

**St. Paul U.C.C Council Meeting
July 14, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 15 members present including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Cheryl Barlage, Staci Jones, Terri Goodwin, Kathy Topp, Larry Kuhn, Mark Barhorst, Dennis Dicke, Ann Nelson, Karl Mesloh, Gary Wehmeyer, Tom Braun, and Rev. Youngkin. Meditation was given by Cheryl Barlage.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the June meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Larry Kuhn 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 and a discussion was held. Gary Wehmeyer asked why we need the organ fund. This fund was set up several years ago when the organ was upgraded and several items were added. It was decided that this could be a line item in the budget when the new budget is being prepared for 2010. There was a budget surplus for the month of June of \$246.78. We have a deficit year-to-date of \$3,362.99. A motion was made by Ann Nelson to accept the report and seconded by Karl Mesloh. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: Will resume meeting in August.

Mission Committee: No report—committee will not meet until September.

OTHER REPORTS

Board of Christian Education: Terri Goodwin asked if anyone had any comments about the Child Sexual Safety Policy. She will send it to Jason Cupp, Supervisor of Mercer County Children Services, to look it over before the Safe Church Program meeting on August 18.

Deacons: Mark Barhorst had nothing to report.

Elders: Staci Jones had nothing to report.

Trustees: Kathy Topp reported that the sanctuary brick repair and sealing project is finished. The front steps of church and the east steps of the parsonage have been remortared.

A group of people are getting the parsonage ready for Rev. Rebecca Erb Strang to move into. Norm Holcomb is working on new lighting for the outside of the church and Educational Building. A white line has been spray painted on the step-off sidewalks on the north and west sides of the Educational Building so people can see it more easily. The trustees were asked to get prices for air conditioning for the chapel area and the Assembly Room. They were also asked to get prices for new hand rails on the east side of the church, the south parking lot and the north entrance to the Educational Building.

Rev. Youngkin's Report: John welcomed Rev. Youngkin back from his trip to Africa. Rev. Youngkin talked about his trip and has many stories to tell.

OLD BUSINESS

Wish List: Dennis Dicke thought we should put some playground equipment on the Wish List. We have only swings at present.

Staff Policy: Jeff Paul has received most surveys back from church employees and he will go through them and revise the contracts.

Parsonage: Thank you to Kathy Topp and Amy Scheer for heading up the group of people who helped clean and paint at the parsonage.

Thank you to Dan Nedderman for properly disposing of old offering envelopes.

NEW BUSINESS

Ann Kuhn's Contract: Ann is in her 49th year of teaching. A discussion was held and a motion was made by Terri Goodwin to renew her contract as written. Gary Wehmeyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Auglaize County Fair Gospel Tent: A discussion was held and a motion was made by Kathy Topp to donate \$50.00 to the Gospel Tent and seconded by Cheryl Barlage. Motion passed.

Rev. Strang will arrive in New Bremen on July 30, 2009. The moving van will arrive on July 31, 2009. She received three quotes from moving van companies and she recommended the Mayberry Moving Company at a cost of \$1450.00. Dennis Dicke made a motion to go with the Mayberry Moving Company and Mark Barhorst seconded the motion. Motion passed. She also asked if the church would put up a privacy fence around the south side of the parsonage. A discussion was held and Dennis Dicke made a motion to pay the Mayberry bill and pay an amount not to exceed \$3000 for the fence. Gary Wehmeyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Thank you notes were read from the bicycle group from the First Baptist Church of Zeeland, MI, and also from the Robert Kettler Family.

The next meeting will be held on August 11, 2009, at 7:30 P.M. Jeff Paul will have the meditation.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ann Nelson and seconded by Cheryl Barlage. Motion Passed. The meeting closed with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President

**St. Paul U.C.C Council Meeting
August 11, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President John Voress with 17 members present including: John Voress, Jeff Paul, Cindy Newman, Cheryl Barlage, Terri Goodwin, Kathy Topp, Norm Holcomb, Larry Kuhn, Mark Barhorst, Dennis Dicke, Ann Nelson, James Gilberg, Karl Mesloh, Gary Wehmeyer, Katherine Jackson, Tom Braun, and Rev. Strang. Jeff Paul gave the meditation.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the July meeting were discussed. One correction was made under New Business. Dennis Dicke made a motion to pay the Mayberry Bill and pay an amount *not to exceed \$3000 for the moving expenses and fence combined*. Gary Wehmeyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A motion was then made by Mark Barhorst to accept the report with the correction and seconded by Cheryl Barlage. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Braun presented the report and a discussion was held. There was a budget surplus for the month of \$1716.85. We have a deficit year to date of \$1646.14. A motion was made by Norm Holcomb to accept the report and seconded by Dennis Dicke. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee: A discussion was held on the red folders and name tags.

Mission: Mission committee will be meeting next month. Gary Wehmeyer presented the list of mission projects that St. Paul will be participating in.

Worship: This committee will be meeting on Wed., August 19, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

OTHER REPORTS

Board of Christian Education: Terri Goodwin reported that the Child Safety Policy Program will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 2009, from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Assembly Room. The board is working on a policy for people (students) to be able to use the internet on the computer in the Youth Room and also to have pictures published on the web site. The adult class, The Young and the Rest of Us, will be meeting on Sept. 13, 2009. The Board of Christian Education has taken over Lesson and Fun. The nursery is designed to care for infants and children up to and including three year olds. Lesson and Fun will be for children ages 4 years old up through Fourth Graders. The Spirit Safari Christmas Program will be held on December 13, 2009.

Deacons: Mark Barhorst reported that Rev. Strang will be using the lavalier microphone. The deacons will put the name tags in the bulletins for the Saturday night service so Rev. Strang will get to know the congregation's names a little sooner.

Trustees: Kathy Topp reported that the heater (register) in the Library is not fixable. She received a quote from Kogge's on a new unit for \$2262.00. We still have \$1500 in reserve from the other heating expenses, so this unit will cost \$762.00. A discussion was held. Larry Kuhn made a motion to get this fixed and Norm Holcomb seconded the motion. Motion passed. Kathy Topp is in touch with Tom Thieman about new exterior handrails for around the church. Norm Holcomb received a quote for \$2800 from New Knoxville Supply for supplies and installation for air conditioning in the chapel area and the Assembly Room. Norm will check with Kogge Electric for another estimate. A discussion was held on the outside lights for the church and Educational Building. Norm Holcomb will check with Jerry Newman as to what would work best for our church. Larry Kuhn said the outside basement doors need to be replaced. Larry will get prices for replacement doors.

Pastor Strang's Report:

Worship: Sermons in August will focus on "community".

Attendance has been good.

Cottage Meetings/Visioning at the Parsonage (get acquainted and begin to ask/answer, "Who/What is God calling St. Paul UCC to do and be?"). Dates:

Wednesday, September 2. 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, September 5. 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 9. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 12. 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 13. 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care August 1-11, 2009

Funeral: 1

Wedding: 1

Hospital Visits: 6

Home Visits: 4

Nursing Home Visits: 13

Confirmation to begin September 2, 2009. 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Katie Jackson's Report:

Summer events have concluded now. Everything went well. Confirmation Camp was a great experience, and I am excited to have been invited back to teach the Bible portion of the camp again. Kim Hemmelgarn did a wonderful job leading games the first two nights of camp, and Shelby O'Neill did a fantastic job as a counselor to some incredibly challenging students throughout the week. Other summer things we've done include cookouts and a pool party. There were 18 people at the Sr. High pool party, and 11 at the Jr. High party last Friday. This past Saturday, Drew Charleson raced at the Shady Bowl in DeGraff. Only a couple of us were able to make it, but it was neat to see something that Drew is so passionate about. He did a great job!

Junior High time change: We will meet 7-8:30 p.m. instead of 7-9 p.m. Most of the Jr. High leaders were at the July leaders meeting to approve this change. I bought curriculum for Junior High and High School. It is called LIVE (short i). It is four years' worth of lessons for small groups. Check it out if you would like at simplyyouthministry.com.

Initial paperwork for JYFS, Junior High and High School has been sent out. I am also in the process of personally inviting all of the students to youth group with a personalized card.

Before Rev. Youngkin left, he set up the Director of Youth Ministries Relations Committee. This committee was formed to help me communicate better with the congregation, and also to help the congregation better communicate with me. The committee will be an asset to me as I try to do the best I can ministering to our young people.

OLD BUSINESS

Wish List: A discussion was held and it was brought up that it might be a good idea to put a monetary value as to what the item would cost that is on the wish list. This will be looked into.

Staff Policy: Jeff Paul and committee are still working on contracts for employees.

NEW BUSINESS

New Bremen Police are asking for a donation to help with their program that they present to the students at New Bremen School. A discussion was held and a motion was made by Mark Barhorst to fund the program for 50 children which would be \$112.50. The motion was seconded by Larry Kuhn. A vote was taken and motion passed.

New Church Directory: There are many different programs that could be used to do a church directory. A discussion was held. No decision has been made as yet.

Budget committee will meet on Wednesday, September 2, 2009, in the library. They will get numbers ready for the budget and get the report to Council for the October meeting. It will be finalized in November.

Nominations: People going off the council are asked to try and find a replacement.

The parsonage will be 100 years old on October 10, 2009. There will be an Open House on October 18, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting will be on September 8, 2009. James Gilberg will have meditation.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ann Nelson and seconded by Mark Barhorst. Motion passed. The meeting closed with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Newman, Secretary

John Voress, President

WISH LIST

Item	Guesstimated cost
Cart for moving keyboard	\$500
New refrigerator for kitchen	\$3000
New windows for Educational Building	\$25,000
New flooring in auditorium	\$8000
Replace parsonage porch lights	\$200
Refinishing pews and woodwork in sanctuary	\$5000
TV for youth room (DVD adaptable)	\$250
Air conditioners for Assembly Room and Chapel	\$3000-\$4000
Risers for Spirit Safari Club for children's programs	\$300
Youth Endowment Fund contributions	
Van for transportation	\$5000
New outdoor lighting (replace lamp posts)	\$2000
Replace all wrought iron exterior handrails	\$2500-\$3000
New overhead garage doors for parsonage garage	\$1000
Remote-controlled winch for sanctuary center dome chandelier	\$500
Additional playground equipment	\$2500