

# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 12-2020

Church Council: (X = Present): X Justin Arndt, X Larry Ballwahn, X Steve Brandau, Marcus Buchholz, Rachel Conner, X Tim Deichler; X Angie Gruen, X Bud Osteboe, X Pastor Cathleen Morris.

The meeting was called to order by President Justin Arndt 11:30 am.

Operation Oversight: The December 15, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes were moved for approval by Tim Deichler; Second, Steve Brandau. MC.

After some discussion of the materials, a motion to approve the financial report and authorize bill payment was made by Tim Deichler and seconded by Angie Gruen. MC.

Opening Prayer: offered By Pastor Morris.

## Pastor's Report:

A date will be designated to talk about on-going study of the Epistles readings (**Grace to You and Peace A Yearlong Devotional Journey through the Epistles** <http://www.wartburgseminary.edu/download/daily-devotions/>). The meeting will be after the Sunday Service. -Lent; the plan will be the same as in recent years – mid week service, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and two services on Easter. Confirmation students will assist with one or both Easter services. -Confirmation students will be seeking mentors from the assembly during Lent. The mentors are to be non-family members. -There will be a children's sermon on the Sunday the children sing. -Pastor Libby will be with us on Sunday, March 8.

## Committee Reports:

President Arndt is in the process of organizing the Finance Committee. Among other things, they will examine the financial future of the church. Will St. Paul's be financially viable into the future? Must some action be taken?

Steve Brandau, Property: Non-ballast florescent light tubes have been installed in the basement.

Motion by Larry Ballwahn to proceed with needed repair of the organ. Expected cost is \$8,500. Second, Steve Brandau. President Arndt will ask the congregation how they wish it paid for. Repair is about a three-month process for glue to dry, etc.

## Old Business:

Church Constitution Update; The church constitution has been updated to include the 2019 Amendments to the Model constitution from the 2019 Churchwide Assembly. It is on the Church website for review. Because many at the annual meeting may not have examined it, the assembly will be asked to empower the Council to act in their stead.

Every Member Conversation (EMC) is underway with Bud Osteboe coordinating.

## New Business:

Annual Meeting: A proposed budget of \$83,748 was approved by consensus for presentation to the assembly. Later discussion determined that some adjustment would have to be made to the mileage and thus to the total.

Council election: Rachel Connor and Marcus Buchholz are completing their second term; Steve Brandau is completing a first term. There is a vacancy for President Elect due to Justin Arndt moving to the presidency.

## Other Business:

Steve Brandau presented the following item that was used at another church.



To the Parents of our Young Children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

May we suggest...

- \* Sit toward the front where it is easier for little ones to see and hear what is going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- \* Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, acolytes, ushers and others involved in worship.
- \* Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn how to worship by copying you.
- \* If your child becomes too disruptive and you need to leave the service, feel free to do so. There is an exit to the right of the altar as well as the main entrance. The nursery is also available. But, we hope you come back. All are welcome!
- \* Remember, the way we welcome children in church directly affects how they respond to the Church, God, and one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.
- \* Allow your child to use the reverse side of this card to draw, doodle, or write.

To the Members of our Congregation:

The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing. Welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Children:

Thank you for coming. Jesus loves you!

Motion by Steve Brandau, second by Angie Gruen that the above notice, adjusted regarding the nursery, appears in St. Paul's bulletin periodically. MC.

-The next meeting will be February 9, 2020 after Church.

After the Lord's Prayer, the meeting concluded at 12:35 by consensus

Respectfully Submitted; Larry Ballwahn, Council Secretary