following the guidance for protocols from MI District. This is a very challenging time.
- K-8 enrollment is up; Pre-K is down - due to not feeling safe, not wanting to enroll and then go virtual or have to find childcare.
- Christmas service theme will be "Sent to Serve." Will be recording short episodes following the Christmas story and then show the videos at church services. Faculty will be writing this themselves - asking for prayers.
- A school parent donated tables with attached chairs. Using to hold outdoor class time.
- The faculty will be attending the MANS Teacher Conference virtually.

Board of Elders

Membership Changes

Moved and supported to transfer Bethany Daenzer to St. Michael's Richville and receive Marlene Brown by Profession of Faith.

Motion Carried.

- Thanksgiving service will be at 10AM.
- Will have three Advent services beginning on Dec. 2nd. Will only have a 6:30PM service.
- Discussing Candlelight service.

Board of Evangelism - No Report

Board of Fellowship - No Report

Board of Finance

- See printed finance report.
- The mortgage is under \$400,000. Our payments are \$10,000 per month. Any excess funds are put into a CD for our Contingency Fund. We now have \$75,000 in this account.
- Childcare/Latchkey is down by about \$6,700. Not too bad for being closed for so long due to Covid.
- PPP Forgiveness Loan paperwork is almost complete. It looks like we will get the whole loan forgiven. Once we submit the paperwork, we wait for an answer.
- Our revenues and expenses are down, givings are up. Online givings have increased quite a bit.
- Draft of budget handed out. Ending with a deficit of \$56,000. Will approve in December.

Board of Social Concerns - No Report

Board of Stewardship - No Report

## Board of Trustees

- Fixed the roof over the Activity Center. Took out two exhaust fans.
- Need to do wiring to hook up more cameras in the school.
- Need to update more lighting in the classrooms.

## Salary & Personnel

## Trust & Investment - No Report

## Associate / Administrative Pastors

### I. Visitation

1. Hospital: Joyce Koch, Randy Daenzer.
  - a. We ask that members let us know when they are in so we can pray with them on the phone or visit if the hospital will allow.
2. Shutin visits
  - a. Stopped by Vassar Fields in August and October and communed 3 of 4 members there.
  - b. Visited Linda Rohde and Erna Reinert
  - c. Phone contacts and prayer with: Joan Benish at Stone Gate in Lapeer, Karen Henderson, Betty Bleuer, Barb Sergent
  - d. Unable to contact these in restricted nursing facilities: Elmer Snover, Florence Hohman

### II. Pastoral ministry

1. Funerals: Irene Smith, Dale Peche, Joyce Koch, Private service for Still born (anonymous at this time)
2. Baptism: Kenneth Wilson
3. Pre-marriage Counselling appointment
4. Talk weekly to coordinate ministry.
5. Continue to hold "The Gathering" on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. We moved to the Parish Hall due to darkness and temperature change.
6. Helping out with weekly chapel services for both the upper grades (2-8) and the "littles" (PS-1).
7. COVID response and approach:
  - a. Continue to monitor the changing environment per new Executive Orders. Many hours spent researching and adapting our ministry.
  - b. Continue to Livestream one service on Sundays at 10 a.m. We also have a Bible Class at 8:45-9:30a.m.
  - c. We have provided Communion on the church porch on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays since June 28. We are averaging around 10-14 people. Even though we announce this is available, a member recently came and commented she just heard that we have been doing this. We will continue to share the news.
  - d. Successfully held the outdoor service in the pavilion August 30<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Jan Snyder for rounding up volunteers for set up and take down. We thank Jon and Julie Keinath for livestreaming this as well.
  - e. Overcoming the isolation caused by COVID will involve future Fellowship opportunities and re-engaging members through Bible studies and worship.

### III. Teaching

1. We have been providing the online Bible Class for Sunday mornings. Members are now invited to attend in person. This study of God's Word is a precursor to the worship service.
2. Will continue working on Religion lessons for SPL students and have begun the public school class with ten students. We are working through the Bible and highlighting the Catechetical references.
3. We are discussing options for an Adult Instruction Class.

### IV. Administration

1. Gloria LaPointe and Barbara Radloff continue to be positive in their work during transition of our bookkeeper.
2. We need to recruit a member to represent our congregation at the Frankenmuth Circuit forum (TBD). Business will include the election of a new Circuit Visitor. All Congregations are welcome to submit nominations for Circuit Visitor and also send any resolutions for the upcoming convention.
3. There is still a potential ministry to members who cannot see our livestream. It would utilize donated DVD and CD players. The best approach is to find out who specifically would need the equipment so they can utilize our recordings.
4. Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne is encouraging congregations to support students from their congregation. Tuition costs are covered by the seminary but books and other expenses are not. Tim Kern is in his final year.
5. Pray for unity and love as the devil continues to use fear and anxiety in order to cause division within the body of Christ.
6. We recite our mission statement each week. What does this look like? **Vision: Reaching out to more people in Jesus' name. Loving the ones that are here.**

Closed with the common doxology.

Moved and supported to adjourn at 2:22PM.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacey Force  
Congregational Secretary