



St. Paul Lutheran Church
CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES • June 17, 2014

Call to Order: President Mark Buffington called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Opening Prayer/Devotion: Pastor Tom Gudmundson

Secretary's Report - Minutes of April 22, 2014 Congregation Meeting: *A motion was made by Ron Kalk and second by Margaret Hand to approve the Secretary's Report from the April 22, 2014 Congregation Meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Donna Felch presented the Financial Report ending May 31, 2014. *A motion was made by Mike Holden, second by Paul W Ten Pas to approve the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried.*

2014-15 Budget: Treasurer Donna Felch presented the 2014-15 Budget Proposal. A budget decrease of 3.9% from what was actually spent this year. This decrease is primarily because of two things. First a significant change in employee benefits was made this year, where the employees have absorbed a larger portion of cost. The second change is in staffing. We had a retirement that wasn't filled and other staffing adjustments as well. It is important to note that there are things that will not be taken care of as well as they have in the past as these duties are falling to Pastor Tom for the time being. The Council feels a third Pastor is necessary to continue ministering properly to all our members. In the near future these discussions will be held with the Congregation. At this point, a third Pastor is NOT included in the proposed budget for next year.

The Gathering Place is budgeted to support themselves again for the coming year. The Early Childhood Center is budgeted to need congregation support in the amount of \$32,000. Their increase is primarily due to wage increases for the staff in order to continue to provide a fair wage.

The Faith@Home account has a significant increase in expenses for next year. This is to support the new ministry focus that has recently begun amongst the Congregation.

A motion was made by Dorothy Block, second by Paul W Ten Pas to approve the 2014-15 Budget Proposal as presented. Motion carried.

Tractor Proposal: Our current tractor needs to be replaced. It is over 20 years old and we are no longer able to get parts for it. A team led by Marv TerMaat sought quotes from 3 different vendors for a new tractor. They recommend purchasing a John Deere from Weiss Implement in Glenbeulah. In addition to a lawn mower, the tractor will have a wider snow blower along with a

brush for snow removal and lawn care. *A motion was made by Wayne Huehns, seconded by Rob Danforth to approve the purchase of the John Deere as described in the amount of \$23,184 to be funded from the Capital Improvement account. Motion carried.*

A thank you was extended on behalf of the Church Council and Congregation to those that assist with snow removal and lawn care.

Congregation Concerns: No concerns were brought forth by the Congregation. President Mark Buffington queried those in attendance in regards to the new sound system. It has taken a couple of weeks to get used to the new system and to make adjustments, however it seems the spoken word has improved considerably. Those in attendance agreed.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Brad Vollbrecht second by Margaret Hand to adjourn the Congregation Meeting at 6:26 pm. Motion carried.*

Closing Prayer: Pastor Mark Janzen

Attendance: 33