

**St. Paul U.C.C. Council Meeting
November 11, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 18 members present including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Joyce Holdren, Greg Maurer, Staci Jones, Ralph Plattner, Kathy Topp, Norm Holcomb, Cheryl Barlage, Keith Dicke, Shirley Henegar, Brice Schmitmeyer, Dennis Dicke, Ann Nelson, Tom Braun, Carrie Cutlip and Rev. Matthews. Meditation was given by Joyce Holdren. The confirmands were in attendance to see how a church council meeting is run.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the October meeting were discussed and two corrections were made: All Saints Day was held on Nov. 2 and not on Nov. 16; and the Christmas Program will be held on December 14 at the morning service. A motion was made by Dennis Dicke to approve the minutes as amended and Brice Schmitmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Braun reported a deficit of \$940.46 for the month and a surplus for year-to-date of \$4699.64. A discussion was held. Cheryl Barlage made a motion to accept the report and Ralph Plattner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Tom Braun gave a financial report on the Wing Ding:

Silent Auction	\$3601.00
Tips.....	\$843.00
Ticket Sales.....	\$4764.00
Sales of left-over food	\$191.00
Total Receipts.....	\$9399.00
Total Expenses.....	-\$3246.13
Net.....	\$6152.87

The Mission Team met and allocated where the \$3601 from the auction will be going:

St. Paul Youth Program.....	\$1801.00
Agape (St. Marys)	\$1000.00
Nu-Vizion UCC (Toledo).....	\$600.00
St. Paul member in need.....	\$200.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: There will be an evangelism meeting led by Rev. Matthews on November 24, 2008, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room.

Mission Committee: It was reported that Agape is feeding many families and food is really needed.

Pulpit Committee: The committee is still reviewing resumés.

OTHER REPORTS

Board of Christian Education: The Christmas Program will be held December 14 at the 10:15 a.m. worship service.

Deacons: Four deacons are still needed to serve for next year. Cheryl Barlage will fill the treasurer's position.

Trustees: It was reported that the outside lamp post lights have been fixed; also the drinking fountain in the educational building has been fixed.

Norm Holcomb reported that C & J Electric is in the process of installing the new electrical service. We are expecting a rebate from Garman & Miller because the bid came in lower than expected.

It was reported that the trustees should inspect the northeast entrance door of the church due to its not locking properly at times. The trustees will also determine a place to put more hymnal racks in the pew areas to hold the new hymnals

Rev. Matthews' Report:

- Service preparation has taken a little more time and creative thought, with All Saints Day, Stewardship Sunday, and Rev. Molsberry's visit as guest speaker.

- Sermon preparation
- Pastoral consultations
- 2 Weddings
- 2 Baptism consultations—Busse/Nelson
- Mission Board, Christian Education Board, Membership Committee
- SARA meeting hosted by St. Paul
- American Guild of Organists (AGO) Hymnfest hosted by St. Paul
- Senior luncheon
- Confirmation preparation and sessions each week
- Nursing home worship service
- Multiple hospital visits
- Ministerial meeting—met with Executive Director of the United Way
- Consultations with Christian Education Board on Christmas program and Thanksgiving Sunday
- Weekly meetings with John Voress/Jeff Paul
- Preparing an evangelism workshop for Nov. 24th here at St. Paul
- Advisor to two seminary students, one of whom is now preparing for ordination.

I was particularly impressed these last couple of days with the room full of people at SARA and their global outreach; and the Mission Team filled a room to overflowing with persons interested in hearing the Executive Director of Agape Ministry speak on the need and the ways St. Paul is helping and can continue to help meet that need.

Carrie Cutlip's Report:

JYFS—The children in JYFS have been learning about sharing their faith, having self esteem and fostering good relationships with their parents. This month, we had our first movie day of the year. We are preparing to do a Thanksgiving service project in the coming weeks.

Jr. High & Sr. High—The youth have been focusing on living for Christ, our relationships with God, and righteousness. Our worship experiences for the month were silence, reflection and story telling.

Recent Youth Activities

Sr. High water park trip—The Sr. High had a weekend retreat at the Kalahari Indoor Water Park in Sandusky.

Wing Ding—The youth served at the annual Wing Ding.

Jr. High Overnight—The Jr. High had an overnight at the church on Nov. 6th. The teens played video games, participated in a scavenger hunt, watched movies, ate pizza, and more.

Upcoming Youth Activities

Sr. High Overnight—The Sr. High will have an overnight at the church on Nov. 14th.

Youth Christmas Caroling—The youth will go Christmas Caroling on Dec. 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Sr. High Christmas Party—Sr. High will meet at Bartt and Michelle Suchland's house for the annual Christmas Party.

Jr. High Christmas Partly—Jr. High will meet at Jack and Darlene Gilberg's house for the annual Christmas Party.

OLD BUSINESS

Wish List—We did get a television for the Youth Room.

Budget—Everyone reviewed the 2009 budget. A discussion was held. Norm Holcomb made a motion to allow the search committee \$6000 on the proposed budget. Ralph Plattner seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. A motion to use the amended budget to present to the congregation on Dec. 7, 2008, at the annual congregational meeting was made by Brice Schmitmeyer and seconded by Shirley Henegar. A vote was taken and passed.

Chamber Ad—Kathy Topp presented the Chamber ad she did for everyone to see. This will be a quarter-page ad for our church in the Chamber of Commerce booklet.

Youth Search Committee—Wahneta Phippen was here several Sundays ago to meet with the senior high students. She presented a very good resumé. She will be going into the seminary next fall. John Voress commented that she seemed to be a very dedicated person. The committee is working on a five-month deal for her to be here to finish out the school year and maybe throughout next summer. Brice Schmitmeyer made a motion for John and Jeff to make a contract with her. Cheryl Barlage seconded the motion. A discussion was held. A question was asked of John if the church council would still have approval of hiring

her and he said that they would. A vote was taken and passed.

OCWM Goal—OCWM would like to know what St. Paul will be giving to them so that it can plan its budget. Tom Braun will take care of this.

NEW BUSINESS

Display Case—Pictures and mementos in the display case will be matted, framed and/or encapsulated at Artist's Touch. The discounted cost will be \$865. Delores Stienecker will donate her labor. A discussion was held. Greg Maurer made a motion to have this done and Ann Nelson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Giving Thanks—The council received a letter from a group of people who do the Thanksgiving dinner in St. Marys, asking for a donation to help with this dinner. After a discussion, a motion was made by Kathy Topp and seconded by Norm Holcomb to donate \$50. Motion passed.

United Way—A request from United Way has been tabled until next meeting. John Voress will look into this.

Website—Check with Jack Gilberg about getting it updated.

Rev. Matthews' resignation—Our Interim Pastor, Rev. Leah Matthews, announced her resignation. She has taken a job closer to her home. The Christmas Eve service will be Rev. Matthews' last service with us. John Voress has contacted Rev. Dan Busch who advised that there is a man from Dayton who does short term ministry. John will check into this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCWM—A thank you note was read from OCWM for our contribution of \$35,743.25 for the year of 2007.

General Synod—The General Synod will be held in Grand Rapids, MI on June 26-30, 2009.

Congregational Meeting—December 7

Staff Dinner—December 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Next Council Meeting—December 9

Ralph Plattner made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Cheryl Barlage seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting was closed with everyone saying the Lord's Prayer

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President