

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
**CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES • August 1, 2017**

**Call to Order:** President Margaret Hand called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Tom Gudmundson

**Secretary's Report - Minutes of June 20, 2017 Congregation Meeting:** *A motion was made by Mark Buffington and seconded by Shelly Strains 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 June 30, 2017. *A motion was made by Ron Kalk and seconded by Jane Marotz to approve the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Divine Call of Pastor Jason Zobel:** Mark Buffington, chairman of the Call Team, presented information regarding Pastor Jason Zobel. The Call Team conducted a phone interview with him and then Pastor Tom and Mark traveled to Madison to meet with him. Based upon that, the Call Team recommended to the Church Council, who is recommending to the Congregation that we extend a Divine Call to Pastor Jason Zobel.

Pastor Zobel was born and raised in Iowa, he is a farmer's son. He is 46 years old. He graduated from Concordia Mequon in 1993 and received his MDIV from the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1997. He then served at Shepherd of Peace in Braidwood, IL for 12 years before moving to his current church, Mt. Olive Lutheran in Madison. His wife has a degree in education and is currently Mt. Olive's Preschool Director. They have 3 children, one still living at home.

Pastor Zobel's strengths include the ability to inspire people. He's a skilled and effective preacher/worship leader. Pastor Zobel is passionate, which is visible in worship and in person. He has a strong work ethic and likes a challenge, with a roll up the sleeves mentality. He is self-confident without being arrogant.

*A motion was made by Mark Buffington and seconded by Bob Mehre to extend a Divine Call to Pastor Jason Zobel. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Emergency Repair Policy:** Margaret Hand presented a policy recommended by the Church Council for approval by the Congregation. This policy will allow the Church Council to approve funding for catastrophic physical plant repairs up to 3% of the operating budget without Congregation approval. Currently the Church Council can approve any spending up to 1.5% of the operating budget, according to the bylaws.

This policy was created because w our worship center air conditioning will need a significant repair, but the timing is unknown. There is a condenser that is going bad, it could last a year or it could break tomorrow. Giving changes that are going on the federal regulations on Freon, the Church Council would like to wait as long as possible before replacing the condenser. There is also a 3 year warranty on the replacement, the Council doesn't want to start the clock on the

warranty until it is absolutely needed. The turnaround time for the repair is fairly short, however the bylaws require a Congregation Meeting notice to be published for 2 weekend services. This may be too long to wait to authorize the repair. This policy would allow the Church Council to authorize the repair as soon as the condenser breaks. This policy would also apply to any future emergency repairs.

It was recommended by the Congregation to add this into the bylaws, which are slated to be revised this year.

*A motion was made by Paul W. Ten Pas and seconded by Pete Strains to approve the Emergency Repair Policy #44 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Congregation Concerns:**

***When is the Hwy 28 Message Center expected to be completed?*** The masonry is currently being worked on, but much of this is being done on volunteer time. Right now is a very busy time for masons, so the project will be completed, but it will take some time. We are very grateful for our volunteer's time.

**Adjournment:** *A motion was made by Deb Hand second by Ann Helmke to adjourn the Congregation Meeting at 7:04 pm. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Closing Prayer:** Pr Tom Gudmundson

Attendance: 43