



EPISTLE

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

What's in this months issue:

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Pastors Page

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During these times when we are apart, I truly miss being with you. I rejoice that we are able to worship together in the parking lot each Sunday, now during two different times. To look out and see your faces, to hear the responses of the liturgy and to greet you as you drive by at the conclusion of worship, this is all life giving for me.

In the coming weeks, I will be doing more social distancing with you, but we must not let down our guard. We are all clamoring for more, but the 'more' may be dangerous to ourselves and others. On Wednesdays, those of us with computers are invited to 'meet' weekly. Read more about that later in the Epistle.

We remain the Church, the body of Christ. In the remainder of the Epistle, read of how we are seeking to be Church in new ways.

In Christ,
Pastor Frank Kauzlarich

CHURCH COUNCIL

- Betty Eisenhauer, (920 area code)
President & Task Force Member: 493-0631
- Tom Prohl, Vice President: (715) 459-4914
- Greg Ehlke, Treasurer: 868-1092
- Dave DeCock,
Secretary and Task Force Member: 868-1917
- Catty Mestek: (262) 470-9754
- Karen Peterson: 868-2928
- Frank Kauzlarich,
Pastor and Task Force Member: 217-0204



RETURN TO WORSHIP PLAN -- UPDATE

It has nearly been five weeks since members received the RETURN TO WORSHIP & FUNCTION PLAN; which identified how Saint Paul will progress through the phases of the COVID-19 pandemic. To progress from one phase to the next, criteria needs to be achieved showing a clear downward trajectory in the number of reported symptoms, confirmed cases and/or positive tests for two consecutive weeks. With the number of Door County residents with COVID-19 symptoms or diagnosis increasing from 50 on July 1 to 81 on July 27, data from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services supports that we continue to remain at the "Pre-Phase One" or Safer at Home step of our Return to Worship & Function Plan.

Patience and love for our families, friends, and neighbors, still remain our guidelines.

Dave DeCock, Betty Eisenhauer, Pastor Frank Kauzlarich. Council COVID Response Task Force

SUNDAY WORSHIP

We continue to post Sunday worship on our website, on Facebook and YouTube. We recently added an 8:30 a.m. Drive In Worship time to our Noon time. Holy Communion is offered during both times. We are in need of Holy Communion distributors. If you wish to serve, please contact the Church Office 868-2826.

In case of extreme inclement weather, we will post cancellations on our Facebook page OR you may call us if you have any questions 217-0204. Know we will not be deterred from a little rain and wind!

PRAYER SHAWLS

Friends and members of St. Paul have lovingly created prayer shawls for distribution to those in need of the loving embrace of God. Please contact the church office to obtain one for sharing or to have one delivered.

MEN'S BIBLE

The St. Paul Men's Bible Study continues to meet using Zoom, on Friday's at 8:30 am. For information on how to connect, please contact Gary Jones at gary.jones09@gmail.com or 651-271-9094.



WOMAN'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP

The Women's Spiritual Growth Group meets on Thursdays from 9-11 either via Zoom or at St. Paul (depending on the phase of the pandemic). We are currently in our summer break session. Beginning in September, we will start up again for our fall session. The content will depend on our ability to safely meet face-to-face. Minimally, we will be meeting via Zoom starting Thursday, September 10. Be watching for more information-August. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Debbie Jones at (651) 328-1261 OR debbie.jones.pmp@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

We meet the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM. If you wish to be a part of these monthly Zoom calls, please contact the Church Office in advance 868-2826.



DEVOTIONS ON ZOOM

This is where there will be a change. Monday devotions are being eliminated. Wednesday Devotions will be taking a new form. Devotions will be offered on Wednesdays on ZOOM at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. They will be interactive. Each Monday morning you will receive an email blast explaining to you how to take part on Wednesday. It is hoped that those with computers will be able to share life around the Word and connect with each other.

SUNDAY DEVOTIONS AND DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These will continue to be emailed to you, and if you do not have a computer, they will continue to be mailed to you.

PASTORAL CARE

Please let Pastor Frank know if you have need. He can be reached at all times (920) 217-0204.



CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE.

This devotional and this magazine continue to be available upon request.

FINANCIAL OFFERING

Your financial support of our shared ministry continues to be crucial. Please see the report of our Treasurer Greg Ehlke in this edition of The Epistle. Offerings may be given on Sundays at the conclusion of Drive In Worship, via mail or online.

LOOKING TO THE FALL

We continue to look at all possibilities for our worship life and ministry as we move forward in time.

DO YOU HAVE A FINANCIAL NEED, WE HAVE AN URGENT NEED FUND

This fund is available to those who have urgent needs in areas such as payment of rent, fuel bills, food and health bills. If you have, contact Pastor Frank at 217-0204.

COMMUNICATION CONTINUES TO BE A TOP PRIORITY

If you believe we have incorrect contact information for you, please contact the Church Office 868-2825.

TASK FORCE

A task force of Betty Eisenhower, Dave DeCock and Pastor Frank continues to talk regularly and review the grid we mailed to you about a month ago, discussing where we are concerning our appropriate activity level. They continue to be led by good science with the goal of keeping all safe. They advise the Church Council.



FOOD PANTRIES NEED OUR HELP

Food is always being received at Saint Paul which is dispersed to local food pantries.

We join with others to feed those in need!

Thank you Doreen Holt for sharing your musical gifts during Sunday worship each week!

Chris continues to clean and detail the Church: He recently washed the Church's exterior with a high powered water sprayer and the results are WONDERFUL!

Thank you Chris!

Attention to cosmetic detail can also be attributed to Jerry and Linda; for their untold hours in keeping the Church's landscape in pristine shape!

Thank you Jerry & Linda!



OFFERINGS

Now, more than ever, the ministry of Saint Paul Lutheran Church needs your support. Financial offerings to the ministry can be sent through the mail or electronically.

Sending by mail:

Address your gift to Saint Paul Lutheran Church at:
4167 Juddville Rd. Fish Creek, WI 54212

Sending electronically:

Electronic giving can be done by clicking the blue button labeled "give online" located at the bottom of this email OR by logging onto our website, where the same button is found at the bottom left of our web page. Thank you for responding to the Lord through our shared ministry. Our website:

www.stpaul Lutheranjuddville.360unite.com



SEPTIC/SHED UPDATE

They're breaking ground today, 7-29-2020!

The rumbling sound of progress can be felt throughout the grounds, as the workers begin the installation of the septic system.

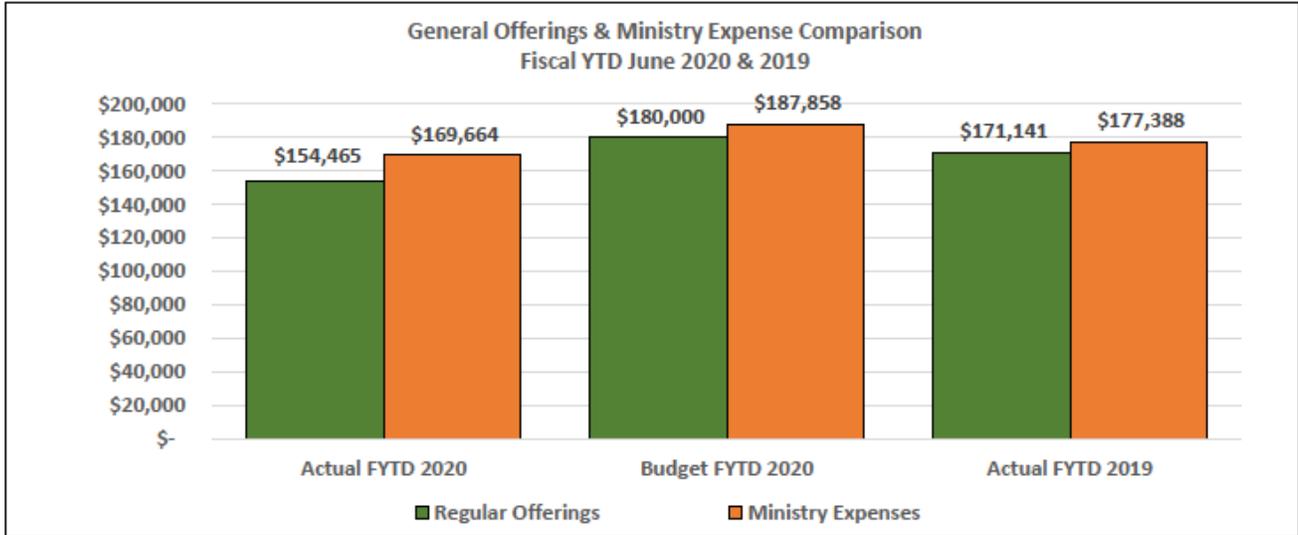
During this time, it is required for all of us not to use the toilets—yet.

Therefore, our restrooms are *temporarily closed*.

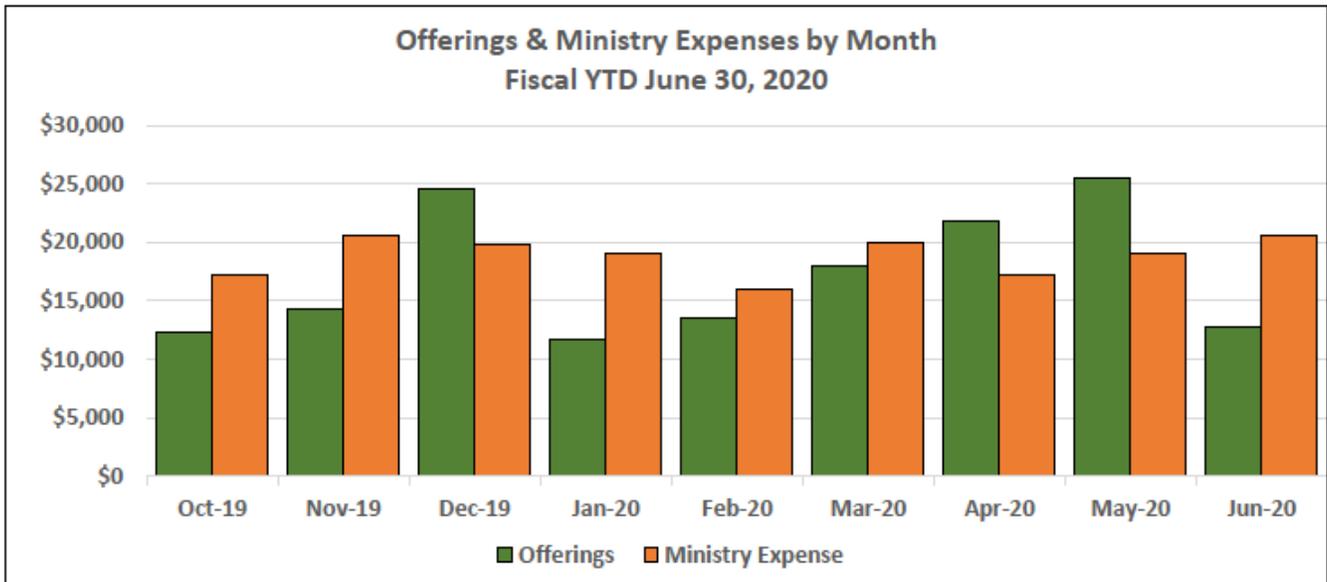
Follow the development on our website and Facebook page, as Patrick will be uploading the latest content!



FINANCIAL REPORTS



- FYTD = Fiscal Year-to-Date. St. Paul Lutheran’s fiscal year begins on 01-Oct.
- The 2019-20 fiscal full year budget is \$240,000. Nine months (i.e., three-fourths) of the fiscal year were completed as of June month-end.
- Regular Offerings for the current year-to-date fiscal year are lower than the prior year-to-date period by \$16,676 (or 9.7%) and less than budgeted.
- Year-to-date Ministry Expenses were lower than budgeted and also lower than the prior year period principally due to the prior year installation of the ductless heating and ventilation system in the Fellowship Hall and prior year college scholarships that were funded from general funds.
- On-site weekly worship services in the sanctuary have been suspended subsequent to 15-Mar-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



- FYTD = Fiscal Year-to-Date. St. Paul Lutheran’s fiscal year begins on 01-Oct.
- With the exception of December, April and May, Offerings were lower than Ministry Expenses in the other six months of the current fiscal year.
- Offerings of \$12,735 were lower than Ministry Expenses of \$20,632 in June.
- Weekly on-site services in the sanctuary have been suspended since 15-Mar-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

August 2020



WEEK #	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
31	July 26	July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30	July 31 8:30am Men's Bible Study	1
32	2 8:30 & Noon Drive-in worship with Holy Communion. Online worship video*	3	4	5 9:30AM & 6:30PM Zoom Devotions	6	7 8:30am Men's Bible Study	8
33	9 8:30 & Noon Drive-in worship with Holy Communion. Online worship video*	10	11	12 9:30AM & 6:30PM Zoom Devotions	13	14 8:30am Men's Bible Study	15
34	16 8:30 & Noon Drive-in worship with Holy Communion. Online worship video*	17	18	19 9:30am Zoom devotions. 6:30pm Church Council Zoom Meeting	20	21 Epistle News Deadline 8:30am Men's Bible Study	22
35	23 8:30 & Noon Drive-in worship with Holy Communion. Online worship video*	24	25	26 9:30AM & 6:30PM Zoom Devotions	27	28 8:30am Men's Bible Study	29
36	30 8:30 & Noon Drive-in worship with Holy Communion. Online worship video*	31	September 1	September 2 9:30AM & 6:30PM Zoom Devotions	September 3	September 4 8:30am Men's Bible Study	Sep. 5

* These videos are uploaded and available for viewing on Saint Paul's website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 15, 2020**

Mission: St. Paul Lutheran Church is a welcoming family bringing Christ into people's lives by developing, nurturing and supporting disciples.

Council Members Present: Betty Eisenhauer, Tom Prohl, Dave DeCock, Greg Ehlke, Karen Peterson, Kathy Mestek and Pastor Frank *(all attending via Zoom given COVID-19 pandemic social distancing)*

Meeting Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Betty Eisenhauer at 6:33 P.M.

Devotions

Pastor Frank provided an opening devotion and a prayer.

Agenda Approval

The previously circulated agenda was reviewed and accepted.

Record of Electronic Business Approval

Betty reported that there were no Church Council approvals obtained by electronic means since the prior Council meeting on June 17, 2020.

Minutes

The previously circulated minutes from the June 17, 2020 meeting, following a motion made by Tom Prohl and seconded by Karen Peterson, were approved.

Pastor's Report

Pastor provided a report on various matters. These included:

- Patrick Cain and Mark Kauzlarich are working on revising and updating the St. Paul web site including a shorter domain name www.stpauljuddville.com. Pastor recommended that Patrick and Mark meet with the Communications ministry as the next step to obtain their input and guidance concerning final implementation of the new web site.
- A representative from Connecting Point conducted a review of possible installation of a projection system in the sanctuary. The representative did not think installation of a projection system to replace one-time use of paper bulletins after worship services resume in the sanctuary was cost-effective. Pastor Frank agrees with this assessment and purchase of the system will no longer be pursued.

- Pastor received strong positive feedback on the recent correspondence with our members. This included the resumed monthly Epistle, the mailing of the grid detailing the path to resumption of worship services in the sanctuary and other church activities, and the Pastor's letter which accompanied mailing of the 2020 first six months' contribution summaries.
- Our Administrative Assistant, Patrick Cain, intends to fully meet his commitment to serve St. Paul at least through his one-year anniversary in early October. Pastor believes it would be prudent to begin planning for a potential successor, with similar skills Patrick possesses that have been important during this pandemic period, should Patrick decide to further his career elsewhere following his one-year employment with us. Council also supports Pastor and Betty entering into a discussion with Patrick to learn if he could be retained for a longer period of time.
- The Synod Assembly, scheduled for September 25-26th, is now expected to be held remotely. This experience should prove helpful in helping us to plan for our Annual Congregation Meeting in October. Pastor will continue to consult with the ELCA concerning details that need to be addressed in holding annual congregational meetings remotely (e.g., voting requirements using Zoom as the meeting platform).

Third Quarter Local Benevolences

Karen Peterson reported that the Benevolence Committee had met virtually and recommended that the Church Council approve their 3Q'20 local benevolence recommendation that \$3,000 be provided to the Door County Emergency Response Fund. Karen noted the fund was established by the Door County Community Foundation and the United Way of Door County in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and, to date, have distributed over \$200,000. After discussion, upon motion by Karen and seconded by Tom, the distribution of \$3,000 to the Door County Emergency Response Fund was unanimously approved.

Drive-In Worship Times

Karen Peterson observed that the Sunday drive-in worship services, which begin at 12:00 P.M., have been very successful. She noted that during the summer months this timing may be inconvenient for some attendees who work or otherwise have mid-day commitments. A discussion ensued. It was agreed that a second weekly drive-in worship service will be held each Sunday at 8:30 A.M. beginning on July 26th. Pastor noted that two communion assistants will also be needed before each service, using established safety protocols, to hand out the pre-packaged communion elements to worshippers in their vehicles as they drive into the parking lot. Pastor requested the Worship & Music ministry ensure two communion assistants were assigned each week to hand out the communion elements.

Septic System Update

Tom Prohl provided an update on the septic system replacement and new storage shed project. The contractor, Reinhardt Plumbing, has not been on-site to date but is expected to begin work on the new septic system in the near future.

Letter from Ron Halverson

Tom provided the Council with a summary of a letter received from Ron Halverson concerning an offer for the donation of a new lawn mower to maintain the cemetery and church grounds. It was noted that the lawn mower used to cut the grass was several years old, but still functional. A discussion followed. The consensus was that the gracious offer should be politely declined.

Church Mutual Tour Report and Purchase of Hand Sanitizers

- Tom provided an update on the premises walk-through performed by the Church Mutual representative concerning pandemic planning at St. Paul Lutheran. The general sense was that our congregation's pandemic planning, including the distribution of the grid detailing potential re-opening plans and requirements, was appropriate and consistent with our insurance coverage. There was a recommendation that our exit sign batteries be changed and that training be provided for the AED equipment maintained on the premises.
- Tom also detailed plans to purchase eight additional hand sanitizer stands at a cost of approximately \$1,500, rather than relying on hand pump sanitizers on various tables throughout the building. The Council concurred with this planned purchase which did not require any additional approval to proceed.

Financial Report:

- Greg Ehlke reported that contribution summaries for the First Half of 2020, along with an accompanying letter from Pastor, were mailed to 137 donors in the prior week
- The financial summary for June 2020, presented by Greg Ehlke, highlighted that Offerings for the month approximated \$12,700 and Ministry expenses approximated \$20,600. He noted that June 2020 Offerings were approximately \$20,000 lower than in May 2019 due, in part, to a member's Challenge Match in the prior year period and that Ministry Expenses were approximately \$2,800 higher than the comparable prior year month.
- Offerings in the nine months of the fiscal year were approximately \$154,500, which was \$16,800 lower than the comparable prior year period. Total Ministry Expenses for the months of October 2019 – June 2020 totaled approximately \$169,700, which was \$7,700 lower than the comparable prior year period. The fiscal year-to-date Net Loss excluding Dedicated Funds and Endowment-related activity was approximately \$14,500.
- The Financial report was approved by the Council pursuant to a motion made by Dave and seconded by Tom.
- A copy of the June 2020 Financial Summary was ordered to be uploaded to the members' section of the St. Paul web site and that a copy of the financial statements and schedules provided to the Council be filed with the records of the meeting.

SBA PPP Loan Update

The Treasurer provided the Council with a summary of salary, wages and utilities expenditures made consistent with the SBA PPP loan proceeds through June 30, 2020. He noted that the eight-week period for potential loan forgiveness expired on July 7th and that a formal summary of expenditures made through that date would be provided at the next Council meeting. A determination will also be made at a later date as to whether to use the original eight-week period specified under the Paycheck Protection Program or the alternatively permitted 24-week period subsequently authorized under the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 for potential loan forgiveness.

A discussion ensued concerning the payment of full salaries and wages to all employees. Upon motion, made by Greg and seconded by Dave, the Council unanimously approved the continuation of full wage and salary payments to all employees (Administrative Assistant, Choir Director, Custodian, Musicians, and Pastor) through the end of the current fiscal year, notwithstanding the inability of certain staff or musicians to work on-site during this pandemic period.

Corporate Credit Card for Church

Greg reported that the possible need for a corporate credit card had been raised and that our Financial Secretary, Shawn Mathys, had followed up with Nicolet National Bank, our principal bank, and learned that a church credit card is an option and that she also shared details of the application process. Greg noted that a strong policy identifying the system of internal control and timely review of authorized usage would be established if the Council wished to obtain such a credit card for use by specified Council members, the Pastor or any authorized member.

- After discussion, upon motion, made by Pastor Frank and seconded by Dave, the acquisition of a Nicolet Business Credit Card with a credit limit of \$10,000 from Nicolet National Bank was approved.

Preparation of 2020-21 Fiscal Year Budget

Greg noted the budget needed to be finalized by early October and that the coming year's budget may be impacted by the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and the form of future weekly services. He indicated that, for planning purposes, schedules of fiscal year-to-date expenses versus the current full year budget amounts would be distributed to the Council before the end of July to enable members to begin to fill in preliminary 2020-21 budget amounts by the next Council meeting in August.

Nominating Committee for Council Members Update & Endowment Committee

Dave reported on progress to date in the process for identifying and recommending potential Council membership in the coming year. To date, four potential names are under consideration and additional candidates would also be appreciated. Betty will contact John Hermann to discuss membership on the Endowment Committee.

Adjournment:

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 P.M. with the praying of The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, 2020; 6:30 P.M. either by teleconference or Zoom; Tom will provide devotions.

Respectfully,
Dave DeCock, Secretary