

**St. Paul U.C.C. Council Meeting
March 10, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 18 members present including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Cheryl Barlage, Staci Jones, Kathy Topp, Norm Holcomb, Larry Kuhn, Mark Barhorst, Dennis Dicke, Ann Nelson, Zelta Fogt, James Gilberg, Karl Mesloh, Gary Wehmeyer, Tom Braun, Rev. Youngkin, and Katherine Jackson. Meditation was given by Kathy Topp.

John introduced Katie Jackson, our new Youth Minister. All of the members then introduced themselves to Katie.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the February meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Norm Holcomb to accept the report and seconded by Mark Barhorst. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Braun presented the report. There was a deficit of \$6837.54 for the month of February. We have a year-to-date deficit of \$5308.45. After discussion, a motion was made by Kathy Topp and seconded by Cheryl Barlage to accept the report. A vote was taken and motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: Tom Braun reported that invitations have been sent out to 330 people for the confirmation reunion. Katie Jackson advised that the youth have been asked to serve the meal for the reunion. The meal will be prepared by church members.

Jack and Darlene Gilberg are working on signs for the interior of the educational building. The committee is also working on signs for the exterior of the building.

The red friendship pads are ready to be used and will be placed in each pew for use in identifying ourselves to our pew neighbors.

Mission Committee: The Lenten coin folders may be turned in during Holy Week. One-half of the money will go to Crossroad in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and the other half will go to New Vizion in Toledo.

Pulpit Committee: The pulpit committee is still hard at work. They are looking at three/four new profiles.

OTHER REPORTS

Deacons: Mark Barhorst reported that Dan Nedderman has volunteered to do the video taping every week. A discussion was held on the Holy Week services and when communion would be served:

- Maundy Thursday, April 9, 2009, 7:30 p.m.
- Good Friday, April 10, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

- Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009, 7:00 a.m.
- Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009, 10:15 a.m.

Trustees: Kathy Topp reported that the pressure tank in the basement boiler room is leaking. Kogge's gave an estimate of \$635.00 to replace it. There is also a zone valve for a heat register in the chapel area of the Educational Building that needs to be fixed. Due to the age of the Educational Building heating system, the trustees are checking into upgrading it. The cost to repipe and add a shut-off valve to each of 53 registers is \$7950. The cost to replace all 15 zone valves would cost an additional \$3900.

Kathy also reported that the pews in the sanctuary have been cleaned and polished and the cushions have been vacuumed.

The bricks on the church need to be resealed. Larry Kuhn has contacted a vendor in Delphos to get a complete estimate of how much this would cost.

Norm Holcomb has contacted a person to re-mortar the front steps of the church. Norm also reported that one of the garage door openers on the parsonage garage is not working. Due to the age and condition of the garage doors and openers, the trustees requested an estimate to replace them. Cost to replace the doors with non-insulated, steel doors would be \$260/each. The openers would be approximately \$250/each. A discussion was held. A motion was made by Norm Holcomb to replace the garage doors and openers at the parsonage. Larry Kuhn seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Rev. Youngkin's Report: We broke the second-Sunday jinx this past weekend. For the first time since I have been at St. Paul, I was able to be present to lead worship on the second Sunday of the month (I missed January 11 and February 8 for health reasons, but my body seems to have completely healed itself.) I could sense the sigh of relief in the congregation when I finally made it up the steps into the pulpit on March 8!

Ninety percent of the persons on our shut-in list have been visited by me at least once, and I intend to complete those visits by the end of March. This includes shut-ins as far away as Lima.

We are now moving into the planning stage for Confirmation. The students are preparing a Statement of Faith as a class, and a meeting with parents is scheduled for March 25. The students have been growing in their expectations and have asked for two-hour class sessions.

In working with the Membership Committee, I am stressing the necessity of total congregation involvement in inviting and assimilating new people into our congregation.

I am also working with the Board of Christian Education in developing a dynamic approach to Christian Education.

Katie Jackson's Report: Thank you for allowing me to attend the National Youth Ministry Conference in Columbus, Ohio, from February 27 through March 2. The weekend was one of the most inspiring events I have ever attended. During the conference, I attended seminars including Building a Healthy Youth Ministry (an eight-hour deeper-learning track), How to Build a Tight-Knit Volunteer Team (a two-hour workshop), and Unleashing Creativity Within Your Group (a two-hour workshop). I also participated in six general sessions with worship time, sermons and activities lead by the editor of *Group Magazine*, Rick Lawrence, Doug Fields, Kay Warren, and Alex and Brett Harris. The experience I gained, and the ideas shared will be invaluable in my service to St. Paul. Next year's conference will be held in Chicago, and I would love to take a team of volunteers.

Youth Activities

Laser Tag: March 1st, 35 Jr. and Sr. High students went on a trip to play laser tag in Dayton.

JYFS: The JYFS are planning to visit our church members at Heritage Manor in Minster as well as members at Otterbein in St. Marys on March 18. They will also be talking about finding their place, such as discussing how and why people need them.

Jr. and Sr. High: The Jr. High and Sr. High students talked about God's wisdom, as well as respect and healthy relationships with parents, friends and family. They also talked about dating. This month, we plan to discuss contentment, the future and drugs and alcohol.

We are also working on planning our summer events. The youth will once again be able to attend the "Alive" music festival in Canal Fulton, Ohio, June 17-20.

Other events are being planned and information will be available soon.

Wish List: If you have anything that you think the church could use that could go on the wish list, please let John Voress know.

Staff Policy: Jeff Paul met with his committee which consists of Kathy Topp, Barb Holdren and Rev. Youngkin to discuss contracts of people who work at St. Paul UCC. They will be meeting with all of the people who have contracts for their jobs.

Copier for office: A proposal from Perry Corporation was presented for a new copier for the office. Three systems were discussed and council members read about each copier. A discussion was held and questions were answered. Mark Barhorst

made a motion to purchase the Konica Minolta Bizhub C550 Color Digital Document System for \$17,961.17 and the motion was seconded by Cheryl Barlage. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Custodian: John Voress hired Leann Hainline to the custodial position of the sanctuary. He was given the right to do this at the last council meeting.

Church Tour: A tour of the churches in the area will be held on April 19, 2009, from noon-4:00 p.m. This is being sponsored by the Auglaize County Historical Society. Churches that will be on the tour are: First United Church of Christ in New Knoxville, Methodist Church in New Knoxville, St. Peter's Church in New Bremen, St. Paul UCC in New Bremen, St. Joseph Church in Egypt, Calvary Chapel in Minster, and St. Augustine Church in Minster.

Announcements:

March 29, 2009--Youth to conduct 10:15 a.m. service

April 14, 2009--Next council meeting:

April 25, 2009--NWOA meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ann Nelson and seconded by Gary Wehmeyer. Motion passed.

The meeting was closed with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President

WISH LIST

What is the Wish List? It's a list (in no particular order) that the church council has developed that will help direct attention to items which families or groups may want to consider purchasing for the church. This list is for reference only. Other ideas are welcome. See below for current list:

- Cart for moving keyboard
- New refrigerator for kitchen
- New windows for educational building
- New flooring in auditorium
- Refinishing pews and woodwork in sanctuary
- Air conditioners for Assembly Room and Chapel
- Risers for Spirit Safari Club for children's programs
- Youth Endowment fund contributions
- Van for transportation
- Replace outdoor lamp posts
- Replace all wrought iron exterior handrails
- New overhead garage doors for parsonage garage
- Remote-controlled winch for sanctuary center dome chandelier