

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & WESLEY FOUNDATION  
APRIL 24, 2019**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Voting Members:** Jack Basiago, Steve Falke, Dave Flick, Alicia Grandy, Kelly Grimes, Jane Harris, Jim Korner, Scarlett Miller, Phil Mohr

**Non-voting Members:** Jen Gruendler, Becky McGee, Greg Milinovich

**Other Attendees:** Kathy Basiago, Ray Raker

**CALL TO ORDER:**

D. Flick called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT:**

G. Milinovich led an activity designed to help us learn how to have spiritual conversations with each other. Council members were paired and asked to have a conversation with their partner about where they had seen God at work in the past week. Following this, several members shared their experiences with the group. G. Milinovich noted that this is a skill we will continue to work on developing.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:**

G. Milinovich led a discussion on chapter 7 of "Gear Up! Nine Essential Processes for the Optimized Church" by Kay Kotan. Key issues discussed included:

- Where is St. Paul's on the congregational life cycle curve shown on page 81? Council members expressed concern that St. Paul's is on the decline side of the curve.
- The organizational chart shown on page 84, which shows that Christ is the owner of the church and people outside the church should be the first beneficiaries.
- We are called to develop real relationships with people, without an agenda. Our goal is NOT to preserve the institution.
- What is the difference between leadership and management? Leadership focuses on the vision – where are we going and how we get there – and gives people the tools they need to succeed. Management focuses on the details.
- How do we measure our effectiveness at building relationships with people outside the church?

Council will discuss chapter 8 of "Gear Up!" at the June meeting. G. Milinovich will send out a list of questions before the meeting that will guide the discussion.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes of the March 13, 2019, meeting were approved.

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT:**

B. McGee reported that due to the departure of Kevin Sikorski, she has been working closely with Mary, the financial temp, to make sure the church's financials are in order.

**SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT:**

G. Milinovich reported the following:

- Key points from the "Autopsy of a Deceased Church" book discussion at the last Council meeting are (1) we need to put more focus on praying together, (2) we need to be more aware of vital signs, (3) we need to continue to keep our vision and mission statements before us, and (4) we need to covenant together as a Council and a church.
- Regarding the General Conference decision, nothing is official yet. The Judicial Council is currently meeting; their decision is expected to be announced on April 26. He knows of one family that has left St. Paul's because of the decision; several others are thinking about it. The Susquehanna Conference will live stream a discussion on May 5. Town hall meetings have been scheduled at St. Paul's. He will attend the UMC Next Conference being held at the Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City on May 20-22.
- J. Gruendler will be leaving St. Paul's at the end of the month for a new position in Minnesota. He thanked her for her outstanding leadership of the Wesley Foundation, which has resulted in substantial growth in St. Paul's campus ministry effort.
- Due to a scheduling conflict, D. Thornton is unable to attend Council meetings on Wednesdays. G. Milinovich will send out a Doodle Poll to see if a day and time can be found for the June meeting that will accommodate everyone.

**WRITTEN REPORTS:**

J. Korner noted that the first Finance Committee Report uploaded to the St. Paul's Hub was incorrect. The report that is now on the Hub is correct. He thanked B. McGee for her assistance in preparing the report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

D. Flick announced that the Church Audit Motion, originally scheduled to be presented at tonight's meeting, will be presented at the June meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

D. Flick adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Harris, Church Council Secretary