

St Paul Council Minutes April 11, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

Council Members Present: Rodney Bluml, Michele Countryman, Angie Coyle, Nancy Lyon Douglas, Doug Fairbanks, Jason Geltz, Jamie Hamblin, Susan Koppenhaver, Tom Sabotta, and Nancy Stout

Not Present: Dean Lambertsen and Dustin Paulson

Welcome: Call to order at 7:29 pm

Review of March Minutes

Review of Pastor Report:

Funerals: Derrick Leytem (Wayne Zion), Bonnie Tobiason (Wayne Zion), Verna Parham

New Members: Orlyn & Kathy Brunnsen, Wayne & Jeannette Clayton to be welcomed into full membership at our 10:30 outdoor service in WapsiAna Park on June 5 as part of a New Member Welcome picnic where we bring together all who have joined us since March 2020.

Baptism:

Wedding:

Many thanks to those who provided the Lenten meals, outreach for refugee resettlement, portrayal presentations, and music as part of our community Lenten prayer and gathering this year.

I am part of a Synod Council task force preparing a template for Child Protection Policies to be distributed throughout the synod with the expectation that all congregations will have one in place by the end of the year. I have prepared a sample one for St. Paul and shared it with Kaileen. She will discuss it with her committee for future proposal.

I'm looking forward to the ways we will begin to gather again as a faith community as we emerge from the pandemic isolation. Leadership is looking at "resurrecting" large and small group gatherings, especially through the summer and early fall. We are preparing for weekly worship in WapsiAna Park, 10:30 a.m. beginning May 1. Confirmation will be a part of that service. If weather prevents us from gathering in the park, I will post a decision by 8:30 a.m. on our social media platforms and we will move worship to the church.

We continue to follow CDC guidelines for gatherings. Currently, we are not required to limit numbers or spacing, or the wearing of face masks. You will see the hymnals and Bibles back in the pews. Numbers for hymns will be posted for the traditional service. A communion assistant will present the tray of Christ's blood. You are invited to take your own cup from the tray. Juice will continue to be in the center of the trays. Communion distributors will mask to reduce the number of exhaled droplets from reaching the elements.

Thank you to Council members for having dialogues with the confirmand as they prepare to Affirm their Baptisms. The confirmand (Andrea Giegerich, Noah Smith, Connor Capron, Simon Robertson, and Garrett LaDue) shared their faith statements after worship on April 6.

Thank you to Kaileen for preparing and leading our First Communion Preparation Retreats on 3/31 and 4/2. We will be enjoying the communion bread baked by our first communion families through the end of the month, at least.

We continue to hold worship services monthly at Woodland Park 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday of the month,

Anamosa Care Center 1:30 on the first Thursday of the month and 1:30 at Pinicon Ridge on the third Thursday of the month. Vaccinated people are welcome to join us.

Visitors must wear masks.

Lois and I joined Bishop Amy and ministers from other Lutheran congregations for a worship service and lunch at First Lutheran in Maquoketa on 4/11. Nancy Lyon Douglas was in Des Moines for a Chaplain training and Kaileen was unavailable to join us.

Thank you to Nancy Lyon Douglas, Ed Gerst, Susan Koppenhaver, Lois Ocenosak, Brie and Marshall Fowler for preparing and serving the meal during our Confirmation Retreat on 4/3. Shalom Haverim.

All Leadership Summary: Weekly worship will move outside on May 1 to Wapsiana Park and the last 8:30am indoor service will be on May 22nd @ 8:30am. The Church will always be the backup if bad weather. We have a tentative hold on the Wapsiana space until noon on every Sunday to encourage people to stay and connect with each other.

Pastor Rodney has been going to the last two Chamber of Commerce meetings. They are trying to keep things going and bring in new business. He was impressed with the work they were doing with the smaller group. Pastor Rodney wanted to let them know the faith community in Anamosa has the same goals as they do and encouraged them to bring in the faith community as they can to help. He did get an opportunity to share St. Paul concerns with the last Halloween activity that was scheduled on Wednesday early evening. The Chamber's regular meetings are on the first Monday of the month at 4:00pm. He encouraged them to hold another round table meeting to gather feedback from the community.

Review of Financial Reports

Motion to approve consent agenda of the March minutes, Pastor report, and financials from Jamie Hamblin, second by Susan Koppenhaver. Ayes Carry

Old Business

Nancy did stop at the lumberyard this month. Jeff wasn't there but the receptionist said they are doing insulation and working on electrical. Waiting on big doors and windows to be delivered.

New Business

The 100th anniversary committee has put together thoughts about what they want to do. They want the council to look over the notes and the booklet to let them know if we want to add or delete anything. Photos will be supplied by the members and will not be bringing in any professional photographers. The committee members are Jan Allaire, Verna Lewison, Dee Ihlenfeldt, and Lois Ocenosak. The committee welcomes new members. The council agreed they are doing great work and to please continue. We look forward to hearing their progress.

Community Garden - It was agreed to put a request in The Pulse to ask for volunteers to dress up and care for the community garden this year. Pastor Rodney noted it needed structural repair as well.

Communication

Cell tower communication -there was a lump sum offer for the cellular tower rental. One council member noted they have two cell towers on their land. It is fairly common for an offer like this and it has been recommended not to do this. The current contract reflects when it is taken down, the company is supposed to restore the land and take down the tower if the rent ends. What this company wants to do is buy the new rates and attach other technology to the tower that they want the rent to. Nancy forward the email to Jason and both felt as though there were red flags. The decision was to remain with US Cellular under the current contract.

“Sup for six” will be moving forward. Sign up is through May 16th.

Susan Koppenhaver and Jamie Hamblin have discerned and agreed to serve another term on the St. Paul Council. We will be electing two new people to replace Tom Sabotta and Doug Fairbanks. The youth position, a one year term, is also open to be filled.

Upcoming events:

Second Annual Egging - Youth Group Activity April 16th @ 6:30 See Kaileen if interested in participating

Easter Service April 17

Confirmation for 8th grade youth May 1 service

Weekly worship in WapsiAna Park, 10:30 a.m. beginning May 1.

Synod Assembly May 20-21 in Coralville.

St. Paul Rally Day and God's Work, Our Hands @ Central Park in Center Junction Sunday, Sept. 11, 2022

Date and time for next meeting: May 9, 2022 6:30pm

All Leadership Meeting is June 13, 2022 6:00pm

Adjourn by Pastor Rodney and second by Tom Sabotta at 8:26pm.

Closing Prayer

All Leadership Meeting Summary

The committee was asked to brainstorm ideas for ways for St Paul to connect as part of their discussions today.

Finance & Stewardship Committee - Nancy LD & Tom:

Have been working with high school kids and why they liked Lent. Not many kids responded to email requests.

The ones who did reply - it was sent into the Pulse. Giving slowly inching it's way up and hopefully once projects get going, that also increases.

Ideas from F&S on ways for St. Paul to Connect: Nancy putting together more on electronic giving. Piggy backing on activities right after service for some of the things we are talking about doing. Would like to have something once a month to have ice cream, hot dogs or a little something after to enhance stewardship to get together and socialize. It could be a once a month activity. Pastor Rodney noted there is one during June 5 for a new member gathering. It isn't a huge thing to do or a huge expense, it could be short. Also maybe thought a Wednesday after church have something out here in the parking lot when it is nicer out for 30 min or so. Also liked the pool idea. Maybe even have the high school kids do something with the younger kids as these

younger kids do look up to the high school kids. Maybe they can be more involved with the younger kids instead of the adults.

Youth and Family - Angie

The youth made the communion bread at the last youth retreat

Six youth will go through communion in April

Eight St Paul Youth are Seniors this year

Ideas raised by the Youth and Family Committee to connect include:

Saturday “egging” and Sunday egg scavenger hunt
Swim party after Vacation Bible School which is 6/27-6/30

Cookie decorating on Sept 10 and give it to Care Center members Sept 11.

Grounds and Maintenance - Dustin & Dean

The last month was spring clean up.

Curb work completed.

Fred is stepping down from the Grounds and Maintenance Committee work. Thank you Fred for all of your hard work and prompt response to help over the years!

Curtis has been helping to fulfill some of the grounds and maintenance needs. Thank you Curtis for your willingness to serve St. Paul in this way.

The committee observed work needs to be done to the community gardens. Kaileen will put a call to the St. Paul membership for assistance. Nancy Stout will check in with one individual she observed weeding the garden throughout last summer.

Outreach - Susan & Jason

Purchased items for Afghan settlement release in April
Ideas raised by the Outreach Committee to connect include

Ukraine relief collections or donations in association with Lutheran World Relief

Personal care kits in July

Ice cream social on Aug 7

School kit collection in Aug/Sept

Sleep in Heavenly Peace will have a nationwide push on Sept 10

Member Care - Nancy S & Jamie

The St Paul member care list has been updated
Easter cards were sent out to homebound or those that cannot regularly make St Paul service

Ideas raised by the Member Care Committee to connect include:

Porch visits

Ice cream social on 8/7 from 2-4 pm

Serve root beer floats, chips, pie?

Financial Report

Through April 30th is Week 43 of our Fiscal Year. As a council, we have budgeted our expenses to require \$5,732.66 to operate our church. Thru April 30th, YTD our giving is running at \$4,599.36 per week = \$1,133 deficit per week.

Giving

| | |
|--|---------|
| Week 40, Apr 3 rd – Apr 9 th | \$4,710 |
| Week 41: Apr 10 th – Apr 16 th | \$4,312 |
| Week 42: Apr 17 th – Apr 23 rd | \$4,832 |
| Week 43: Apr 24 th – Apr 30 th | \$7,724 |