



Monthly Minutes

A publication of the boards and committees of St. Paul's.

January 2020

Congregational President

Todd Marten: president@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
Cell: 920.980.9068

Recording Secretary

Kevin Reinemann:
recording.secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

Treasurer

Jim Van Alstine
treasurer@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

Financial Secretary

Joseph Balge: josephbalge@hotmail.com

These four positions comprise the executive committee (or board of officers) of St. Paul's. Each position is accountable to the Council and the voters/congregation.

The president oversees activity of the budget, facilitates meetings, sees to the timely completion of business, and helps coordinate the congregation's work.

The recording secretary signs all deeds, contracts, official documents, and call documents, keeps the voting membership roster, and records and maintains minutes of Council and congregational meetings.

The treasurer pays all bills in a timely manner, provides monthly reports of financial activity to Council and to respective committees, quarterly reports to the voters, assists with the development of the budget, and oversees tax documentation for St. Paul's and workers.

The financial secretary oversees the counting, the counters, and the deposits of all financial contributions to the congregation. This person is responsible for submitting a report to the treasurer, and reporting these weekly to the congregation.

Elders Chairman

Kevin Mueller: hawkeye034@gmail.com

The board of Elders exists to administer to the spiritual life of the congregation under the leadership of the pastors. The elders work for spreading the gospel both within and without the congregation. This includes seeking the straying, maintaining visits to the shut-in, disciplinary measures where necessary, tending to the pastors'/teachers' spiritual and physical health, encouraging Bible studies, and overseeing worship services/ushers.

Board of Education Chairman

Dan Radue: bndan@bitter-neumann.net

The board of Ed oversees the teaching staff, curriculum, needs, and education of our Lutheran Elementary School.

Stewardship Chairman

Trever Athorp: ctathorp@tds.net

This group welcomes and interviews new members to our congregation, maintains time & talents information, encourages congregational involvement, and plans various congregational events & outings.

Trustees Chairman

Karl Leverenz: karl74.kl@gmail.com

The trustees manage the entire property, buildings, and grounds of St. Paul's. They coordinate routine maintenance, inspections, and recommend projects to the Council/voters.



Evangelism Committee

Nick Schmidt: nschmidt0613@gmail.com

The evangelism committee seeks to share the word with our community. It oversees the Car Show and Great Exchange events, and helps with publicity for the Living Nativity. Often the group develops materials for brochures, flyers, or postcards. It distributes these to our community. In the Silver Dollar Days Parade, the group assists with walking and advertising our church. There is also an online role with the St. Paul's website as well as advertising or promoting through Facebook or other social media.

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry: Pastor Bode
Cell: 920.224.2961

Youth Group

Mike Leahy: mleahy@live.com
Cell: 920.422.0771

Sunday School Superintendent

Craig Schuenemann: craig.schuenemann@yahoo.com
Youth Ministry oversees the Sunday School and Sunday School teachers, Cradle Roll, Mindful Moms, Boy and Girl Pioneers, and Youth Group.

A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...

Shirley	Brooks	Feb 1	Crystal	Becker	Feb 8	Evan	Meyer	Feb 21
Stephanie	Damrow	Feb 1	Zachary	Stauss	Feb 8	Courtney	Athorp	Feb 21
Elise	Mueller	Feb 2	Katie	Schuenemann	Feb 8	Ashley	Sixel	Feb 22
Kevin	Reinemann	Feb 2	Mollie	Hermann	Feb 9	Allen	Kraemer	Feb 23
Larry	Schomberg	Feb 2	Olivia	Quast	Feb 11	Hailey	Boenisch	Feb 24
Garry	Schomberg	Feb 2	James	Truttschel	Feb 11	Pamela	Braatz	Feb 24
Megan	Cook	Feb 3	Luke	Clappes	Feb 11	Steve	Strassburg	Feb 24
Allyson	Rebholz	Feb 3	Janice	Hoppe	Feb 16	Aurora	Bode	Feb 24
Lisa	Specht	Feb 5	Brandon	Heilman	Feb 16	Cora Ann	Zarling	Feb 25
Joan	Wehrmann	Feb 5	Lyle	Reinemann	Feb 17	Aaron	Maass	Feb 25
Cody	Trochta	Feb 6	Rebecca	Meyer	Feb 20	Glenn	Dieball	Feb 26
Elizabeth	Theobald	Feb 6	Lynette	Maass	Feb 20	Mary	Athorp	Feb 26
Melissa	Hahn	Feb 8	Logan	Schroeder	Feb 21	Judy	Ramey	Feb 27
						Jim	Stromski	Feb 27

Happy Anniversary to...

Max & Lindsey Scheuer Feb 25

**If you have a birthday or anniversary and it is not listed or listed incorrectly, we apologize. Please let us know so we can update your information.
Thank You!**



**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2019**

Attendees: Pastor Bode, Pastor Mueller, Todd Marten, Chad Marohn, Kevin Mueller, Joey Balge, Jim Van Alstine, Bill Reichardt, John Marten, Dan Radue, Trever Athorp, Nick Schmidt, Ed Strauss, Corey Schroeder and Kevin Reinemann.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Todd Marten. Pastor Mueller opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.

The Secretary's minutes from the December Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes as presented.

Membership Action:

Transfer In: Stan & Jill Grzonka

Transfer Out: John & Chris Koppelman
Zac Johnson

Profession of Faith: Henry & Linda Verfueth

Release:

1. Travis Schnelle

Death:

Baptism:

Current membership: Communicants: 695
Children/Other: 167

Total 862

A motion was made seconded, and carried to approve all membership action.

Reports:

Pastor Report – Pastor Bode reported that he is currently working to plan worship services for 2020. Family visits slowed during December but will resume in January/February. Pastor also reported that much positive feedback has been received on Christmas at St. Paul's. 705 people attended. Some points to consider are ways to provide more space in the parking lot, ways to make entry into the gym less congested prior to the service, and a plan to provide more efficient exit following the service. Other considerations include whether the 90-minute service is too long for the younger kids or if 2 services would alleviate many of the concerns.

Pastor Mueller continues to visit shut-ins as well as continue with family and delinquent visits. He will also help plan the worship schedule for 2020.

Elders Report – In addition to the comments provided in the Pastors' Report about Christmas at St. Paul's, the Elders have received feedback about concerns that the emergency exits were blocked as well as concerns the crowd likely exceeded the capacity of the gym. General feedback concluded that in order to alleviate the crowding and attendance issues, it would likely require adding another service or splitting the choir concert from the children's program. The Elders will take all of this into consideration for next Christmas.

Concern regarding the security of the Called Worker gift box was expressed. The Elders will consider utilizing the locked boxes in the member's room next year.

The Giving Tree program supported at the Elder's meeting in November was not pursued any further this year.



The Elders continue to work with delinquent members.

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Principal's Report – January 10th is the end of the 2nd quarter and report cards will be sent home the following Tuesday. St. Paul's second semester mission offerings are designated to support the work being done by the Lambrecht family in China. Teachers will soon begin work on their Ministry Development Plans. This is a new requirement of the synod through the Ministerial Growth and Evaluation Process. Professional growth plans are linked to WELS teaching standards. The school continues to focus on emphasizing soft skills. A "daily focus" will be utilized during the second semester and they will also use greeters at the close of each day. The school has welcomed the Eagan family. Jake and Wendi Eagan have three children: Ellamae (2nd Grade), Lincoln (Kindergarten) and Miles (not yet of school age).

St. Paul's has declared intent to participate in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program for 2020-2021 school year.

Much focus has been placed on the accreditation visit scheduled for January 20th - 22nd. The kick-off dinner will take place on January 19th at 4:00 and will be hosted by the Oleck family..

The visiting accreditation team includes:

- Mr. Ben Washburn - Team Captain - Principal at Peace Lutheran, Hartford
- Mr. Adam Glodowski - Principal at Trinity Kiel
- Mrs. Heather Garceau - Teacher and Tech Director at Bethany, Manitowoc
- Mrs. Margaret Wentker - Retired Teacher

Board of Education —The BCE reiterated that Principal Marohn has returned the call to Emanuel in New London. The school calendar for the 2020 - 2021 school year was presented and approved by the BCE. It was determined that a Worker's Compensation policy was required for accreditation. The policy has been written and approved. The BCE has begun discussing Christmas at St. Paul's in 2020. Mr. Curia will be invited to the next BCE meeting to get involved in this discussion. Formal permission to participate in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program in 2020-2021 is required. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to continue to participate in the WPCP during the next school year.

Treasurer's Report – With the extra festival services in December, envelope contributions are now over budget by \$28,000 or 8%. School tuition, subsidy, and fees are exceeding budget by \$10,600 due to higher contributions from our sister congregations and 4K tuition. Therefore, total revenue is ahead of budget by \$35,000.

Expenses for health insurance continue to be under budget as the insurance rates did not increase as much as anticipated. Audit fees required for the School Choice program are over budget by \$7,000 due to timing of the billing for last year's audit.

The net results of the operating funds through December is a net loss of \$45,000. This is compared to the budgeted net loss of \$118,000 through 6 months. When adding in non-budgeted gifts, we show a net gain of \$58,600.

Jim VanAlstine also shared that while discussing moving the payroll to Van de Kreeke accounting, he learned they also use QuickBooks Payroll. Jim then decided that he would process payrolls directly with QuickBooks rather than utilizing an accounting firm (MLHS does this also). The result is a net savings to the cost of payroll processing of 45%.

Jim also pointed out that the support staff does an excellent job assisting the role of Treasurer.



Trustee's Report –The Trustees reported that after consulting with Terry Roehrborn, it has been determined the one man lift can no longer be repaired to meet inspection requirements. They will begin looking for a replacement.

The gym heating units have been wired and times have been set to accommodate gym usage.

The new chairs (62 chairs) and rack arrived before Christmas. The rack is assembled and chairs are loaded on the rack.

The carpet in the classrooms and hallways was sheared on January 2nd and 3rd. The trustees will now observe the condition of the carpet as we move through the rest of the school year to see how it holds up.

Dean's Electric will be on site January 10th to look at the lighting controls and to get us a bid for LED lights in the parking lot and around the outside of the church.

The Trustees did not meet in December so no further action has been taken to get a 2nd quote for rekeying the doors.

Evangelism Report – The Evangelism Committee did not meet in December. They will reconvene in January.

Stewardship Report – The Stewardship Committee did not meet in December. They will also resume meeting in January. They have continued working on biographies.

Officer's Report – We have received confirmation that the survey of the former parsonage is in the final stages and should be completed by the end of January.

WELS – The Hmong Outreach in Vietnam has reached its' goal to raise \$2 million dollars for a theological education facility in Vietnam. To date, more than 550 WELS congregations have given offerings to this campaign and 2300 individuals and groups have offered special gifts or commitments. "While we trust our Lord to lovingly provide resources for the work we do together in his name", says Rev. Kurt Lueneburg, director of WELS Christian Giving, "we marvel at how our Savior moved his people to give so quickly and generously to this unique opportunity".

Representatives from WELS, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) met in Jacksonville, Florida last week for the eighth in a series of annual informal doctrinal discussions. These are "informal" doctrinal discussions, an indication that we recognize that a restoration of fellowship is not anticipated in the near future. Rather, these meetings are intended to provide a forum that increases mutual understanding of each synod's doctrine and practice while establishing good lines of communication between the synods. Topics for this year's discussions include the doctrine of justification (with a focus on objective justification), an area in which the three synods are in complete agreement. Also discussed were the doctrines of the ministry and prayer fellowship, where some differences remain.

It has been announced that in January of 2020 the redesigned Forward in Christ will be released. The WELS Connection will also highlight these changes in the January segment. The improvements from the article should aid readers in their relationship and education with God and his saving message.

Additional points and dates:

The WELS National Conference on Lutheran Leadership in Chicago on January 21-23, 2020 has reached the maximum number of individuals and registration is closed.

The WELS District conventions will be held June 1-11, 2020. The Northern Wisconsin District meeting will be held in Appleton on June 9th and 10th.

The WELS International Youth Rally will be held June 23-26, 2020 in Knoxville, TN. St. Paul's youth have attended in the past.

The 2020 Lutherans Women' Missionary Society Convention will be held June 25-28, 2020.

Members are encouraged to visit the WELS website regularly to learn more about these and other topics.

MLHS - 3 of 5 open positions have been filled via the call process. Katie Huebner and Greg Schmidt are currently deliberating. Nathan Hochmuth has returned his call to West Lutheran High School. The MLHS Christmas Concert was held at the Capitol Civic Center on 12/20. The Spring musical is Cinderella and will be held in the middle of March.



Old Business - No old business was discussed at this time.

New Business - The following men have graciously accepted the opportunity to serve the congregation by agreeing to run for elected positions:

Trustees - Mark Eichorst, Jason Yancy, and Clark Kleinhans

Financial Secretary - Joey Balge and Matt Becker

Elders - Don Last and Eric Eickhoff

BCE - Still seeking candidates

President - Todd Marten and Jim Bilgo

Stewardship Committee - Jeremy Nesemann

It has been noted that the accreditation process requires that our constitution state that early education is represented in the title. Therefore, a motion was made to change the title of the constitution to ***St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool of Howards Grove***. *The motion to make this change was seconded and approved by the council.*

The council then held a preliminary discussion about the possibility of holding a Stewardship Campaign during 2020. The campaign would be open for no more than 2 months and would target the church's current debt.

Being no other business, a motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Reinemann



**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
Board of Education Minutes
December 18, 2019**

Pastor Bode opened with prayer and devotion

Pastor's Report: Things continue to operate smoothly and the rest of the Pastor's report has to deal with Christmas at St. Paul's.

Principal's Report: It has been a very busy December heading into the break. Staff is continuing conversations on strengths and weaknesses about the possible building addition.

Accreditation is almost complete. Everything is on the web page and there are only a few documents to get in line. Sunday, January 19th the Accreditation team will arrive to a welcome dinner prepared by Kevin Oleck. January 22nd the final report will be presented.

The recently performed Choice audit went well but also showed some minor changes needed in our processes.

New Business: Church Council has approved the Board to approach the voters about St. Paul's entering the Special Needs Scholarship Program. This will be presented to the voters at the annual meeting in January.

- Long range planning update—no final numbers have been calculated. The conversation continues to be fluid.
- Christmas at St. Paul's was successful, 705 people attended. There were many compliments and a few members offered some constructive criticism. The Board members offered a few suggestions to improve the service for the next year and overall it was a positive event.
- The preliminary school calendar for the 20-21 school year was presented. Thomas Cameron made a motion to approve the calendar, seconded by Dan Radue. The motion passed.
- St. Paul's Worker's Compensation Policy was presented. Travis Krell made a motion to approve it and it was seconded by Thomas Cameron.
- Mr. Marohn received a call to be a principal at Emanuel in New London. The school has an average attendance over 200 students with 15 full time teachers. Mr. Marohn pointed out the key points of both the calls he is holding, he hopes to have an answer on his deliberation before Christmas.

Pastor Bode closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Travis Krell

St. Paul's Church Calendar—February 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	3 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	4 6:00pm Altar Guild Meeting 6:30 pm Sunday School 7:00 pm Teachers Meeting 7:00 pm Basketball Open Gym	5 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 6:30 pm Church Council	6	7	8 9:00 am Jesus Loves Me Party (Mindful Moms)
9 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	10 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	11 7:00 pm Basketball Open Gym	12 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 5:30 pm Stewardship 6:30 pm Evangelism	13 1:30 pm Ladies Aid 2:30 pm Newsletter	14	15
16 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	17 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	18 7:00 pm Basketball Open Gym	19 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 10:00 am Comfort Givers 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 6:30 pm Board of Ed	20 7:00 pm Dartball using com- mons	21	22
23 8:00 am Worship Service 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Youth Group Meeting 10:30 am Worship Service	24 6:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Choir	25	26 8:10 am Chapel 9:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mindful Moms 4:15 pm Public School Cate- chism 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Wor- ship 6:30 pm Elders	27	28	29

St. Paul's School Calendar—February 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Pizza Assembly Day
2 8:00 am & 10:30 am Worship Gr. 5-8 (Junior Choir) Sings 9:15 am Adult Bible Study	3	4 7:00 pm Basketball Open Gym	5	6 Boys A & B Bball Practice	7 Girls A Tournament	8 Girls A Tournament
9 8:00 am & 10:30 am Worship Girls A Tournament Gr. 3-4 Sing 9:15 am Adult Bible Study	10	11 6:30pm PTF Meeting 7:00 pm Basketball Open Gym	12	13 No School - District Teachers Conf.	14 Girls B & Boys B tournament No School - District Teachers Conf.	15 Girls B & Boys B tournament
16 4K-K Sing 8:00 am & 10:30 am Worship Girls B & Boys B tournament 9:15 am Adult Bible Study	17	18 7:00 pm Basketball Open Gym	19	20	21 Boys A tournament No School - Faculty Inservice	22 Boys A tournament
23 8:00 am & 10:30 am Worship Boys A tournament 9:15 am Adult Bible Study	24	25	26	27	28	29