

**St. Paul UCC Church Council Meeting**  
**May 8, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Thieman with 14 members present including: Tom Thieman, John Voress, Lisa Davidson, Janice Schroer, Greg Maurer, Roland Dicke, Ralph Plattner, Betty Dietrich, Norm Holcomb, Virginia Kuenning, Don Scheer, Shirley Henegar, Brice Schmitmeyer, and Rev. Rick Weir. Meditation was provided by Virginia Kuenning.

**Secretary's Report**

Minutes of the April 10, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Norm Holcomb made a motion to accept them as written. Janice Schroer seconded; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Fund Activity Report for April was available for review. Total income for April, which had five Sundays and included Palm Sunday and Easter, was \$30,952.25. Income Year-to-Date is \$77,133.75 which is up from \$71,812 a year ago. Expenses for the month were \$21,476.31, which left a surplus for the month of \$9,475.94 and reduced the Year-to-Date deficit to \$365.51. Roland Dicke made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; Ralph Plattner seconded. The motion was approved.

**Committee Reports**

**"Catch the Vision"** – Bev Plattner was present to represent the Leadership Team from the Catch the Vision group. After considering how to improve the leadership roles within the church, they recommend that the St. Paul UCC Constitution be revised and requested a team to do so. The last revision of the Constitution was December, 1987. The job descriptions of the various council positions also need revised before August, when nominations begin for the positions opening up for the next term. Possibly more volunteers would step forward if they knew exactly what each position entailed ahead of time. Also discussed was the possibility of shortening the terms of the president and vice-president and adding a second vice-president. Based on the suggestions of the Catch the Vision Leadership Team, Tom Thieman suggested that a representative of each council position should write a job description for each job, including any requirements of memberships on additional committees. These should be turned in to Bev Plattner no later than July. The job descriptions for the respective positions will be written by: President – Tom Thieman, Vice-President – John Voress, Recording Secretary – Lisa Davidson, Senior Elder – Janice Schroer, Junior Elder – Greg Maurer, Treasurer – Joyce Holdren, Deacons – Don Scheer and Norm Holcomb, and Trustees – Roland Dicke.

**Membership Committee** – The Confirmation Reunion went very well and was enjoyed by all who attended.

**Mission Report** – Rev. Weir reported that the Mission Team continues to focus on Nu Vision and the Project of the Year. The Easter Offering raised about \$1200 towards the cause. The question was raised asking how long Nu Vision will be in their current location, which would dictate what we could provide for them. Nu Vision does not know yet when or where they will be moving.

**Worship Report** – Nothing to report.

## **Reports**

**Board of Christian Education** – Greg Maurer reported that he and Rev. Weir are still working to meet about safety.

**Deacon Report** – Allen Bushman from the Catch the Vision committee requested that the deacons monitor and adjust the volume during the scripture reading. Don Scheer also reported that the camera microphone trouble is either at the plug or the outlet. Plans were discussed for the food and games preparations necessary for the Church Picnic on June 10.

**Elder's Report** – No report, other than Janice Schroer thanking the deacons for all their help cleaning up after communion services.

**Rev. Tostrick's Report** – (Provided by Rev. Tostrick)

*The month of April provided many opportunities for pastoral care. During this month I made 31 hospital visits, 13 nursing home visits, 7 home visits, and 7 office conferences. I also officiated at 2 baptisms, 2 funerals, participated in the community Good Friday Service, planned and helped lead a Heritage Manor Nursing Home Service, conducted one Saturday evening worship service, preached at one Sunday morning worship service, and planned and conducted (on rather short notice) a Men's Group Program, for which someone owes my agent and me a dinner out.*

**Rev. Weir's Report** – Rev. Weir reported that Senior Sunday would be May 13, with the breakfast that morning. Outdoor services have been set for Sundays June 10 and August 12, and two Saturday services as well.

Rev. Weir has been working on finding a new company who sells visual technology to churches due to lack of response from the other company.

**Trustee Report** – Roland Dicke reported that the trustees have looked further into supplying more hot water in the kitchen. They have obtained pricing for replacing the current 40 gallon unit with a 60 gallon system. It should be able to provide an adequate supply of hot water and can be properly vented out the roof. Bids were collected from NK Supply at \$1690 (including drain pan and drain to sink) and Kogge at \$1344 (would need to add on the drain cost). Roland Dicke made a motion to purchase a 60 gallon water heater from Kogge. Norm

Holcomb seconded the motion; motion passed. Tom Braun will charge the purchase to the Building and Property Maintenance account.

Roland Dicke reported that the trustees have received a letter as a result of the inspector's visit suggesting a few things to fix around the church as well as some suggestions for the future, such as videotaping the church's valuables.

The bricks are starting to chip on the front of the church and may need waterproofing again. Roland Dicke will make the necessary phone calls to inquire.

### **Old Business**

**Update on Visual Technology** – No meeting has occurred.

**Youth Focus Group** – No meeting has occurred.

### **New Business**

**Request from the Garden Club and Youth Director** – The Garden Club has requested permission to begin Phase 2 of the beautification process that began last summer. They would like to move the junipers, plant perennials, and remove anything they deem necessary. Betty Dietrich made a motion to approve their request. Virginia Kuenning seconded the motion and council accepted.

Terri Goodwin asked to move and store furniture temporarily to put the new flooring in the Youth Room. Rev. Weir will notify Terri where the furniture can be stored, and remind her of the need to have things back in place in time for Vacation Bible School.

**UCC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – After discussing several possibilities for celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCC, it was determined that a better fit would be for Rev. Weir to incorporate the Anniversary into sermon tie-ins, but to save the celebration for next year when St. Paul celebrates its 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Rev. Tostrick's Anniversary** – Rev. Tostrick's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the ministry is June 25. A plaque has already been made and plans for a recognition dinner after a worship service with Rev. Tostrick as the guest of honor have begun. Rev. Weir will speak to Rev. Tostrick and allow him to choose the date he would like to celebrate so family and friends can attend.

**Rejoin the Chamber** – St. Paul UCC had joined the Chamber last year to try to make contact with new people moving to town and invite them to our church. However, it was since learned that the chamber doesn't provide names of new people for privacy reasons. We do think that our pamphlets are being provided

in the welcome packets, though. Greg Maurer made a motion to continue our membership if our pamphlets actually are included in the welcome packet. Roland Dicke seconded the motion; council approved.

**Support National Child Safety Program** – This is distributed through the schools and promoted by Doug Harrod. It costs \$142 to put our ad in and support its distribution. Ralph Plattner made a motion to continue to support the program. Brice Schmitmeyer seconded. Motion approved.

**TSC Billing** – We have received a notification from TSC that we are still connected to bright.net for internet and will begin being billed \$4.56/month for the service. Since we are not using bright.net, we are using NKTelco for internet services, Norm Holcomb made a motion to notify bright.net to discontinue services. Don Scheer seconded the motion. Motion approved, and Tom Braun will send the letter.

**Update on Director of Youth Ministry Position** – Letters have been sent to colleges and seminaries, and ads have been placed in newspapers.

## **Announcements**

**May 13 – Recognition of Graduating Seniors**

**May 20 – Promotion Sunday (bibles given during worship service), and the last Sunday of Spirit Safari until August**

**May 21 – Men’s Group Cookout at 6:00 p.m. followed by 1960 Nostalgia by Stan Kuenning and Company**

**June 10 – Church Picnic**

With no other business to discuss, Ralph Plattner made a motion to adjourn. Brice Schmitmeyer seconded, and the meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

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Lisa Davidson, Secretary

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Tom Thieman, President