

# **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

## **Semi-Annual Report**

### **Fall 2017**

**Enclosed is the information to be presented to the Fall Voters Assembly** including a copy of the Voters Meeting Agenda, the Minutes from the previous Voters Meeting in April and the Special Voters Meeting in September, Pastor's Report and quarterly summaries, Financial Reports, and Team Reports.

**All confirmed members are invited to participate in our Voters Assembly** where these reports and others will be presented and questions may be asked. Members who are twenty-one years of age and older are invited and encouraged to become part of the Voters Assembly.

**The Voters Meeting will begin by 12:15 pm in the ARC. (We will not be having our usual potluck meal at Voters' this time since our Fall Festival last Sunday included lunch and involved a lot of work by our people.)**

Please find attached a list of current Voters Assembly members; anyone not on the list may join the Voters Assembly at this or any regularly scheduled Spring or Fall Voters Assembly meeting and request membership; upon admission immediate voting rights are granted on business conducted in this meeting and any special-called meetings following.

#### **AGENDA**

#### **VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING**

#### **November 5, 2017**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| CALL TO ORDER – David Burrell                          |          |
| OPENING PRAYER – Pastor Kretzschmar                    |          |
| REVIEW OF CURRENT                                      |          |
| & ADMISSION OF NEW VOTERS – David Burrell              | pg 2     |
| REVIEW OF SPRING MEETING MINUTES                       | pg 3     |
| REVIEW OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES                      | pg 4     |
| PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor Kretzschmar                   | pg 4-5   |
| FINANCIAL REPORT – Art Gaertner                        | pg 6     |
| ELDER TEAM REPORT – Jerry Alldredge                    | pg 7-9   |
| EDUCATION TEAM REPORT – Alison Gilchrist               | pg 10-12 |
| OUTREACH TEAM REPORT – Jackie Joiner                   | pg 12    |
| TRUSTEE TEAM REPORT – Don Olson                        | pg 13    |
| OLD BUSINESS   |          |
| NEW BUSINESS   |          |
| • Nominations Team Report and Elections – Jeff Pittman | pg 13    |
| • Proposed 2018 Financial Plan – Team Leaders          | pg 14    |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS  |          |
| ADJOURNMENT – The Lord's Prayer                        |          |

# Voting Members as of the Spring, 2017 Regular Voters Meeting

*If your name is not listed below, please raise your hand at the meeting during the time of Admission of New Voters..*

|                   |                     |                      |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Alldredge, Carol  | Hartley, Kaye       | Nitchen, Tim         |
| Alldredge, Jerry  | Harvile, Randy      | Olson, Don           |
| Alvis, LJ         | Harville, Carolyn   | Paradise, Bo         |
| Alvis, Pete       | Hedgecock, Chuck    | Paradise, Marian     |
| Asher, Heather    | Hedgecock, Dottie   | Patrick, Lisa        |
| Asher, June       | Herfurth, Sonja     | Pittman, Jeff        |
| Ater, Mike        | Herfurth, Tim       | Pittman, Leesa       |
| Baker, Craig      | Hornish, Beth       | Pitts, Diane         |
| Baker, Melinda    | Hyde, Linda         | Presta, Frank        |
| Ballentine, Becky | Jarvis, Joan        | Reece, Rhonda        |
| Blaske, Mark      | Joiner, Jackie      | Reinhardt, Jeanne    |
| Blevins, Randy    | Jones, Dan          | Ringers, Michael     |
| Bosco, Mike       | Jones, Kellye       | Ringers, Nicole      |
| Bosco, Sue        | Jones, Shari        | Santaliz, Emily      |
| Brown, Jeff       | Kimmatt, Jennifer   | Santaliz, Pedro      |
| Brown, Paula      | Kurtz, Christi      | Schmelter, Susan     |
| Burrell, David    | Kurtz, Steve        | Seibert, Bobbie      |
| Burrell, Jane     | Lechner, Charlene   | Seibert, Ron         |
| Carlson, Carol    | Lechner, Larry      | Stoudnour, Kay       |
| Cevallos, Heather | Livingston, Dee     | Stoudnour, Mary Jean |
| Cevallos, Jacob   | Livingston, Douglas | Strom, Bob           |
| Colba, Patti      | Livingston, Tommy   | Strom, Gene          |
| Colba, Paul       | Looney, Ashley      | Sullivant, Bob       |
| Corlew, Phillip   | Looney, Josh        | Sullivant, Sue       |
| Corlew, Tammy     | Mann, Bonnie        | Todd, Cindy          |
| Covington, Chris  | Mann, John          | Tyler, Gene          |
| Covington, John   | Maradise, Marian    | Tyler, Laura         |
| Cross, Janice     | Maschke, Rich       | Yocom, Lanny         |
| Daniel, Helga     | McRae, Michael      | Yocom, Mary          |
| Daniel, Ricky     | Mead, Marianne      |                      |
| Dixon, Joy        | Meadows, Pam        |                      |
| Faller, Celia     | Morgan, Carol       |                      |
| Faller, Craig     | Morgan, Jeff        |                      |
| Forthman, Jim     | Morgan, Maribeth    |                      |
| Fritze, Ron       | Mueller, Carol      |                      |
| Gaertner, Art     | Mueller, Jimmy      |                      |
| Gilchrist, Alison | Nelson, John        |                      |
| Gilchrist, James  | Nelson, Mary        |                      |
| Goehler, Nettie   | Neuendorf, Nancy    |                      |
| Goehler, Paul     | Neuendorf, Ron      |                      |
| Graham, David     | Nicholson, April    |                      |
| Graham, Roberta   | Nicholson, Rusty    |                      |

# Spring Voters Assembly Meeting Minutes

## April 30, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Dave Burrell at 1 PM.

Pastor Kretzschmar opened his first Voters Meeting at St. Paul's with prayer.

Admission of New Voters: New voters requesting membership was Pastor Kretzschmar, John Morgan, Diane and Charlie Plotz; a motion to accept was made by Larry Lechner / seconded by Ron Seibert / approved.

The Spring Voters Assembly minutes (attached) were presented for approval; a motion was made by Bob Sullivant / seconded by John Covington / approved.

Old Business: There was no Old Business.

New Business: Dee Livingston reported for the Financial Review Team saying that except for a couple small items the financials were good.

Pastors Report (attached) Pastor Kretzschmar reported we have 433 Baptized Members, 370 Confirmed Members with, Membership Changes from October 2016 through March 2017 – Membership gains were 7 and Membership Losses were 130. To get to know the members and families, Pastor is having Mini Flocks (about every 1-2 months) to his home. Pastor's vision for ST. Paul's is to have an Emotionally Healthy Congregation.

The Financial Team Report (attached) were given by Bobbie Seibert: she reported that the Firstfruits Giving is down from last year by 3%.

The Elder Team Report (attached) by Jerry Alldredge. Although we had some trials and tribulations this past year, the result in most favorable results with the welcoming of Pastor Kretzschmar, Erin and Grace.

The Outreach Team Report (attached) was given by Pedro Santliz. He emphasized we were celebrating 500 years of the Reformation and it is Still About Jesus. We will celebrate the Reformation with a church-wide and community focused Family fun Fest.

The Education Team Report (attached) was given by Alison Gilchrist noting the activities of Sunday School, Preschool, Boys & Girls Club and Faithlinks.

VBS will involve the entire church by offering a meal, with something for all ages from children through Adults.

The Trustee Team Report was given by Don Olsen; he thanked members and Trustees for a "Good Spring Clean Up". The grass looks like the weeds are taking over but the grass will be treated three times a year and that it will take several years to bring the grass back.

The single pane windows need to be replaced and he is in the process of getting quotes.

He mentioned that something was done to the slate roof in the Sanctuary and he would like to find out what was done and who did it so we can decide if we need to continue or not.

Announcements – There were no announcements by the congregation. Pastor Kretzschmar announced that July 7<sup>th</sup> will be the Boys and Girls club closing event for the year. We need to get to know the families so please come support the kids and meet the families.

Pastor Kretzschmar led the Assembly in the Lord's Prayer and the meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully and Joyfully Submitted,  
June Asher  
Congregation Secretary

# Special Voters Assembly Meeting Minutes

## September 17, 2017

Dave Burrell called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Pastor Kretzschmar opened with prayer.

There were 51 members of the congregation present with 47 of them voting members. We had a quorum.

Alison Gilchrist gave a review of a discussion the Education Team had regarding the need to a Director of Christian Education. Paula Brown has been doing a very good job, but she is unable to devote the time she has in the past.

Don Olson gave a review of the 3 different loan companies he has been in contact with and explained the cost and monthly payments associated with each regarding refinancing our church building loan.

Don Olson moved that we refinance our church building loan with Thrivent.

Craig Baker seconded the motion.

Discussion followed. After much discussion, Dave Burrell called for a vote. Refinancing our loan with Thrivent passed with only one vote against.

Dave Burrell thanked everyone for attending.

Pastor Kretzschmar closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

June Asher  
Congregation Secretary

## Pastor's Summary

### April 2017 - September 2017

#### Official Acts

##### Members Received

**By Transfer from another LCMS Church:** John Morgan, Jerry & Twila Lyon, Barbara McKewin

##### Members Removed

**By Death (Transfers to the Church Triumphant):** JuliAnna Smith, Shirlee Blevins, Gordon Jones

**By Transfer to another LCMS Church:** Marilyn Tidwell, Donna Taylor, John Morgan

**By Transfer to Christian Church:** Bob & Carolyn McClendon

#### Average Worship Attendance

|       |     |
|-------|-----|
| 2013  | 357 |
| 2014  | 328 |
| 2015  | 324 |
| 2016  | 202 |
| 2017* | 204 |

#### Average in Bible Study

|       |     |
|-------|-----|
| 2013  | 173 |
| 2014  | 202 |
| 2015  | 218 |
| 2016  | 164 |
| 2017* | 147 |

#### Average in Ministry

|      |     |
|------|-----|
| 2013 | 286 |
| 2014 | 283 |
| 2015 | 289 |
| 2016 | 270 |
| 2017 | 281 |

\* January 1-October 29

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church Voters Meeting – November 2017 –  
Rev. Dr. Aaron Kretzschmar**

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23*

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church Membership Information**

615 Baptized Members

512 Confirmed Members

Membership Changes, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 through October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Membership Gains: 4

Membership Losses: 8

Baptism: Elizabeth Joy Hendrix

Transfers In: John Morgan, Jerry & Twila Lyon, Barbara McKewin

Transfers Out: Marilyn Tidwell, Donna Taylor, John Morgan

Release: Bob & Carolyn McClendon

Member deaths (Transfers to the Church Triumphant): JuliAnna Smith, Shirlee Blevins, Gordon

Jones

**The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation – combined Worship Service & Family Fun Fest**

Went great!

Thank you to all volunteers, staff, and leaders

Thank you to all who helped with *Trunk Or Treat* event

*I Am Second* Church Campaign on living for the Lord first, and sharing the story of your faith with others

Hopefully an enduring emphasis from the worship series

Small groups continue to meet

**Outreach Workshop on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM with a ‘working lunch’**

Led by LCMS Southern District Mission Executive, Rev. Eric Johnson

**If you want for more people to know Christ and grow in Him, please join for this engaging workshop**

Also please RSVP for the free lunch by the Tuesday before

**Ongoing Activities Involvement**

Leading Chapel for the Preschool

Leading *God's Place* for the Boys & Girls Club

Youth Confirmation Class and Mentor Program – going well

Counseling for Members

Financial, Marriage, Family, and Personal

Partnership with *Tennessee Valley Pastoral Counseling*

Monthly mini-flock gatherings at the Kretzschmar home continue (November 12<sup>th</sup>)

Homework helpers still needed for *Boys & Girls Club* for a half hour up to an hour and a half on Tue., Thur., Fri.

Lay delegate to attend LCMS Southern District Convention, March 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

*Faith Comes by Hearing* Military Bible Sticks – special offering for weekend of Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>

Showing of *When God Left the Building* documentary near beginning of 2018

Potential formation of an Endowment Fund through the LCMS Southern District CEF (Church Extension Fund)

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**Treasurer's Report - September 30, 2017**

|  |            |                   |             |
|--|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Total Funds in the Bank 12/31/16 to begin 2017 | 111,340.62 |                   |             |
| Income   | 537,804.23 |                   |             |
| Disbursements                                  | 539,102.18 |                   |             |
| Total Funds in the Bank 09/30/17 YTD           | 110,042.60 |                   |             |
|  |            | 1,297.95 decrease | during 2017 |

Thrivent Building Loan Balance 289,651.96

**Breakdown by Fund**

|  | Balance<br>1/1/2017 | Income<br>during 2017 | Disbursements<br>during 2017               | Balance<br>9/30/2017 | Change<br>YTD |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|---------------|
| "Checking Account"<br>Budgeted Operating<br>Expense Fund | 0.00                | 329,727.14            | -350,634.67                                | -20,907.53           | -20,907.53    |
| "Emergency Fund"   | 29,259.52           | 415.29                | 0.00                                       | 29,674.81            | 415.29        |
| "Savings Accounts"                                       | 41,752.78           | 12,001.28             | -7,679.39                                  | 46,074.67            | 4,321.89      |
| Total Available Working<br>Funds                         |                     |                       | *Operational<br>trigger set at<br>\$40,000 | 54,841.95            | *             |
| Donor-Restricted Funds                                   | 40,328.32           | 45,205.68             | -29,169.12                                 | 55,200.72            | 14,872.40     |
| Total Funds  | 111,340.62          | 387,349.39            | -387,483.18                                | 110,042.67           | -1,297.95     |

**3-year Comparison**

|         | Worship<br>Attendance | FirstFruits<br>Giving | Budget Fund<br>Expenses |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 3Q 2015 | 309                   | 421,232               | 433,384                 |
| 3Q 2016 | 212                   | 339,384               | 326,286                 |
| 3Q 2017 | 204                   | 329,727               | 350,635                 |

## Elders Report - Voters Meeting November 5, 2017

May the nature of Jesus grow in our actions and may  
our hearts understand his words more clearly.

Fellow congregant:

Life, Christianity, Freedom - the relativity to it all & or being able to connect the dots has greater and lesser moments of clarity for us all as well as the Elder team. For instance "sinner" & "believer" are not the same although many Christians have convinced themselves they are "sinners" as opposed to being a "believer" that sins. You only know what you know. Have we been told, or have we read, searched and inwardly digested the information: Biblical or traditional information. We remember/know what we have heard - what was the source? When we think, what are our thoughts based on? Thinking can be scary: when we think something long enough we come to believe it whether it is true or not. Luther was a victim of this thinking for a long time as were his past generations, that created tangents to follow.

Following a path of least resistance will make rivers and men crooked. The Bible is clear, 2 Corinthians 5:17 says "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old is gone, the new has come. (a child of God)." John 3:16: "That whosoever believeth ...." The who believes, a non\_believer is the "sinner". We know from Paul "I do the things I do not want to do, I do not do the things I want to do." At the same time Paul had a repentant heart and the Bible is clear that Jesus knows us by our hearts, rather than the number of sins committed. A "believer's" heart is bent toward Jesus and has been set free to the joys of forgiveness.

Trials & tribulations are part of this world; Christianity does not erase them; our stamina can wane. Thus being able to draw on the Word and fellow "believers" is crucial. Sooner or later one will recognize there are two religions of the world (1) God's word (2) Man's word. Also recognize when the door to Christianity opens a lot of Man's word is inside, as Luther well discovered during the 1500's A.O. and as we have in the following 500 years.

Today many people want to be in a denomination first then a Christian second, as opposed to being a Christian first then in a denomination as they grow in the Word. Luther wanted to REFORM that which had gone away from the Word and into Man's word; not to create a denomination. Martin told some of his students as "believers" they were set free; some responded "Free to do as I want", Luther said, "Yes, so what do you now want to do?" Where is the Heart, our heart, as with Paul's heart, becomes the question. Luther had learned a valuable lesson of freedom and used it with his students and self. We need to also grow to know that true freedom has boundaries/borders, without these one's would-be freedom becomes chaos. Reform to the Word, was Martin's drive and guide as with the Elder Team here at St. Paul's. This is no easy task and we appreciate your support, uplifting advice and willingness to confide in us with your trials and thanksgivings.

## Elder Activity Summary May - October 2017

"A Man Named Martin" part I and part II, has been shown twice in the Fellowship Room and with several Small Group meetings. If you would like to view these at your home contact an Elder and we will make arrangements. Pastor is now working through "A Man Named Martin" part III in Bible study on Sunday mornings.

Faith by Martin Luther, a real insight to Faith Alone has been studied by the Elder Team and is attached for your study.

Mini-Flock socials have been going well, meeting at Pastor's home, with only three more socials to complete the visits.

DCM/ DCE will be updated by the Vestry and Education Teams.

Elder Team members, Tim Herfurth and Mark Blaske, are tag-teaming with the high school youth mentors and presenting "life" situations in discussions on Most Sunday mornings as well as Wednesday evenings.

We have had live situations and council on cultural vs Biblical status in regard to marriage, pre-marriage, gender traits, job ethics, family hardships, how far to enable given situations, etc. that keep us on our toes to the life-needs that happen within the church family. Life can be delicate. While God is love, God is just.

Boy and Girls Club can use tutors for math, spelling, reading: 30 minutes +.

Communication still seems to be difficult, we have 6 main ways to communicate:  
1. Epistle 2. Bulletin 3. robo calls 4. announcements verbal and on the screen  
5. mailbox 6. website. Do we really "don't know"?

Please notify the Church Office on someone you know is new to being home-bound.

Food for thought at some Elder meetings.

>Forgiving every thing that forgiveness will allow; to forgive the person not the act.

>Maturity is a high price to pay for growing up, age has little to do with maturity.

»Train your child up in the way of the Lord, when he is old he will not depart from it. Prov. 22:6

>20/20 vision and walking around blind. Psalm 115:6

>multitude who sleep in the earth will awake: some to... others to... Daniel 12:2

> worry is like a rocking chair, it gives you something to do but you don't go anywhere. Wm Rogers

> Nicene / Apostle Creed ... will return to judge the quick and the dead

> where have all the millenials gone?

Your Elder Team: John Covington, Jeff Pitman, Mark Blaske, Jimmy Muller, Mike Whidmar,  
Phillip Corlew, David Graham, Jeff Morgan, Tim Herfurth, Jerry Alldredge

"A person's character is determined by his motives, and motive is always a matter of the heart"

John Eldredge

Martin Luther's Definition of Faith:  
 An excerpt from  
 "An Introduction to St. Paul's Letter to the Romans,"  
 Luther's German Bible of 1522  
 by Martin Luther, 1483-1546  
 Translated by Rev. Robert E. Smith  
 from OR. MARTIN LUTHER'S VERMISCHTE DEUTSCHE  
 SCHRIFTEN.  
 Johann K. Irmischer, ed. Vol. 63  
 (Erlangen: Heyder and Zimmer, 1854), pp. 124-125. (EA 63:124-125)  
 August 1994

Faith is not what some people think it is. Their human dream is a delusion. Because they observe that faith is not followed by good works or a better life, they fall into error, even though they speak and hear much about faith. "Faith is not enough," they say, "You must do good works, you must be pious to be saved." They think that, when you hear the gospel, you start working, creating by your own strength a thankful heart which says, "I believe." That is what they think true faith is. But, because this is a human idea, a dream, the heart never learns anything from it, so it does nothing and reform doesn't come from this faith either.

Instead, faith is God's work in us, that changes us and gives new birth from God. (John 1:13). It kills the Old Adam and makes us completely different people. It changes our hearts, our spirits, our thoughts and all our powers. It brings the Holy Spirit with it. Yes, it is a living, creative, active and powerful thing, this faith. Faith cannot help doing good works constantly. It doesn't stop to ask if good works ought to be done, but before anyone asks, it already has done them and continues to do them without ceasing. Anyone who does not do good works in this manner is an unbeliever. He stumbles around and looks for faith and good works, even though he does not know what faith or good works are. Yet he gossips and chatters about faith and good works with many words.

Faith is a living, bold trust in God's grace, so certain of God's favor that it would risk death a thousand times trusting in it. Such confidence and knowledge of God's grace makes you happy, joyful and bold in your relationship to God and all creatures. The Holy Spirit makes this happen through faith. Because of it, you freely, willingly and joyfully do good to everyone, serve everyone, suffer all kinds of things, love and praise the God who has shown you such grace. Thus, it is just as impossible to separate faith and works as it is to separate heat and light from fire! Therefore, watch out for your own false ideas, and guard against good-for-nothing gossips, who think they're smart enough to define faith and works, but really are the greatest of fools. Ask God to work faith in you, or you will remain forever without faith, no matter what you wish, say or can do.

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Rev. Robert E. Smith

# Education Team Children's Ministry Highlights

## Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Report

### April

I began my "behind the scenes" ministry in earnest during my chemotherapy. After special Easter studies in both classes, the children returned to the regular "What's in the Bible" and Just Us Little Guys studies. In Faithlinks, the kids finished up their God and Family and God and Me studies and received certificates during the Palm Sunday service. VBS preparations were well underway with an evening family VBS planned.

### May

The 1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> grades finished up their "What's in the Bible" studies for the year with a fun day of review and games on May 21. Michelle Hoffman and Beth Hellebrand agreed to lead summer Sunday School and find volunteers to teach. All ages were combined for the Elevate "Center Stage" series. Faithlinks was wrapped up with a fun night of playing on the inflatable. VBS was being finalized for a start the Tuesday after Memorial Day. Neighborhoods surrounding the church were canvassed and door hangars hung.

### June

Our first family VBS was held with a free meal offered beforehand to attract our neighbors. Unfortunately, we had no neighbors and minimal Boys and Girls Club participation. Those who attended had a great time with door prizes being presented each night for attendance and bringing a friend. Everyone learned more about "What's in the Bible!"

### July

We learned that combining all age groups for Sunday School is probably not the best idea and will have at least two classes next summer. Plans for the Fall were wrapping up with 4 classes being decided upon—3 year olds were included as well as 5<sup>th</sup> grade for this year, so the split of 3-4 year olds, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade were chosen. The Answers in Genesis Bible Curriculum was chosen for Kindergarten, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Middle and High School as well as an adult class. It was exciting to think that all will be learning the same thing, just on different levels of understanding.

### August

Rally Day kicked off with an exciting presentation by Big Sam, the Balloon Man. His presentation of the way to salvation through the use of balloons was fantastic! The following Sunday was Ice Cream Sundae Sunday where we studied why we need to keep the Sabbath Holy. The children started the next week with their curriculums and all are enjoying the studies.

### September

Faithlinks began and the kids began learning the new Christmas program, Sing a Song of Christmas, with kudos going to Jane Burrell for stepping in while I couldn't drive after brain surgery. A couple of our pre-K children wanted to participate, so we have Beth Hellebrand and Michelle Hoffman ready with Bible Legos when their attention drifts away from learning the program. The obstacle course inflatable made an encore appearance for a Sunday School lesson about Life's Obstacles. With each class having a reserved time on the inflatable, things went much smoother than in the Spring when everyone played together.

### October

I was thrilled to be done with cancer treatment and be able to return to a more consistent work schedule! We will be having a Reformation Dress Up Day as your favorite Bible character and a party during Sunday School with Reformation themed events. Reading assignments and solos have been assigned for the Christmas program and the kids are doing well.

I have been so blessed this year by the people who have stepped up to help me out during my treatment so that the programs continued without interruption, and by all who stepped up to serve in VBS so that the children and I might be blessed. I am grateful for all the prayers that were and are being offered up for me so that I might be cancer free forever!

We are so looking forward to the Christmas Program being offered during the Sunday School hour on December 10<sup>th</sup>—make your plans now to be here and be blessed. The children will also make blessing boxes and have a birthday party for Jesus as special Sundays to invite friends, classmates and neighbors to attend with them and fall in love with St. Paul's just like the rest of us!

In His Service,  
Paula Brown

## Education Team Youth Report to Voters

### Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Report

#### Prophets News

June 8—Swamp John's Dinner Fundraiser  
June 15-16—Camping Canoe Trip  
July 7-10—LCMS So District Youth Gathering  
October 7—Ghost walk was fun! Ice cream too! We had 1 Prophet and 5 Disciples  
October 21—Trip to Corn Maze  
October 27 —Trunk or Treat  
October 29—Reformation Day  
Blessing bags being put together  
November 1---Giving tree set up (3 families this year)  
                    Church, preschool and Boys & Girls Club  
November 1—Faithlinks dinner  
                    Currently seeking volunteers—any help would be great!  
December 9—Parents' Night Out  
December 19— Lock-in  
December 24 —Assist with Christmas Eve worship

Routinely

Sunday Morning Sunday School  
Wednesday Evening FaithLinks  
Monthly Sunday evening youth-led Devotionals

#### Disciples News

May 5— Confirmands' Oral Examination  
May 7— Rite of Confirmation  
June & July Wednesday Fellowship Swim Nights  
October 27—Trunk or Treat  
October 29—Reformation Day activities and games  
Nov 10-12 —LCMS Southern District Junior Youth Gathering for Grades 6-8 in Lake Forest Ranch—Macon, MS  
                    12 youth and 3 mentors attending  
December ?? —Lock-in

Routinely

Sunday Morning Sunday School  
Wednesday Evening FaithLinks for Grades 5-6  
Wednesday Evening Confirmation for Grades 7-8

## Education Team Preschool Report to Voters

### Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Report

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me" Mark 9:37

#### 2017 Summer Program

54 children participated during the summer.  
Of those 34 used some type of Extended Care

#### 2017-2018 Enrollment

62 children enrolled with another child starting November 6<sup>th</sup>  
42 use some type of Extended Care.  
6 children have full or partial scholarships.

## Education Team Preschool Report to Voters (continued)

### Staff Members:

|                |                                   |  |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Preschool:     | Tammy Corlew (PreK 4)             | Brandi Watson (2 year olds)                                |
|                | Denise Jordan (PreK 4 aide)       | Dena Griffin (older 2s)                                    |
|                | Dawn Hasse (3 year olds)          | Kristy Rey (Toddlers)                                      |
|                | Michele Braswell (3 year olds)    | Carol Carlson (floating aide)                              |
|                | Leslie Parker (older 2s/young 3s) |  |
| Extended Care: | Jennifer Forthman (am)            | Kellye Jones (pm office)                                   |
|                | Ann Morgan (am)                   | looking for a replacement for Rachel Langford **12:30-5:30 |
|                | Carol Carlson                     | Katilyn McGuire (pm)                                       |
| Music:         | Latoya Powell                     | Julie Zhong (pm)   |
| Science:       | Raven Mobley                      | Mary Catherine Thrasher (pm)                               |
|                |                                   | Sierra Bauer (pm)  |

### NLSA Accreditation

NLSA yearly dues of \$600.00 have been paid (increased from \$450.00)

We will apply for re-accreditation next summer.

During 2016-2017 a school-wide curriculum map was developed and sent to the NLSA.

This year we will develop long range goals for the Preschool and prepare for formal accreditation review in the fall of 2018 and on-site visit in the spring of 2019.

### Professional Growth

4 teachers will attend a regional Association for the Education of Young Children in Gatlinburg Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>&21<sup>st</sup>.

3 teachers will attend the Lutheran Education Association district conference in Huntsville Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

Teaching staff is required to have 12 hours professional growth each year.

CPR is updated throughout the year, as needed.

### Volunteer Opportunities for Preschool Programs

Thanksgiving Program – November 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 followed by our annual Thanksgiving feast.

Christmas program – December 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 followed by a cookie reception.

Please call the Preschool office (256-353-1353) if you are interested in volunteering with either/both activities.

Come share the joy of interacting with our little ones!!!

## Parish Outreach Report

### Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Report

Parish Outreach hosted the end of summer dinner for the Boys & Girls Club in July. We grilled hotdogs and hamburgers (many thanks to Dave Burrell and Carol Morgan for doing the grilling). There was a fantastic turnout of Boys/Girls Club family members this year and the program was outstanding as usual.

During the month of July, Outreach collected school supplies donated by members of St. Paul's for the Austinville school supply event. The giveaway was held on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. St. Paul's worked in connection with Central Park Baptist and Austinville Baptist for this event.

On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, Outreach hosted Family Fun Fest: A Reformation Celebration, in conjunction with the combined worship service for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Many thanks to all who helped with the event and with donated food items.

Eric Johnson, Southern District Mission Executive, will be at St. Paul's the weekend of November 18/19. He will present an Outreach workshop on Saturday and will speak in church on Sunday. The Saturday workshop is open to all members of St. Paul's, so we are hoping that many members will attend.

Jackie Joiner

## Trustees Report to Voters

### Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Report

**PARKING LOT RESURFACING** - Complete except for Wheelchair ramp

**MORTGAGE REFINANCING** - November 1

**FALL CLEANUP** - When the leaves fall

#### **COST SAVINGS**

- Energy consumption reduce by 10%/\$3,800 per year (need everyone's help)
- Thermostats 85/55
- Keep lights turned off (the only lights that should be left on when area not in use are the security lights and the illumination of the Bell Tower and Stain Glass Windows)
- Timers on large ice machine/Big fan
- Evaluate more insulation for old part of church
- Retire and/or spare old van in spring

#### **ADDITIONAL REVENUE SOURCE - ARC utilization**

- The ARC is presently available weeknights except Wednesday all day Saturday and Sunday afternoon
- Potential for using the ARC for Basketball both games and practice may exist and we are pursuing it
- Any other ideas should be presented so that we can better utilize our facilities to the community benefit

Don Olson, Head Trustee

## 2018 Nominating Committee Report

### Fall 2017 Semi-Annual Report

#### Officers:

Chairman – Don Olson

Secretary – June Asher

Financial Secretary – Kaye Hartley

Treasurer – Art Gaertner

#### 2018 Nominated Elders

Jerry Alldredge

Tim Nave

Craig Baker

Tim Nitchen

Phillip Corlew

#### Returning Elders:

Mark Blaske

Tim Herfurth

David Graham

Jimmy Mueller

Jeff Pittman

#### Retiring Elders:

Jerry Alldredge

John Covington

Jeff Morgan

Mike Widmar

Phillip Corlew

#### 2018 Nominated Trustees

L J Alvis

Steve Kurtz

Mike Staudt

#### Returning Trustees:

Connor Baker

Mike Bosco

Rich Maschke

Rusty Nicholson

Gene Tyler

#### Retiring Trustees:

L J Alvis

Steve Kurtz

Josh Looney

Mike Staudt\*

Don Olson (to Chairman)

Education Team Leader – TBD 10/26/17

Outreach Team Leader – Pedro Santaliz

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Proposed Financial Plan 2018

|   | Sep2016 - Aug2017 | 2017 Financial | 2018 Financial Plan | Plan       |
|---|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|
| Income  | Actual            | Plan           | Projected           | Change     |
| Firstfruits Giving (Current) for Budgeted Expenses      | \$439,522         | \$584,559      | \$440,000           | -\$144,559 |
| Expenses  |                   |                |                     |            |
| Total Elder Expenses                                    | \$212,822         | \$314,040      | \$271,776           | -42,263    |
| Total Education Expenses                                | \$31,363          | \$20,521       | \$15,156            | -5,365     |
| Total Parish Outreach Expenses                          | -\$2,730          | \$6,480        | 2,445               | -4,035     |
| Total Trustee Expenses                                  | \$168,515         | \$185,062      | \$106,623           | -78,439    |
| District Missions Tithe                                 | \$43,952          | \$58,456       | \$44,000            | -14,456    |
| Total Expenses  | \$453,923         | \$584,559      | \$440,000           | -144,559   |
| <i>Financial Plan Activity for Sept 2016 - Aug 2017</i> | <i>-\$14,400</i>  | <i>\$0</i>     | <i>\$0</i>          |            |