



St. Paul Lutheran Church
CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES • June 18, 2013

Call to Order: President Mark Buffington called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Opening Prayer/Devotion: Pr. Tom Gudmundson

Secretary's Report - Minutes of April 16, 2013 Congregation Meeting: *A motion was made by Leif Gigstad and second by Faye Risse to approve the Secretary's Report from the April 16, 2013 Congregation Meeting. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: Director of Church Administration Stefanie Trakel presented the Financial Report ending May 31, 2013. *A motion was made by Faye Risse, second by Dave DePagter to approve the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried.*

2013-14 Budget Proposal: Director of Church Administration Stefanie Trakel presented the 2013-14 Budget Proposal. A member asked what expenses are charged to the Outreach account. This account includes three things: our annual Lutheran High Membership Fee, Lutheran Education Scholarships that we give to members who have children attending Lutheran Schools K-College, and seminary assistance for a member. A member also asked how many staff are included in the Staffing account. This account includes 25 staff, however it does not include the ECC or TGP staff as those staff fall into those specific accounts. Staff need to work 31 hours per week to be considered full time and eligible for health insurance. We currently have 11 staff participating in our health insurance plan.

A motion was made by Vicky Bramstedt, second by Leif Gigstad to approve the 2013-14 Budget Proposal as presented. Motion carried.

5 Year Capital Improvement Plan: Mark Buffington shared a 5 year capital improvement plan with the congregation for their information. These are projects that are anticipated in the coming years. There may be other things that we don't anticipate as well. Painting is on the list but is not a capital item as the cost is minimal and charged to the operating budget.

Computer Network Proposal: Congregation President Mark Buffington presented a proposal to upgrade the current computer network in the church. This would add security and improve the efficiency of the entire system. The cost would not exceed \$28,393 to be paid from Capital Improvements. *A motion was made by Dave DePageter, second by Faye Risse to approve the Computer Network proposal as presented. Motion carried.*

Congregation Concerns: Three questions were asked from the congregation as follows:

- 1) **Has there been any discussion of not offering communion every Thursday and Saturday evening? To some members it seems excessive and maybe it should just be offered on the weeks opposite of when it is held on Sundays.** The Pastors and Council will discuss this item further.
- 2) **It would be nice if the Communion Assistants waited until the table was full before beginning to commune. At times members are rushed, especially some elderly that have a more difficult time getting to the rail.** The Council is aware there is inconsistency amongst the ushers and communion assistants when assisting with communion. They will continue to discuss and look for ways to improve.
- 3) **It was asked how to get Gluten Free wafers during communion.** There is a card located at the Welcome Center that the member needs to hand to the Pastor during communion. Messages about this will be re-run in the News N Notes to remind people.

President Mark Buffington thanked the congregation for their feedback, it is greatly appreciated and helps guide the Council and their discussions.

It was noted that all future Congregation Meetings will be held at this time, the third Tuesday of the month at 6pm.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Brad Vollbrecht second by Rob Danforth to adjourn the Congregation Meeting at 6:35 pm. Motion carried.*

Closing Prayer: Pr. Don Hasse

Attendance: 25