

**Congregational Annual Budget Meeting
December 7, 2008**

John Voress opened the annual meeting with a prayer. He announced that there was a correction to the agenda. The listed deacons should state Ann Nelson instead of Amy Stuhlemmer. James Gilberg will also be a deacon. The Parliamentarian will be Tom Quellhorst for the meeting. Dot Ouwerkerk made a motion to approve the agenda with the corrections and John Mohrman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President Voress presented the budget. A discussion was held. The new interim pastor will have the same contract as Rev. Matthews. Questions were asked and answered by John. Karl Mesloh made a motion to accept the budget presented and Lloyd Schroer seconded the motion. The deacons passed out the ballots. The vote passed unanimously in favor of the proposed budget, 81 to 0.

Youth Endowment: After the first of the year, council will be looking into enhancing the Youth Endowment Fund in order to avoid putting the youth director's salary into the budget. We now have very good volunteers working with the youth. During the next six weeks the committee will be looking into a full time youth director.

John Gilberg asked what goals the council had for OCWM. John Voress said we would finish out 2008 similar to last year at approximately \$35,000. That will be our goal for 2009, also.

Karl Mesloh asked the status of the search committee. They are still reviewing résumés of people who are interested.

John Voress asked if there were any other questions. Being none, Orville Heidt made a motion to adjourn and John Mohrman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President

**St. Paul U.C.C. Council Meeting
December 9, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 15 members present, including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Greg Maurer, Kathy Topp, Norm Holcomb, Cheryl Barlage, Shirley Henegar, Brice Schmitmeyer, Mark Barhorst, Dennis Dicke. Dan Nedderman, Ann Nelson, Tom Braun and Rev. Matthews. Meditation was given by Cheryl Barlage.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the November meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Norm Holcomb to accept the minutes and Mark Barhorst seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Braun reported a deficit for the month of \$2612.57 and a surplus for the year to date of \$2087.07. A discussion was held. Dennis Dicke made a motion to accept the report and Cheryl Barlage seconded the motion. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: An evangelism meeting was led by Rev. Matthews on November 24th. It was attended by 11 members of the church. Rev. Matthews gave us many different ideas of how we could become a more healthy church.

Mission Committee: The Mission Team set mission projects for the year 2009 at its meeting held on December 8th.

Pulpit Committee: The Pulpit Committee continues to look at résumés.

OTHER REPORTS

Deacons: Gary Wehmeyer, James Gilberg and Brian Trego will become new deacons. Two more positions remain to be filled. Mark Barhorst will become the head deacon. An informational/training meeting will be held soon for all deacons.

Trustees: Ralph Plattner renewed the preventive maintenance contract with Kogge Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning of St. Marys for the spring maintenance for the 2 parsonage air conditioners and fall maintenance for the 2 parsonage furnaces and the church's 4 boilers, at a total cost of \$395. Ralph will also check into changing the garbage dumpster pick-up to every other week since cooler weather now prevails.

Norm Holcomb did a thorough explanation of the electrical upgrade process. He checked on the over-payment with Garmann Miller Architects & Engineers. They requested to wait for an adjustment until the project is complete to make certain there would be no other additional charges from C & J Electric. The trustees are being very diligent with this project. Norm Holcomb collected all of the old copper wire and took it to the recycling center and received \$103, to be applied to Project of the Year.

Rev. Matthews' Report:

Beyond St. Paul: Exit interview with NWOA Church Ministry; Kinderfest, hosted by St. Paul; prepared bulletin for and St. Paul hosted the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service.

St. Paul: 2 funerals, family consultations and funerals; led Bible study for Satellite C; Board of Christian Education; Mission Team and led devotions; observed Carrie teaching JYFS so I could teach Dec. 3 and 10, 2008; prepared for and taught confirmation classes; assisted in designing service for youth participation in Carrie's last Sunday service; met with Jeff Paul and John Voress to interview interim minister; led a workshop on Healthy Church/Welcoming Church; senior lunch; pastoral care; hospital calling; 1 baptism; Capsule Christmas party and final meeting together; staff/council Christmas party; stopped in to say hello at Busy Twelve Christmas party; bulletins and sermon preparation for Saturday and Sunday worship.

There has been some disruption with the electrical project and lots of anxiety. However, we are getting to the end of the disruptions. Thanks to Norm Holcomb for dealing so patiently with a lot of the anxiety.

As I prepare to leave St. Paul, I want to say what a privilege it has been to serve here and get to know all of you. I appreciate the gracious and kind way you do business as a council, and it has been wonderful working with all of you.

OLD BUSINESS

Wish List—People are taking note of the Wish List.

Youth Search Committee—The committee decided not to go with an interim. They have several other individuals interested in the job. A person working with St. Paul in Wapakoneta is very interested in the position. A person who will be graduating from Bluffton in a few weeks is also interested. There is one more person interested,

also a graduate of Bluffton, but the committee has not yet received a résumé.

OCWM Goal—We will report to them that our giving for 2009 will be in the range of \$35,000.

Web Site—The web site is being reworked. Kathy Topp thought it would be good if the history of St. Paul would be added.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy on vacation days—A discussion was held. A motion was made by Mark Barhorst and seconded by Norm Holcomb. Motion passed. Starting January 1, 2009, staff will be required to use their vacation days or lose them. For this year (2008), unused vacation leave will be paid.

Rev. Bill Youngkin from Dayton will be our interim minister after Rev. Matthews leaves. John Voress and Jeff Paul met with Rev. Youngkin and worked out a contract. He will start his ministry at St. Paul on January 1, 2009, and will stay until the middle of June. He has worked in many churches. He will receive the same salary that Rev. Matthews had. He will live in the parsonage. A motion was made by Mark Barhorst and seconded by Greg Maurer to accept Rev. Youngkin's contract. Motion passed. Rev. Youngkin will lead worship services starting on January 3rd and 4th, 2009.

The church received a letter from AGAPE about our membership dues. This fee is \$10. Doris Blanke is a member of the AGAPE board. Dennis Dicke made a motion to pay the dues and Brice Schmitmeyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Rev. Matthews asked council if they would find someone to take care of finding nursery workers. Brice Schmitmeyer will handle this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Council Meeting—January 13, 2009.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brice Schmitmeyer and seconded by Cheryl Barlage. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President