

**St. Paul U.C.C. Council Meeting
May 12, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voess with 15 members present including: John Voess, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Cheryl Barlage, Terri Goodwin, Kathy Topp, Norm Holcomb, Larry Kuhn, Dennis Dicke, Zelta Fogt, James Gilberg, Gary Wehmeyer, Tom Braun, Rev. Youngkin, and Katherine Jackson. Meditation was given by Dennis Dicke.

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

Treasurer's Report: Tom Braun presented the report and a discussion was held. There was a question about the cost of the trash dumpster. We pay \$32.50 every two weeks. Tom will check on this because usually in the summer, we have the garbage picked up every week. There was a budget surplus for the month of April of \$2,803.75. We have a surplus year-to-date total of \$109.49. A motion was made to accept the report by Larry Kuhn and seconded by James Gilberg. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: John Voess reported on the Confirmation Reunion. Everyone enjoys coming to this event, this being the fifth year of having the reunion. Ladies of the church prepared the meal at a cost was \$2.14 per meal. The reunion will be held again next year.

We have had some great information coming from the red pew pads. Several families/people would like to become members of our church.

Two new members will be joining the membership committee: Dennis Dicke and Dick Watcke. Welcome to this committee!

Mission Committee: Gary Wehmeyer reported that SARA is the mission for the month of May. The next meeting for this committee will be September 14, 2009.

Pulpit Committee: There will be an all church Open House for Rev. Rebecca Erb Strang on Saturday, June 13, 2009 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. There will be no Saturday evening service on this Saturday. Sunday, June 14, 2009, will be the candidating service conducted by Rev. Rebecca Erb Strang. A congregational meeting and vote will immediately follow the service.

OTHER REPORTS

Board of Christian Education: Promotion Sunday and Teacher Recognition will be held on Sunday, May 31, 2009. Vacation Bible School will be held at Holy Redeemer Church on July 13-17.

Trustees: Kogge Electric is working on updating the heaters in the Educational Building. Larry Kuhn presented a quote to redo the sanctuary bricks. This quote is from Delphos Construction Company and they will be doing masonry repair and water repellent treatment of the bricks. The quote is \$20,574.00. Dennis Dicke made a motion to go ahead with this project and James Gilberg seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Rev. Youngkin's Report: Rev. Youngkin reported that special services—Confirmation on Palm Sunday (4/5/09), Easter services with Safari Club singing (4/12/09), three infant baptisms on 4/19/09, and the Confirmation Reunion on May 3—contributed to larger attendance at worship. It was great to see so many children in attendance for the Child in Us All segment of worship. He also reported that he is beginning to prepare for the time of transition between the end of his tenure on June 7 and the arrival of a settled pastor, hopefully on August 1. This includes arranging guest preachers, pastoral care coverage, and wedding officiants until a settled pastor arrives. Bill will return to St. Paul Church for the last two weeks in July. Rev. Youngkin is preparing to meet with the Child Safety Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee, and also set up a Child Safety session in late August for all volunteers who work with children and youth in the church. He will update all files and materials for the settled pastor. Rev. Youngkin also reported that a Newcomer Reception was scheduled for May 17 after services and a New Member session in late May. At present four or five families or individuals have expressed a desire to join the church.

Katie Jackson's Report:

JYFS—This past month, JYFS had lessons on God's value for all people, and fitting into the church. Last week, they had a service project where they made thank you cards for men and women serving in the armed forces overseas. They also watched a movie about accepting people even when they are not like us. In the next two weeks, the JYFS students will be wrapping up the year with what they have learned and will also be taking a field trip.

There will be a JYFS leader meeting on May 27th at 4 P.M. for anyone who is planning on helping next year. We will be evaluating this year and discussing our plans for the fall.

Jr. High and Senior High—Both groups talked about issues like prejudice and also valuing other people just as God does. Junior High will wrap up on May 20th with a cookout and other events starting at 6 p.m. Senior High will have a cookout to honor our seniors on May 17th at 6 p.m. Also, as the year is winding down, the students will be filling out evaluations on faith basics. The premise of the evaluation is to gauge their interest in and their competency in certain areas that are considered faith basics. The high school students filled out the evaluations already, and one of

the most common things marked was "living faith in everyday ways". Other topics of interest included evangelism, the Bible, serving others, and our true identity in Christ. These evaluations will be helpful for planning a curriculum template for the junior and senior high ministries.

Mission Statement—after some thought, prayer, reading and discussion, it seems that we need a mission statement for the student ministries of St. Paul. I have talked to a lot of people involved with the student ministries of this church and it seems like it is something we should do together. I am hoping to have a one-day retreat for everyone in June or July. After some discussion, the Maria Stein Spiritual Center seems like the best place to have it. I have run into a problem, though. I think we need someone neutral to be a sort of mediator for the process. I have contacted a youth ministry consulting firm about it but the cost is high and also the time they would need to really be able to help is probably more than people would be willing to give. If you have any suggestions for a mediator it would be very helpful.

Our official summer activities kick off June 6th with a trip to Cedar Point with the Junior High students. Other events are posted on the bulletin board across the hall from the youth room.

OLD BUSINESS

Wish List: If you think of anything that you would like to see on the Wish List or if you would like to donate to anything on the Wish List please contact John Voress.

Staff Policy: Jeff Paul has made interview questions for all staff members. He will get with his committee and they will get these questions to all staff members.

NEW BUSINESS

Outside Lights: Norm Holcomb will check on different options for new lights around the outside of the church and Educational Building. The trustees will also be looking into getting brighter lights in the hallways of the Educational Building. They will also check the lights and several other items needing to be fixed in the auditorium.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A picture has been donated by Mary Reed. It will be hung in the church for all to see.

Thank you cards were read from The Crescent Players and the Auglaize County Historical Society.

The next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. Cindy Newman will have the meditation.

Larry Kuhn made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Gary Wehmeyer seconded the motion. The meeting 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