

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST ~ COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

Council members present: David Badarak, Kristi Caruso, Pastor Geoff Drutchas, Mark Ennis, Allen Gunther, Beverley Gunther, Michael Isaacs, David Lange, Fred Miller, Gary Peters, Diane Poet, Dee Salsbury, and Barbara Schultz.

Council member excused: Pamela Lange and John Smith

Guests of Council: No guests were at this meeting because Council was told, "They were not notified in time to attend." There is a printed schedule for this and theoretically the groups should know when they are to be at the Council Meetings. Who then is supposed to notify each group when they are scheduled? January's guest should have been - Financial Ministry; all aspects-all members.

President Fred Miller declared the meeting open at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas offered a prayer to open the meeting.

Motion was made by Mark Ennis seconded by Barbara Schultz to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017 Council Meeting. Motion approved.

Additions/deletions were asked regarding the printed meeting Agenda. One item concerning security was mentioned, but is appropriate for consideration at the February Council Meeting. This issue had been brought up as a result of a news media report of an incident which had occurred at an out-of-state church.

Gary Peters provided a printed Treasurer's Report. He detailed financial information concerning our income vs. expenses position for the end of 2017. We ended the year just slightly over budget for the year (apx. \$250. over). This wonderful situation is the result of generous giving on the part of our church membership during the last weeks of 2017.

Motion made by Beverley Gunther seconded by Michael Isaacs to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Pastor Drutchas provided a printed report and discussed the work he has been doing during the last weeks. Pastor noted the increase in the number of hospitalized members in recent weeks and also in the number of those who are undergoing health issues but are remaining in their homes.

A printed report was received from Christian Education which outlined their activities, progress, and plans for the near future.

A Printed report was received from Kathy Williams, Parish Nurse, detailing the many ways in which she tends the members of the congregation and her needs and wishes for some added material to support the programs she would like to promote. It was noted that we have about four Visiting Elders who visit homebound or ill members and more would be a really good thing.

Michael Isaacs spoke regarding the Trustee Report for the past month. The boiler is not functioning as it should with regard to the purging of air from the lines. Each time the furnace turns on, the entire hallway experiences a huge amount of vibration and this needs to be alleviated in some way.

We have interviewed and hired a new Bookkeeper, Elizabeth Bisaro, who will begin her work with us on, January 15. We are happy to have Elizabeth join us and look forward to getting to know her. The Trustees are still searching for the best answer for our need for a coat rack or coat tree for the Family Room. It is thought the coat tree may be the better answer. The Trustees have had a thermal inspection done on electrical equipment at the church; no problems were discovered.

A printed Deacon's Report was provided, and an overview was given verbally by Dee Salsbury. There was a slight difference in the number of attendees from this year to last, but not enough to give any kind of

indication of a problem. A difference in the date of the December Sunday School program may have been the only factor.

A printed report was provided by Dave Lange for the Elders. Pew Communion will be served on February 18, and volunteers will be asked for and are much needed from among the members of Council.

An item under New Business is Electronic Giving, this is something we will be encouraging the members to participate in. There are a number of issues with this, and those issues will need to be explained and understood before we can hope for a large number of participants. It was suggested that a card will be made available in the Narthex or at the back doors of the Sanctuary that will explain that the member has chosen to give electronically. In this way, the plate will pass, and by placing the card inside the member need not feel uncomfortable.

Candidates for each of the (soon to be vacant) Council positions have been named; and each candidate has accepted the opportunity to serve St. Paul. Fred was gracious in offering his thanks to each of the fill-in Council members who have agreed to continue for a full term of service to the congregation of this church.

Pastor discussed the proposed Budget for the Annual Congregational Meeting. Since we now find ourselves in a different financial state than we were just a few short weeks ago, Pastor stated his wish that the salary cuts suggested for Sally Sigman be reinstated to the level it had been for 2017. Pastor feels strongly that the compensation for Sally should remain as it was for last year. Michael Isaacs voiced the council's shared thoughts that if we re-instate one employee's wages, we should re-instate all employee wages. Pastor did not feel this was a requirement, but for the sake of what is the 'right' thing to do, Council agreed with Michael.

Motion was made by Dave Lange seconded by Michael Isaacs to restore the wages for all employees to the level we had in the 2017 Budget. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Bev Gunther seconded by Dave Lange to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. with a unison recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverley Gunther