

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Quarterly Report

February 28 – March 9, 2021

Due to complications by the pandemic of meeting in-person for the Voters Assembly and lack of in-person participation at the October, 2020 Voters Meeting, the St. Paul's Vestry deemed it appropriate to conduct this meeting by mail and email. In addition to communication concerning the mission and ministries of the congregation during the previous quarter and year-end for 2020 (please see the Voters Packet), there is a solicitation for members to serve on the DCE Call Committee and for names of recommended DCEs in the field to be submitted to the Church Office by noon on Tuesday, March 9.

All confirmed members are invited to participate in our Virtual Voters Assembly by reading these reports and submitting any questions by email (or calling the Church Office if you do not have email). Members who are twenty-one years of age and older are invited and encouraged to become part of the Voters Assembly; you may become a voting member by responding to the vote on the two resolutions on the last page by August 2. This is an excellent time to become part of the Voters Assembly and take part in the business of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The February Virtual Voters Meeting will be conducted for the next week and conclude at noon on Tues, March 9. These are unprecedented times, and the St. Paul's Vestry has decided that without meeting in-person, business may be conducted in this manner. Our Constitution and ByLaws may be found on our website under the links / voters info tab to the far right on the menu. Printed copies may also be found by the Church mailboxes.

AGENDA

VIRTUAL VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING

February 28 – March 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER – Michael McRae

OPENING PRAYER – Pastor Kretzschmar

REVIEW OF CURRENT & ADMISSION OF NEW VOTERS –

REVIEW OF OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor Kretzschmar

FINANCIAL REPORTS – Don Olson

ELDER TEAM REPORT – David Burrell

OUTREACH TEAM REPORT – Pedro Santaliz

EDUCATION TEAM REPORT – Maribeth Morgan

TRUSTEE TEAM REPORT – Rich Maschke

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Director of Christian Education (DCE) *see Pastor's Report*
2. Any items submitted by calling or emailing the Church Office

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- Please continue to refer to the website at www.StPaulsDec.com, weekly emails, phone calls, and texts for news and announcement,
- record your worship attendance on the homepage link, and
- continue to support the work of the Lord through this place with your tithes and offerings.

Great ministry is happening and needs the continued support and prayers of every member!

Submit desire to serve on the DCE Call Committee and names of recommended DCEs serving in the field.

ADJOURNMENT – The Lord's Prayer

Michael McRae Michael@McRae.net

All individuals interested in serving on the DCE Call Committee should contact the Church Office by noon on Tuesday, March 9

Any member with names of DCEs from the field for the DCE Call Committee to consider should contact the Church Office by noon on Tuesday, March 9

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Voters Assembly Meeting Minutes October 25-November 8, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Michael McRae and opened with prayer by Pastor Kretzschmar.

Review of July, 2020 Virtual Voters Meeting minutes: Motion to approve minutes was passed.

Admission of New Voters: *We will add those voting on the motions presented virtually.*

Pastors Report: Pastor Kretzschmar presented (see attached).

DCE Report: Felicia Salgado presented (see attached). Felicia also presented her letter of peaceful release from her call as DCE on December 31, 2020.

Elder Team Report: Dave Burrell presented (see attached).

Education Team: Maribeth Morgan presented (see attached).

Outreach Team: Pedro Santaliz presented (see attached).

Trustee Report: Rich Maschke presented (see attached).

Financial Summary: Alison Gilchrist presented (see attached report).

New Business:

1. Nominations Team Report and Elections – Michael McRae presented (see attached). A motion was made and seconded to accept this slate of Officers and team members; voting will be during the next 2 weeks. Dave Burrell thanked all the outgoing officers and team members for their service.
2. Proposed 2021 Financial Plan – Carol Morgan presented (see attached). A motion was made and seconded to accept the Proposed 2021 Financial Plan; voting will be during the next 2 weeks.
3. Vote to accept the peaceful release of Felicia Salgado. A motion was made and seconded to accept her peaceful release; voting will be during the next 2 weeks. The Assembly sincerely thanked her for her contribution to ministry here at St. Paul's and promised prayers for God's hand in blessing her and continuing her relationship in the St. Paul's family.

Voting for these three items will be virtually and by mail and continue for two weeks until November 8.

Pastor Kretzschmar lead the Assembly in the Lord's Prayer, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Morgan

Virtual and mail-in ballot results:

28 virtual ballots: all three motions unanimously passed
7 mail-in ballots: all three motions unanimously passed
35 ballots cast

Add to the Voters Assembly by votes cast:

Linda Hyde, Joan Jarvis, Faye Atkins, Ronnie Atkins, Karin Burtram, Melinda Carlson, Nancy Neuendorf, Jimmy Mueller, John Covington, Chris Covington, Helga Daniel, Michael Salgado, Rhonda Reece, Carol Mueller, Craig Baker, Melinda Baker, Maribeth Morgan, Daniel E. Jones, Shari Jones, Larry Lechner, Charlene J Lechner, Heather Asher, Aubrey O Paradise, Marian S Paradise, Steve Kurtz, Ronald Seibert, Bobbie Seibert, Susan Bosco, Michael Bosco, David Burrell, Heather Asher, James E Forthman, Ricky Daniel, Jane Burrell, Carol Morgan

St. Paul's Voters Meeting – February 2021

Rev. Dr. Aaron C. Kretzschmar

“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’”
(John 20:21)

St. Paul's verse for 2021 is John 20:21, with our theme as: We are a SENT people!

Cold Weather Sunday Worship Schedule

Sanctuary Worship Service at 8:15 AM (with Facebook Live simultaneously)

Radio Worship Service at 9:30 AM (Live on 98.5 FM)

Drive-In Worship Service at 11:00 AM

Praise Team will be playing indoors in the Narthex during February and into March

Midweek Lenten and Easter Worship Series: Places of the Passion

February 17th – Ash Wednesday: A Place at the Table for You (Luke 22:1-13)

February 24th – The Upper Room: A Place of Service (Luke 22:14-38)

March 3rd – Gethsemane: A Place of Strength (Luke 22:39-46)

March 10th – The Betrayal: A Place of Eternal Love (Luke 22:47-53)

March 17th – The Courtyard: A Place of Renewal (Luke 22:54-62)

March 24th – The Trial: A Place of God's Will (Luke 22:63-23:25)

April 1st – Maundy Thursday: The Last Supper: A Place of Forgiveness (Luke 22:14-23)

April 2nd – Good Friday: Golgotha: A Place of Simple Love (Luke 23:33-49)

April 4th – Easter: The Empty Tomb: A Place of Remembering (Luke 24:1-11)

The Path for Gaining a DCE to Serve at St. Paul's

St. Paul's applied for a DCE Intern to serve at St. Paul's starting in the summer

Due to more requests for DCE Interns than actual Interns, St. Paul's will not be receiving an Intern

I had already been in contact with District/Synod, and Mr. Gene Menzel had started working with us

Mr. Menzel has provided us with two paths to gain a DCE at St. Paul's

St. Paul's can potentially Call a recent graduate from one of the Concordia University schools

St. Paul's can Call a DCE from the field

The process has begun to fill out an application that goes to all of the Concordia system universities

Current/recent graduates will be made aware of the opportunity to serve at St. Paul's

Interviews with current/recent graduates will be set up

Gene Menzel also is developing a list of DCEs in the field for us to consider

Since St. Paul's is planning to extend a Call for a DCE, a Call Committee needs to be formed

All individuals interested in serving on the Call Committee should contact the Church Office

Any member may also submit names of DCEs from the field for the Call Committee to consider

Efforts and Projects for 2021

Working with District/Synod to Call a DCE to serve at St. Paul's

Moving toward more participation in indoor activities (worship, Bible study, youth, fellowship, etc.)

Continuing with distance worship and Bible study opportunities for outreach

Connecting better with families of Preschool and KTT

Encouraging members to follow God's call as those SENT into the lives of others to share Christ's hope

Encourage members to give others evangelism pamphlets/material and invite to worship/activities

Personal Outreach Resources through Lutheran Hour Ministries (www.lhm.org)

Visit www.lhm.org/learn/

Register

Receive confirmation email

Then be able to get into all the lessons

“Households of Faith” – 30 days of family devotions available now

“Hopeful Neighborhood” – release date in March (things you can do in your community)

Check out the website on your own and let me know what you think

Currently researching options for members to engage with

Lutheran Hour Ministries outreach printed materials

Spiritual Conversation Curve Card (outlines the process of sharing your faith in Christ)

Titles of pamphlets ordered and on hand

Who Is Jesus?

What Is Faith In Jesus?

Why Did Jesus Die?

The Bible: What? When? Why?

What Happens When I Die?

The Truth About Angels

Prayer: When You Don't Know What To Say

Call the Church Office if you would like any of these pamphlets to read and also share

Online short course soon available called "Prepare to Share"

Praise the Lord items!

The youth had a Super Bowl party!

The electronic sign out front works!

We have a full Praise Team for the Drive-In Service!

It is great to hear the choir singing in the Sanctuary!

St. Paul's has faithful members who generously support the church, even during a pandemic!

Please share other items with one another, rejoicing in the goodness of the Lord

**Official Acts 4Q2020
Membership Gains and Losses YTD**

Baptized Membership, 10/1/2020	<u>445</u>	<u>564 at end of 2019</u>	
Removed below	7		
Total Baptized Membership, 12/31/2020	<u>438</u>		
Confirmed Membership, 10/1/2020	<u>386</u>	<u>472 at end of 2019</u>	
Gains			
Adults Confirmed	1	Bill Ballentine	10/08/2020
Losses			
Deceased	4	Bill Ballentine	10/10/2020
		Linda Morris	11/10/2020
		Georgia Koenig	11/20/2020
		Debbie Blankenship	11/24/2020
Removed by Transfer to other LCMS	2	David & Nancy Parr	11/6/2020
Total Confirmed Membership, 12/31/2020	<u>381</u>		

Financial Summary

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

December 31, 2020

Total Funds in the Bank 12/31/19 to begin 2020		\$198,005.88		
Balance on Hand 12/31/20		\$298,826.43		\$100,820.55 increase during 2020
Thrivent Building Loan Balance	\$272,731.03			until Sept, 2032 at 4.2%
Breakdown by Fund	Balance 01/01/2020	Income during 2020	Disbursements during 2020	Balance 12/31/2020
Budgeted Operating Expense Fund	0.00	475,744.70	-512,263.05	-36,518.35
PPP Loan Reimbursement				110,247.00
<i>Net Budgeted Operating Expense Fund with PPP Funds applied</i>				73,728.65
Emergency Fund	50,900.01	6,256.54	0.00	57,156.55
Undesignated Funds	63,748.43	16,887.87	-1,682.28	78,850.60
Donor-Restricted Funds	83,357.44	25,613.29	-18,878.12	89,090.63
PPP Loan applied to Budget Fund		110,247.00	-110,247.00	0.00
Total Funds		524,502.40	-532,823.45	298,826.43
Investment of Funds	Balance 01/01/2020	Interest		Balance 12/31/2020
BBVA Checking	2,958.60			43,522.61
BBVA Money Market	5,010.55	37.70		59,048.25
Lutheran Church Extension Fund	18,164.67	106.00		18,270.67
Southern District Extension Fund CDs	171,872.06	6,112.84		177,984.90
Total Funds in the Bank	198,005.88	6,256.54		298,826.43

Financial Plan Summary

	2020 YTD Actual	2020 Financial Plan	
Income			
Firstfruits (Current) Giving for Budgeted Expenses	\$475,745	\$508,120	94%
Expenses			
Total Elder Expenses	\$307,922	\$329,253	94%
+ Preschool Ministry	39,256	9,683	405%
Other Education Expenses	3,575	8,751	41%
Total Education Expenses	\$42,832	\$18,434	232%
Total Parish Outreach Expenses	\$3,638	\$5,925	61%
Total Trustee Expenses	\$110,297	\$103,696	106%
District Missions Tithe	\$47,574	\$50,812	94%
Total Expenses	\$512,263	\$508,120	101%
Financial Plan Activity for 2020 through December	-\$36,518		
<i>Adjusted Financial Plan Activity for 2020 through Dec 31</i>	\$73,728.65	<i>with PPP applied</i>	



Let's take time for a Hallelujah Moment coming out of 2020

We have recovered almost \$15,521 in the Financial Plan from -\$52,172 in July to -\$36,651 by year-end.

Following up on what was said in the *Epistle* concerning the pandemic and its impact on our Financial Plan: "In spite of the evils of this pandemic, we have been blessed with generous givers faithfully supporting St. Paul's with their FirstFruits Giving alongside the PPP loan funds," we can therefore truly say **Our goals to minimize the economic impact of COVID-19 have been met!** The Lord has blessed our prayers with the congregation increasing its giving to almost meet our Giving Goal by the end of the year –

Giving averaged \$42,033 May -Dec!!!!

The Preschool has returned to operating within the Financial Plan with 53+ students enrolled - **Preschool June-Dec Income of \$113,010 and Expenses of \$114,922 are well-within the Plan!!!**

Elder Report to Voters

1Q 2021

The Elders' focus for this past quarter has been ensuring our worship services, including Sanctuary, Drive- In, and Online, are conducted with excellence. In every aspect of our worship, we want to honor our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The following Elders were elected to serve for the next 2 years: Mike Widmar, Mike Ater, Bob Sullivant, John Mann, and Dave Burrell. The following Elders term continues: Craig Baker, Ronnie Atkins, Phillip Corlew, James Gilchrist, and Mike Ringers. We give a BIG thank you to those who "rolled off" Elders this past year including Jimmy Mueller, Mark Blaske, and Rick Daniel.

The congregation is divided into 10 MiniFlocks with a MiniFlock being an alphabetical grouping of church members. One Elder serves a MiniFlock. The Elder and MiniFlock combination is:

Craig Baker	MiniFlock #1	(Alldredge thru Bosco)	Bob Sullivant	MiniFlock #6	(Linley thru Mitchell)
Ronnie Atkins	MiniFlock #2	(Bowman thru Corlew)	James Gilchrist	MiniFlock #7	(Morgan thru Parrotta)
Dave Burrell	MiniFlock #3	(Covington thru Gilchrist)	John Mann	MiniFlock #8	(Parson thru Ross)
Mike Ater	MiniFlock #4	(Goehler thru Holder)	Mike Widmar	MiniFlock #9	(Royer thru Swanner)
Phillip Corlew	MiniFlock #5	(Holway thru Lechner)	Mike Ringers	MiniFlock #10	(Terry thru Yopek)

Each Elder is striving to reach out to their members. It is not unusual for a member to not accept a phone call from an unfamiliar name. Hopefully, if your voice mailbox isn't full, you will be hearing from your Elder regularly. Please feel free to contact your Elder anytime you need help or just want someone to talk with.

We are looking forward to the time when we will be able to comfortably move all our worship services back into the building. We are working on criteria to allow that to happen. If you have an opinion, your Elder would appreciate hearing from you. For Easter, we're evaluating the possibility of expanding our Drive-In worship service allowing us to worship together in the same space – **OUTDOORS, UNDER A TENT!** That will allow us to safely worship together without the concern of being exposed to COVID. It will also make it clear to our neighbors that we're in business – the business of teaching and preaching the gospel.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Burrell

Education Team Report to Voters

1Q 2021

- Preschool:
 - Enrollment changing with COVID. Carol Carlson retired at the end of December.
 - Ms. Emily to teach the 2-year-olds.
 - Remaining healthy after Christmas break.
 - Registration beginning soon.

- Elementary:
 - **#1 NEED – Sunday School Superintendent**
 - We have the curriculum purchased and a schedule of teachers for the January to May. Teachers will create their video and post the video to the Facebook Group on Sunday.
 - DCE Intern application due Feb 1st submitted.
 - Exploring the option for calling from the field or a recent graduate.
 - Updating the Job description for the DCE to focus primarily on Children's ministry while being a contact and assistance in all education matters.

- Middle School Youth:
 - Bi-weekly Zoom Bible Study meetings continuing.
 - Confirmation to remain in-person.
 - Planning monthly in-person events to help develop relationships.

- High School Youth:
 - Heather and Raymond Asher to continue to lead monthly in-person events.
 - Focus on building and maintaining youth connections over this essential time of growth.

- Young Adults:
 - Felicia and Sal Salgado to continue to lead the young adult ministry.

Looking to add members to our committee. Trying to find people who are not directly teaching but are stakeholders in the ministry. Specifically, an adult education contact. If interested, please contact Maribeth.

Education Team

Chair – Maribeth Morgan

Nancy Neuendorf

Pastor Kretzschmar

Alison Gilchrist

Heather Asher

Member -

Member -

Outreach Report to Voters

1Q 2021

Trek or Treat (Drive Thru) was held at St. Paul's in October. We had at least a couple of hundred people visit. Most of the families were from KTT, Pre-school, and St. Paul's. However, we also had visitors that saw what was happening as they drove by on Carridale and decided to drop in.

Outreach assisted with researching how to create a more robust way of live streaming church services over the internet. We currently use Pastor's cell phone. Sling Studio was purchased from Central Park Baptist since it was readily available and cheap. In the future, we may upgrade or switch to ProPresenter depending on how the purchased system functions. Even after we are able to come to service in person, the intent of having this capability is to outreach to people who may hunger for the Gospel but are hesitant to come in person. These may be St. Paul's members, former members, or those who do not currently belong to a church.

Outreach has recently welcomed new members and we are ready to get to work. Although this is not a great time to do in person outreach, I believe God will help us in the near term to reach out and enable us to draw plans for when things get back to normal later this year or early next. We will start by thinking of things that can be done or ideas on how to be more effective with the Outreach Ministry. However, our first priority will be Inreach. We have a lot of St. Paul's members who've not ventured to church for understandable reasons. Each of us on the committee will call those whom we are close to at St. Paul's in order to see how they are doing and pass along prayer requests or other needs to the Elders or Pastor.

Finally, this ministry is your ministry. We are here to encourage and enable you to spread the Gospel. Contact us if you have ideas, concerns, or are just curious.

In His service,
Pedro Santaliz

Trustees Report to Voters

1Q 2021

- The usual activity with toilet and sink repairs. Luckily no busted water lines or other damage with the recent artic blast.
- Finally have the electronic sign working again. The old on-board PC had to be sent off for repair. The PC is obsolete and so is the LED system. The LEDs are getting noticeably dimmer due to the age and it is hard to read during daylight hours. One complete panel is bad and 11 other smaller spots with defective LEDs. We are currently looking into pricing a replacement system so that we know what is the best route to go when this system finally dies.
- Replaced one AC unit in the office wing. It went bad last summer but we elected to wait since it was not being used due to the situation with COVID-19.
- The Sanctuary sound board is giving us problems intermittently. Hired a company to come in and help us troubleshoot but it worked fine that day. They also adjusted all of the settings that have been changed over time to where they should be set, and the sound quality is much better. They also help us get the board set up to work with the new recording system for putting services on the internet without having to use the pastor's phone. We are getting pricing on a replacement sound board.
- We are learning to use a new livestream system called Sling Studio to record the service and facilitate having a livestream of the church service. It has the capability of using multiple cameras, the PC powerpoint screens, and the sound from the sound board.
- We had to replace the PC in the choir loft that is used for the powerpoint screens during service due to problems but this also worked out well to work with the new Sling Studio system mentioned previously.
- A fence was installed to provide additional safety for the kids using the lawn on the west end of the site as a joint purchase with KTT. We will have to purchase some dirt and spread it in the low spots this spring.

Rich Maschke
Trustee Team Leader, rich.maschke@gmail.com