

St. Paul Lutheran Church
CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES • June 20, 2017

Call to Order: President Mark Buffington called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Tom Gudmundson

Secretary's Report - Minutes of April 18, 2017 Congregation Meeting: *A motion was made by Paul W. Ten Pas and seconded by Brad Vollbrecht to approve the Secretary's Report from the June 20, 2017 Congregation Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.*

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Donna Felch presented the financial report ending May 31, 2017. *A motion was made by Mike Holden and seconded by Shelly Johnson to approve the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

Fellowship Hall Sound System: Vicky Bramstedt shared that our current sound system is used at least 3-4 times per week. It was the old system from the Worship Center and is at least 15 years old and in poor condition. Many of the microphones are broken or duct taped together. Parts are no longer made so we can no longer make repairs. It is also not user friendly.

A new system has been proposed that is very user friendly, one button control so you turn it on and can start speaking. It will provide easy connections for groups bringing in their own devices. New speakers will be mounted near the ceiling.

A motion was made by Margaret Hand and seconded by Jim Billmann to approve the sound system purchase as presented not to exceed \$21,000 to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

2017-18 Budget: Stefanie Trakel presented the budget with a 14.5% increase in giving to the general operating budget. The increase is completely due to the two new positions that were previously approved, the Third Pastor and the Director of Worship. Without those two positions, we actually would have had a decrease in our budget.

A motion was made by Bob Mehre and seconded by John Rische to approve the 2017-18 Budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Capital Improvement Plan: Stefanie Trakel shared the five-year plan for the Capital Improvement Fund. We have used the fund a great deal in the past few months with the purchase of a new office copy machine, the shingled roof project, the fellowship hall and classroom flooring projects and a portion of the Hwy 28 message center. There are some very large expenses anticipated in the next couple of years. Unfortunately the giving to the Capital Improvement Fund has been declining. We encourage individuals to consider giving to this fund to help with some of these large upcoming projects.

Congregation Concerns:

The Worship Center Sound isn't very clear in the nursery. Vicky Bramstedt will look into this further.

When we have a year-end surplus, why isn't it being put into a dedicated account to use in the event we have a shortage in our operating budget one year? We have started an account for this purpose called Ministry Development. The last couple of years the surplus was put there, in anticipation of our new staff positions and a potential year end shortage.

Worship Direction Search Team Update: Thomas Walkenhorst, from Georgia, has been offered the position. He will be visiting this weekend to help him determine if this will be a good fit for him.

Call Team Update: The Search Team will be visiting a Pastor in Madison this weekend to determine if we should extend a Call to him.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Christine Perronne second by Deb Hand to adjourn the Congregation Meeting at 7:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.*

Closing Prayer: Pr Mark Janzen

Attendance: 24