

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1st Quarter, 2019 Voters Assembly Report

Enclosed is the information to be presented to the Voters Assembly on April 28.

All confirmed members of the congregation 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 12:45 pm in the ARC following our Combined 10:45 Worship and Fellowship Potluck meal.

Anyone may attend our Voters Assembly meetings; our Constitution and ByLaws state that "the right of suffrage is confined to such members as have reached the age of twenty-one (21), signed this constitution, who are not under public discipline, and roll call of at least one of the last two scheduled regular business meetings showed presence unless excused." So that we follow this document our sign-in sheets will contain a check-off column that states your sign-in signature will be added to the signature list of our Constitution. 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 VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING April 28, 2019

CALL TO ORDER - Don Olson

OPENING PRAYER - Pastor Kretzschmar

REVIEW OF JANUARY MEETING MINUTES - Pam Meadows

FINANCIAL REPORT- Susan Staudt

REVIEW OF CURRENT & ADMISSION OF NEW VOTERS - Don Olson

PASTOR'S REPORT - Pastor Kretzschmar

EDUCATION REPORT - Tammy Corlew

DCE REPORT - Felicia Salgado

ELDER TEAM REPORT - John Covington

OUTREACH TEAM REPORT - Pedro Santaliz

TRUSTEE TEAM REPORT - Rich Maschke

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Divine Call to Felicia Salgado to become full-time Director of Family Life Ministries
2. Fence West Area of Parking Lot
- 3.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report on Preschool 5-year Re-accreditation
2. Report on Church360 database utilizing member access
3. Church Secretary change new/old mission for Sue
 - a. oversee church database update
 - b. volunteer coordination
- 4.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – The Lord's Prayer

January Voters Assembly Meeting Minutes January 27, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Don Olson at 1 PM.

Pastor Kretzschmar opened the Voters Meeting with prayer.

Review of Fall Voters Meeting minutes: Motion to approve minutes was passed.

Treasurers' Report: Presented by Susan Staudt. Review attached treasurers' report. As of 12/31/18 total in bank was 193,802.

Financial Plan Summary: Presented by Alison Gilchrist. See attached report. If you want "giving statements" emailed to you please let the Church Office know.

Admission of New Voters: New voters requesting membership was Paula Brown, Mike Staudt, Susan Staudt, Jackie Joiner, Diane Plotz, Charlie Plotz, Roy Weiland, Joyce Weiland, Sal Salgado. The motion to accept new voters was passed.

Preschool Report: Tammy Corlew reported for Nancy Neuendorf. Preschool report attached. A donation was made for a security camera at the playground and the Gym area. The live images show on a monitor in the Preschool Office

Outreach Team: Pedro Santaliz presented. They are focusing on the Preschool and the Boys and Girls Club. The needs of the Outreach: Many volunteers are always needed for events.

Boys and Girls Club: Charlotte Bradley informed us that our Boys and Girls Club merged with North Alabama Boys and Girls Club. They have upgraded two rooms that will be used for Education and Art Rooms. Charlotte was notified they won a trip to Daytona Beach, Florida for the Art Video presented. There are 55 children enrolled at our Boys and Girls Club. They will have a Meet and Greet for Parents in February.

Elders Report: Mark Blaske will step down as the Head Elder. John Covington has accepted the position. Mark will continue as music and Traditional Worship Coordinator.

Education Team: Tammy Corlew presented. See report attached. New Bible Studies are beginning. Middle School has a Lock-In on April 3rd. Looking at plans for Confirmation on May 5th. Easter plans/ breakfast pending.

Trustee Report: Rich Maschke presented. See report with the list of some open projects. Saturday, March 30th will be a Church Workday. There is also a list of completed projects attached. The Trustees need volunteers for Adopt-A-Spots. Please speak to Rich if you are interested.

Pastors Report: Pastor Kretzschmar presented. Please see attached report. Pastor stated that several new Courses will be starting. March 6th is Ash Wednesday Services. Midweek Lenten Services will be at noon and 7pm. Pastor reported on the status of the DCE call. We contacted Felicia's University that we have approved Felicia Salgado and offered her designation of DCE. She will continue to consider and respond by February 1, 2019. Her first official date; if she so desires the designation would be July 1, 2019.

New Business: See chart in front of Voters Packet. Our 2019 for goal is to keep our Firstfruit giving the same as 2018. A discussion on a proposal brought to the table by Tommy Livingston to cancel combined worship on the 5th Sundays; alternating between Traditional and CrossLife. A motion for four Voter's Meetings a year. Discussion continued. Diane Pitts brought up some concerns in the decrease of attendance in CrossLife and what is the solution to this problem. Pastor and Pedro Santaliz responded on how we are now using a relational model that other Christian Churches use. We are looking into beginning a new series Becoming a Contagious Christian.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Meadows
Congregation Secretary

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Treasurer's Report

March 31, 2019

4/16/2019 15:18

Total Funds In the Bank 12/31/18 to begin 2019	\$193,802.81
Income	202,917.22
Disbursements	-175,377.02
Balance on Hand 3/31/19	\$221,343.01

Thrivent Building Loan Balance **\$255,022.67** 27,540.20 total increase during 2019

Breakdown by Fund	Balance 12/31/2018	Balance 01/01/2019	Income during 2019	Disbursements during 2019	Balance 3/31/2019	Change YTD
"Checking Account"						
Budgeted Operating Expense Fund	27,459.43	0.00	120,726.23	-104,484.88	16,241.35	16,241.35
<i>Financial Plan funded by Firstfruits Giving 2018 Budget average was transferred to the Emergency Fund on 01/01/2018 details may be found in the 2019 Financial Plan Report</i>						
"Emergency Fund"	16,675.87	44,135.30	340.94	0.00	44,476.24	340.94
<i>funded by Budget Fund transfers, interest</i>						
"Savings Accounts"	70,489.72		1,900.50	3,099.96	74,791.58	5,000.46
Total Available Working Funds	114,625.02		<i>Operational trigger set at \$40,000</i>		135,509.17	7,007.05
Donor-Restricted Funds	79,177.79		14,648.98	-8,801.09	85,833.84	6,656.05
Total Funds	193,802.81		137,616.65	-110,186.01	221,343.01	27,540.20

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Financial Plan through March, 2019

2019 Year-to-Date Actual 2019 Financial Plan

Income

Firstfruits (Current) Giving for Budgeted Expenses **\$120,726** **\$480,000** **25%**

Expenses

Total Elder Expenses **\$70,469** **\$319,550** **22%**

Total Education Expenses + **\$165** **\$16,492** **1%**

Total Parish Outreach Expenses ++ **-\$1,689** **\$2,154** **-78%**

Total Trustee Expenses **\$23,467** **\$93,804** **25%**

District Missions Tithe **\$12,073** **\$48,000** **25%**

Total Expenses **\$104,485** **\$480,000** **22%**

Financial Plan Activity for 2019 through March **\$16,241**

+ Preschool Ministry had MORE income than expenses by \$1,184	2018 Income	\$118,254	\$2,472 MORE 2019 Giving
++ Boys & Girls Club had MORE income than expenses by \$1,989	2018 Expenses	\$102,074	\$2,411 MORE 2019 Expenses

both accumulating deposits for summer & fall programs

Our Financial Plan Cumulative Giving and Expenses compared to our 2019 Goal is in the graph to the right.

Our Financial Plan for 2019 projects \$480,000 for both our FirstFruits Giving and our ministry Projected Expenses which averages \$40,000/mo.

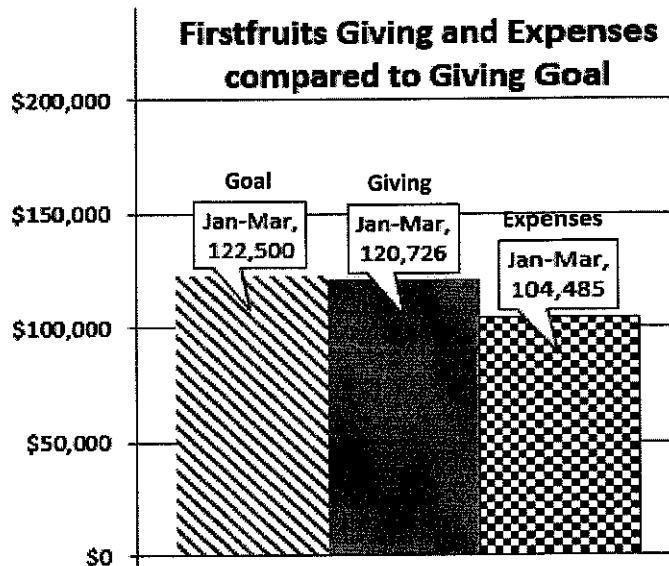
Our 1st Quarter Giving Goal is increased by \$2,500 to account for seasonal fluctuations by quarter as has been our experience.

Our 1st Quarter Giving of \$120,726 is just short of Goal by \$1,774.

Our Expenses of \$104,485 are less than our Giving by \$16,241 in preparation for our DCE intern's Call to begin full-time ministry on July 1 which will increase our expenses by \$3,300/month.

Reports on our progress will also be presented quarterly before worship services and in each monthly *Epistle* newsletter.

Details of the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Plan breakouts can be obtained through the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, or the Business Office at any time.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1700 Carridale St. SW
Decatur, AL 35601

April 25, 2019

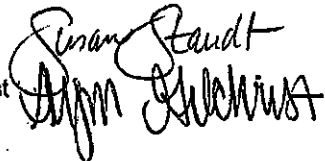
Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

We, as the Treasurer and Financial Secretary, met with the Business Manager and reviewed the financial records of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Our financial review of the 2018 fiscal year utilized the financial review package as found in the LCMS Congregational Treasurer's Manual. We performed the review at the request of the congregational president and in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of our church. After examination and discussion of best practices for each designated area reviewed, we found the financial practices, recordkeeping procedures, and reporting to be correct and complete as discussed.

The Financial Review Team

Susan Staudt
Allison Gilchrist

Handwritten signatures of Susan Staudt and Allison Gilchrist. The signature for Susan Staudt is written in black ink and is positioned above the signature for Allison Gilchrist, which is also in black ink.

St. Paul's Voters Meeting – April 2019

Rev. Dr. Aaron C. Kretzschmar

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

2019 Focus on Relationships within families, friendships, and marriages, with Jesus at the center

St. Paul's theme verse for 2019 is John 13:34-35, *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

New Member Course / Adult Confirmation Class – Sundays at 9:30 AM in Room 316

Becoming A Contagious Christian worship and study series on relational evangelism

March 3rd: *A Contagious Faith*

March 10th: *A Contagious Heart*

March 24th: *Contagious Relationships*

March 31st: *Contagious Stories*

April 7th: *A Contagious Message*

April 14th: *God's Contagious Love*

Evangelism Training Bible Study on Sundays and Wednesdays, and for some small groups

Lenten Midweek Series: *A Lent to Remember*

Ash Wednesday, March 6th: *Remember Dust*, Psalm 103:13–14

March 13th: *Remember Wondrous Works*, Psalm 111:4

March 20th: *Remember Jesus' Words*, Luke 22:61–62

March 27th: *Remember the Covenant*, Psalm 105:8

April 3rd: *Remember Sins No More*, Jeremiah 31:34

April 10th: *Remember Steadfast Love*, Psalm 98:3

Maundy Thursday, April 18th: *Remembrance of Me*, 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

Good Friday, April 19th: *Remember Me*, Luke 23:39–43

Easter Day, April 21st: *Remember Jesus Risen*, 2 Timothy 2:8, 11

8th Grade Confirmation

Oral Exam – Friday, May 3rd

Confirmation Sunday Service – Sunday, May 5th

Many thanks to St. Paul's mentors and parents for helping make our Confirmands ready for this day

Give thanks to God for all mother-figures on Mother's Day – Sunday, May 12th

Preschool Sunday and High School Graduate Recognition – Sunday, May 19th

Finish Strong: The Story of God's Grace in Samson's Life worship series

May 19th: *God's Purpose and Promises Never Fail*

May 26th: *Unguarded Strength Becomes A Weakness*

June 2nd: *Untangling the Strands of Bitterness*

June 9th: *God's Sovereignty is Unmatched and His Gifts Irrevocable*

Movie night (PG-13) on Sunday, June 2nd starting at 4:00 PM

Description of film: *"Samson" is based on the powerful, biblical epic of a champion chosen by God to deliver Israel. His supernatural strength and impulsive decisions quickly pit him against the oppressive Philistine empire. After being betrayed by a wicked prince and a beautiful temptress, Samson is captured and blinded by his enemies. Samson calls upon his God once more for supernatural strength and turns imprisonment and blindness into final victory.*

St. Paul's Vacation Bible School: *Miraculous Mission*, the mornings of June 10th – 14th

Give thanks to God for all father-figures on Father's Day – Sunday, May 16th

Installation of Felicia Salgado as St. Paul's official Commissioned DCE – Sunday, July 7th

St. Paul's youth and mentors leave for the National Youth Gathering, July 10th, returning on July 17th

A Time of Prayer – TBD in July

Thank you each for all that you do in service to our Savior, and praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

**Official Acts
1st Quarter 2019**

Baptisms
Jaida Terry
Gavin Morgan

Joined by Adult Confirmation
Sarah Ridlon

Joined by transfer
Tim Yopek

Removed from Membership by transfer to another LCMS congregation
Douglas Ann Livingston

**Elder Team
Report to Voters April 28, 2019**

This quarter's Elder activities:

- We are working through a Security Plan for St Paul's that is workable and doesn't use too many resources. Details will be presented once a completed plan is ready for the Vestry to review.
- I have asked Sue Bosco to re-shuffle the Mini-Flock lists for the Elders. Our emphasis will be to do quarterly calls and make sure all are doing well.
- Monthly Prayer Request lists are being worked to ensure we are reaching out to the congregation. This also helps the Elders define who has moved away or left for another church.
- I would like to thank the Vestry and Elders for their support of Operation Barnabas activities.
- We are building a Wall of Honor to display pictures of Military personnel and First Responders who are members of St Paul's. This will include a 5 x 7 photo of current members and past members. So you need to look through your photos and get them to Chris Covington before 15 May.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your Lead Elder.

John Covington

Education Team

Report to Voters April 28, 2019

Preschool

Accreditation team was on site April 11th and 12th
Summer/Fall registration is underway
Special thanks to all who helped with the cleanup day

Elementary

Sunday School opening for K-12 are going well
Kids have enjoyed the puppet ministry

Middle School

Banner-making for confirmands is Sunday April 28th
Oral questioning is Friday May 3rd
Confirmation is Sunday May 5th
All congregation is encouraged to attend

High School

Fund raising for the National Youth Gathering is ongoing
A bake sale was held on April 7th
Egging of yards was for Easter is April 20th
High School assisted the elders with Easter Breakfast finger foods
National Youth Gathering is July 10-17; 10 youth and 4 adults are attending

Adult Ed

Pastor began the Pathway to Membership in January which finishes up this month
Guest presenter Larry Franks presented *Parental Guidance Required* through March
Jerry Alldredge & Jimmy Mueller presented *Becoming a Contagious Christian* on Sundays and Wednesdays
Mike Widmar led a class on the Holy Spirit on Wednesdays
Looking Ahead
Michael McRae continues with Exodus and Rich Maschke and L J Alvis continues with Colossians & Philemon on Sundays.
Felicia Salgado leads a women's Bible study on Wednesday mornings
A new group for Young Adults post-high school through 29 has been organized.

FaithLinks

Board of Ed hosted the final dinner for FaithLinks April 24th; burgers and hotdogs were served and the kids enjoyed a bounce house; thanks to all groups who prepare and served our meals through the year and thanks to our Bible study and activity leaders for all our age groups.

VBS

June 10th -14th *Miraculous Mission* 9:30 to 12:00 each day
Boys and Girls Club & Preschool will attend

DCE Intern

Felicia's internship ends on June 30 and, with a Divine Call from St.Paul's, she will begin full-time ministry on July 1 as our Director of Family Life Ministry.

Trustees

Report to Voters April 28, 2019

Projects Completed

- Installed drainage system at bell tower
- Completed landscaping around Church Office Wing
- Installed attic shelving by volunteers
- Initiated repairs to existing church van instead of replacing

Upcoming Plans

- Recruiting church members with pressure washers to organize efforts to clean the church exterior
- Investigating options to replace bushes along back alley – looking for input from congregation
- Investigating additional energy savings via outside company recommendations (1-2 years)
- Researching Sanctuary roof for replacement (2-5 years)

Outreach Team

Report to Voters April 28, 2019

Overall Plans for the next two quarters:

The following focuses on neighborhood, Preschool, Boys & Girls Club kids and parents:

- 1) Basketball, dodge ball, or kick ball in the ARC
 - 2) Other activities in the ARC such as paper airplane contest, arts, and crafts, etc.
- 43 Saturday Kids Club

Calendar of Events:

- 13 Apr - Jumpin' Jammie Jubilee from 1 - 3 PM (in the ARC)
- 11 May - Kids Club
- 2 June - Samson Movie Night
- 10 June - VBS (with Education Team)

In Christ,
Pedro Santaliz