

## January 2021 Hilltop Herald

### COVENANT SUNDAY ... JANUARY 3, 2021

While our family served as Common Global Ministry (UCC and Disciples of Christ) missionaries in India, we experienced many new traditions from the Church of South India. One of those traditions is an annual “Covenant Service” which takes place on New Year’s Day. As worshippers stand on the brink of a new year, it is deemed appropriate to ponder our life of faith by renewing our covenant with God. We often think of a new year as a time for resolutions. Perhaps we should celebrate every New Year by examining our resolve as people of faith.

As people of faith, we are bound by a covenant. The heart of the covenant found in the Hebrew Scriptures is expressed: “I shall be your God and you shall be my people.” In our baptism, we are bound as followers of Jesus Christ as his love and grace is poured over us through the symbol of water. Each time we partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion we remember and renew our covenant with God – as well as with each other. As our United Church of Christ says it, “we are bound in covenant with faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

We usually begin the new year stating that we never know what the new year might bring. If only we would have known the answer to that question on January 1, 2020! What a difficult year it has been. And even though we are not out of the woods by any stretch of the imagination, we do begin 2021 with the promise of a vaccine for COVID-19.

We begin 2021, however, knowing that whatever the new year holds, we are held firmly in the encompassing love of God. I would like to share with you a portion of the Covenant Service liturgy which we will use in our January 3 worship service.

*I am no longer my own, but yours, O God. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.*

New year blessings,  
Pastor Kurt

### THOUGHTS ON WORSHIP AND CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC

I have been reflecting about what it means to be the church and the place of worship in our lives of faith. I know that for many, Sunday morning worship is built into the very fabric of our lives. Not to gather is one of the hardest parts of this pandemic. I miss you all and know you miss each other. But, know that our worship is not tied to a time or a place. We can worship God together online and in our homes every bit as much as in our sanctuary. Let others know your presence on the worship video on Facebook, YouTube, or email by writing ‘hello’ when you join in. I do realize that many of us may not have the technology to join worship online. Are there other ways to worship? I would again offer to mail you my sermons and our worship bulletins. Perhaps you have a family member who could join you in worship by offering technology assistance.

What does it mean to be the church? To worship God is central to who we are. We worship in our common meeting and also in our fellowship, our ministry to one another, and our mission to the wider world. Being the church means caring for others both inside and outside our congregation. We have had to adapt the ways in which we support those mission outreach opportunities that are important to our congregation. It is also in that caring that we wear masks, social distance and encourage people to stay at home when they are not feeling well, may have been exposed to the virus, or are simply vulnerable to sickness. For the time being we all need to practice these safety measures. It is a concrete way to “love our neighbors as ourselves.”

As I write these reflections, I recognize the many challenges which have confronted St. Paul UCC this past year. Among those challenges is whether we should hold in-person worship or worship remotely, or a combination of both. In the early days of the pandemic, we joined most churches in suspending in-person worship. During the summer and early fall we resumed meeting together while still providing online worship services. As COVID cases began to rise again, we suspended in-person worship during the months of November and December, except for Christmas Eve. In January, we will continue to worship through on-line platforms and the re-opening of our sanctuary for in-person worship.

These decisions have been made by St. Paul UCC’s council, along with myself. Please know that these decisions are not easy to make. They involve many prayerful conversations and deliberations. They are made with concern for our church members and families, as well as to exercise leadership in our community. We will continue to follow the latest news of the pandemic as we make future decisions.

As 2021 begins there is hope on the horizon, but the year will still have its challenges. On Christmas Day our family had a virtual Christmas gift opening with our daughter and son-in-law in Cleveland, Ohio. My post on Facebook stated, “Apart but together.” That is also my prayer for St. Paul UCC. While many of us will not be able to gather in person in the foreseeable future, we remain together in Christ and in his church.

New Year Blessings,  
Pastor Kurt

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL**

I wanted to give everyone an update on Pastor Kurt’s ministry among us. When St. Paul UCC first contracted with Pastor Kurt to be our designated-transition pastor in December 2019, it was for an initial period of one year that could be extended. St. Paul UCC’s personnel committee evaluated Pastor Kurt’s performance as his contract required. That evaluation was very positive. We believe Pastor Kurt has done the very best job possible with all the obstacles that were thrown at him this past year. Both Pastor Kurt and the personnel committee had comments for improvement. On December 8, the church council voted to extend Pastor Kurt's contract for six months hoping we will be "Post Covid" by May and able to continue normal worship. We can then seek what direction St. Paul UCC wants to head and what Pastor Kurt’s relationship with our congregation will be.

Kenny Kunz, St. Paul UCC President

## **SNOW CANCELLATIONS**

The Council decided there needed to be a way to reach out to the congregation in case snow and ice would make it necessary to cancel worship service on a Sunday morning. They will contact Fox 2 News and KPLR and have it scrolled across the bottom of their broadcast along with whatever other cancellations they may have. This information will also be posted on our church’s Facebook page.

## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday, 9 am to noon and other hours as arranged.

## **2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

The boxes of church offering envelopes for 2021 on the table. If you are not using offering envelopes at the present time but would like to receive a box, please let the office know. Your numbers are the same as last year.

Please contact the office if you would like a Sunday School box of envelopes.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Paul UCC is asked to please call the church office at 486-5525 or speak with the pastor so a date can be set up to receive you into our church family.

## **ST. PAUL MAIL**

Please be sure to send your mail to the church to **P.O. Box 352**, rather than our street address. The post office will not deliver to the street address.

## **WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE**

December 24  
3:00 - 53  
6:00 - 41  
9:00 - 14  
Total - 108

## **CALENDAR**

All events are tentative, due to Covid. We will post any necessary cancellations on our Facebook page.

- In-person Sunday worship resumes beginning January 3 at 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday School is resuming at 9:00 a.m. Sundays. However, we will not be having the Celebration Worship on the first Sunday of the month at this time.
- Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

## **PRAYER LIST**

*Please keep the following persons in your prayers:* Angie Scheidegger, Elizabeth Klemme, Bob Soetebier, Lyndon Ruediger, Carol Collins, Rose Faes, Donna Erfling, Tim Hackmann, Mary Korman, Kate Engemann, Kenny Black, Jim Oncken, Marilyn Rethemeyer, Sharon Elliott, Jim & Marilyn Buchholz, Thelma Kattelman, Tierra Schlitt, Mary Fritz, Robert Buesking, Skylar Favor, Melvin Propst, Truman Eikermann, Harvey Lalk, Maura Winkelmann, staff and residents of area nursing homes and Victorian Place, the staff & students at Hermann Schools and a friend of a member who has bone cancer.

## **MEMORIALS**

### *Current Fund*

In memory of Melvin Berkemeyer

Donation to Valley Hope Rehab Center in memory of Willard (Wiff) Kotthoff

### *Choir Fund*

In memory of Willard (Wiff) Kotthoff

Donation to St. George Church in memory of Willard (Wiff) Kotthoff

Donation to Valley Hope Rehab Center in memory of Willard (Wiff) Kotthoff

### *Handbell Fund*

Donation to Choir Fund in memory of Willard (Wiff) Kotthoff

## **CHRISTMAS MONETARY GIFTS**

Thank you to everyone for their memorials and gifts for this Christmas season

### Current Fund

*In memory of William Tilly, Brian Tilly, & Viola Koeller*

Shirley Tilly & Family

*In memory of Ed Bickmeyer*

Eleanor Bickmeyer

*In memory of Kay, Curtis & Anika Bohl*

Robert Bohl

*In memory of their parents*

Brad & Chery Fricke

*In memory of Edmund Bickmeyer*

Scott & Diane Witthaus and Jill & Seth Witthaus

*In memory of Leon James Held & James Richard Held*

Betty Ann Held

### Handbell Fund

*In memory of their parents*

John & Nancy Bartel

*In memory of Robert Grannemann & Glenda Kraettli*

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Grannemann Jr.

### Choir Fund

*In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Grannemann Sr., & Mr. & Mrs. Austin Kirchner*

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Grannemann, Jr.

*In memory of Willard (Wiff) Kotthoff*

Laverne Wagner

*In memory of B. A. Wagner*

Laverne Wagner

## **BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS**

At our blood drive on December 7, 45 donors presented, with 39 units collected. Thank you to all who donated and thanks to Sharen Speckhals for coordinating the drive.

## **NURSING HOME & SHUT-INS**

St. Paul members and friends who are residents of Victorian Place, Frene Valley of Hermann Stonebridge, and other shut-ins may enjoy a call or a card. If you know of someone living at home, in a care facility, or a caregiver who needs a church member to call or visit, please contact the church office so that we can reach out to them.

The Nurturing Committee; Church Office - 486-5525.

## **VICTORIAN PLACE (2120 Village Lane)**

Janet Mueller 573-486-5857

Truman Eikermann

Georgia Jordan 573-680-7687

Thelma Kattelman 573-486-5650

LaVerne Wagner-Suite 1314; 573-486-2282

## **FRENE VALLEY OF HERMANN STONEBRIDGE**

Sally Confer, Forrest Koeller, Homer Roney Jr., Delores Smith

## **HOME BOUND**

Frank Struttmann (Mary), 208 Main St., McKittrick, MO 486-2904

Carol (Grannemann) Collins, 31467 State, Hwy. Y, Jonesburg, MO 636-488-3166

Delores Huxol, 425 West 8<sup>th</sup> St., Hermann 486-245

Darrell & Betty Reinhardt, 30091 State Hwy. 94, Hermann 486-2469

June Faerber, 411 Stark Blvd., Hermann. 486-3684

Joe Hart (Janet), 117 Hwy. K, Rhineland 573-252-4766

## **SYMPATHIES**

Our sympathy to Shirley Berkemeyer, and the family and friends of Melvin Berkemeyer.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Wiff Kotthoff, who passed away recently, especially his wife LaNette and their children, Kirby and wife Michelle, Chris and wife Jill, and Julie and husband Mike Ruediger; and his mother-in-law, LaVerne Wagner, grandchildren and many other relatives.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Diane Lionberger, who passed away recently, especially her sister Marcella Knehans and many other relatives.

Our sympathy to Annette and Gilbert Witthaus on the passing of her mother, Georgia Ann Rohlfing, in December. Other survivors include her husband Lloyd, two sons, Rodger and wife Linda, and Mark and wife Shirley; grandchildren and other relatives.

Our sympathy to Richard & Mona Schaefer on the passing of his mother, Leona Meyer.

Our sympathy to family and friends of Dana Cebulak, especially her aunt Mary Leeper.

## **FUNERALS**

Melvin E. Berkemeyer passed away Thursday, December 17, 2020, at his home. Melvin was born in Owensville on April 25, 1936, the son of the late Louis & Lena (Huebner) Berkemeyer. He and Shirley Koch were united in marriage on June 5, 1965 at Zion-St. Paul UCC, Bay, MO. Melvin was a member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Hermann, where he had served on the church council. He served in the U.S. Army from 1959-1961. Melvin is survived by his wife, Shirley, a daughter, Renee Barton & husband Dustin, of Hermann; and by three grandsons, Dillon Stiers and Collin and Evan Marinaccio, all of Hermann. He is preceded in death by his parents, a brother Marvin Berkemeyer and a nephew Steven Koch. Services were held at Toedtmann & Grosse Funeral Home in Hermann with Rev. Kurt Schaller Blaufuss officiating.

## **FOOD PANTRY**

St. Paul UCC members are asked to bring food items for the community food pantry and place them near the church office. January requests: desserts, paper towels, and bathroom tissue. Monetary gifts are always welcome.

## **SAMARITAN OUTREACH**

Anyone who is in need of assistance may call Samaritan Outreach at 573-569-2082. It operates under the direction of the Hermann Area Ministerial Alliance. The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering of each month is designated for Samaritan Outreach.

## **VILLAGE MARKET RECEIPTS**

Please save your receipts from Village Market and place them in the boxes on the tables. The church receives a 1% rebate for them.

## BENEVOLENCES INCOME

As of December 31, 2020, the following organizations have received directed benevolences:

One Great Hour of Share	\$712.17	CWS/Blankets	\$235.00
Every Child's Hope	\$1,275.00	Veterans of the Cross	\$100
Food Pantry	\$3,005.63	Colvin Mission	\$165.00
Neighbors In Need	\$158.00	Scouts	\$38.45
School	\$990.42	CASA	\$173.28
Emmaus Homes	\$140.00	Riverbluff Industries	\$250.65
Camp MoVal	\$379.00	Birthright	\$69.04
Conference	\$108.00	School Back Pack Program	\$250.00
Samaritan Outreach	\$547.05		
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$8,596.69</b>	

Note: \$2117.64 of this total was collected in the Monthly Benevolence collection cups and has been added to the chosen benevolence listed above.

## ON-LINE GIVING

On-line giving can make a big difference at St. Paul Church UCC as COVID-19 remains a concern. We still need your financial support to continue our ministry. We prayerfully invite you to use eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

- Consistency: Your support will allow us to continue important ministries and to help our community.
- Convenience: You provide your support in the comfort and safety of your home.
- Cost-Effective: This reduces printing and mailing costs, and is better for our environment! We can use this saved money to further our ministries in the community.

Make a Donation or Access your account at: <https://giving.congregationsoft.com/app/giving/st136101>. There are links on St.PaulUCCHermannMissouri Facebook page and on our website [www.hermannucc.com](http://www.hermannucc.com). If you have any questions about how to make a donation, please call the church office.

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PHOTOGRAPHS

If you provided pictures for our Golden Anniversary Celebration, they are ready to be picked up in the church office.

## ENDOWMENT FUND

We are continuing our endowment fund program. There is a copy of the policy on the back table. Consider making a gift to St. Paul that will support this historic congregation into perpetuity. For as little as \$1,000 you can establish a named fund that will support this ministry even after you are gone. Please contact the church office with any questions.

## STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship committee would like to mention a feature of the new tax law that could be of benefit to those who have attained age 72, who hold investments that are subject to RMD's (required minimum distributions) from IRA accounts. The account owner may direct the distribution check to an exempt charity, avoiding federal and state taxes, rather than receiving the required RMD check themselves. To be tax exempt, the distribution must be made payable directly to a qualified charity or church.

RMDs required from other investments such as 401(k) or 403(b) accounts do not qualify for this tax exemption. However, this same benefit can be obtained by transferring the desired RMD amount from these accounts to an IRA before December 31 of the year before the RMD is required.

So, for those over 72 with investment accounts, this new tax provision can be a major advantage to church members. And, this exemption is not limited to the required minimum—more can be distributed if desired.

For more information, a call to your tax advisor or financial institution is advised.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Birthday greetings are extended to the following members of our church family who will celebrate birthdays in January.

- 1—Holly Brethorst, Drake Fredrick, Jenna Schaefer
- 2—Diane Lause
- 3—Dawn Grosse, Chad Schneider, Christina Menke
- 7—Dolores Smith
- 9—Dortha Coulter
- 10—Ruth Hulsey, Brian Rector
- 11—Beverly Englert
- 12—Walter Schluss
- 14—Donald Foust, Dolores Huxol, Mat Rogers,  
Charlotte Struttman, Jack Wendleton
- 19—Duane Bierwirth, Robert Winkelmann
- 20—Chesney Fries
- 22—Dorie Draper, Tom Rethemeyer
- 23—Barbara Schutt
- 25—Janet Rector
- 26—Carol Grannemann-Collins
- 27—Jim Hoerstkamp
- 29—Madison Schneider
- 31—Rachael Williams

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

The following members of our church family will be celebrating their anniversaries in January.

- 1—James & Sharon Hoerstkamp
- 7—Harvey & Dolores Cramer

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to everyone for the Christmas Memorial gifts.

Thanks to everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary, including flowers.

Thank you to Darren Schutt for various maintenance and custodial work and for sanitizing the building.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the projection system, loading the information and displaying it for worship services.

Thank you to everyone who provided special flowers for the altar recently.

Thank you to Mary Schaller Blaufuss and others for recording the services.

Thank you to all who recorded Advent devotionals in December.

Thanks to everyone who served as liturgists.

Thank you to Mary Leeper for helping with office work recently.

Thank you to everyone who provides music every Sunday, including Revs. Kurt & Mary Schaller Blaufuss, Ruth Hulsey, LaNette Kotthoff, Dawn Maune, Becky Mayberry, Adelyn Jacob, Maggie Kotthoff, and Lucas Blaufuss.

### **THANK YOU LETTERS**

Thank you for sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive. Thank you for helping us today! You help us to save lives and we couldn't do it without you! (45 presenting donors and 39 total units donated.)

Thanks! Cat, Shawn, Keirsten, Blayne, Jessica and June.

Thank you,

We asked for your help...and you came through! The staff of ECH would like to thank every single Person, Family, Church, Business, Club, and Organization that sent gifts or gift cards to support our children.

*Every Child's Hope*

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Eden Theological Seminary, thank you for your gift of \$1,300 on December 3, 2020 in support of the Annual Fund. Your gifts help Eden Seminary continue to educate leaders with theological imagination, for social transformation and with attention to spiritual and vocational formation. We are grateful that you join in that journey. Thank you for being a part of this Eden story that trusts in Emmanuel, God-with-us. Your support and encouragement are appreciated.

In Gratitude, Mary Schaller Blaufuss, VP for Institutional Advancement.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your contribution of \$735 to the Hermann Food Pantry Fund, a component fund of the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. Your generosity furthers the impact philanthropy can make to address today's complex needs and opportunities.

Sincerely, Brian Fogle, President

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ, we are writing to thank you for your generous contribution of \$13,500 to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) in 2019.

OCWM is the foundation for our Conference's human and material resources. During the deadly pandemics of COVID-19 and white supremacy, OCWM has supported new and creative ways to help congregations and congregational leadership as well as enabled us to engage in conversations about dismantling racism. OCWM funds salaries, benefits and continuing education for our conference staff. It supports our Search and Call Stewards. It provides access to educational, worship, and stewardship tools for our Conference lay leaders and clergy.

In the Missouri Mid-South Conference, 15% of total OCWM contributions are allocated for our camps and 20% is shared with our national and global mission partners. Your gifts to OCWM affirm God's continuing presence and grace in our Conference and throughout the world. Through OCWM we are able to live the gospel.

Sincerely,

Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel, Conference Minister.

Dear St. Paul UCC,

In these extraordinary times, your generosity inspires us in the hope we share. Your gift of \$650 in 2019 and \$100 in 2020 is an affirmation of hope, and expression of God's love that makes possible a seminary experience that will prepare the faith leaders of tomorrow to bring wisdom, healing, and creativity to the life of the church. Together, we are claiming a future of hope, born of the groanings, growth, and unexpected grace of these times. We are grateful for your gift of partnership as we bring this hope to life for all of our communities, and the world as God is bringing it into being.

Blessings,

Rev. Campbell Lovell & Re. Franz Rigert

Chicago United Eden Seminaries of the United Church of Christ

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes – 6:30 PM, November 10, 2020

Members present in person were Pastor Blaufuss, Kenny Kunz, Mike Grosse, Dale Maune, Megan Boedges, Ed Knehans, Chris Heldt and Steve Lenger. Members present via Zoom were Jill Jacob and Susan Nichols. Not present was Carol Paubel.

1. Pastor Blaufuss led the Council in prayer.
2. The floor was open for comments from Council or members of the congregation.
3. Dale Maune made a motion to approve the agenda for the November 10 meeting. Mike Grosse seconded the motion and the motion carried.
4. Minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting were reviewed. After review, Mike Grosse made a motion to approve the minutes. Dale Maune seconded the motion and the motion carried.
5. The October financial reports were reviewed. It was noted that giving has taken a slight downturn. Council hopes it will start to increase soon.
6. The payment of bills was reviewed and approved.
7. Old Business:
  - A. President Kunz reported that the motor on the boiler failed, however, Brian Grannemann was able to repair it.
  - B. Pastor Blaufuss reported on the Transition Committee. He said they met on November 2 and reviewed what they have and have not accomplished as the Transition Committee. They discussed the new UCC church profile, which, in many ways, is like the old one. They decided that we are still not at a place to plan our future, at least as it relates to the development of the profile. They will begin work on the demographic aspects of the profile, which includes the makeup of our congregation along with our financials.

President Kunz informed Council that he and Susan Nichols had participated in the meeting of the Pastor Evaluation Committee. The Committee went through evaluation and arrived at a consensus. Mark Leech and President Kunz will meet with Pastor Blaufuss before the next Council meeting so Pastor can provide his part of the evaluation.
  - C. President Kunz gave an update on the PPP loan. Fay had reported to him that she had received two messages needing verification of our utility payments. She had also sent in the second set of bank statements that they have requested. Those were the only things requested at this time.
  - D. Dale Maune reported that he has found someone to do the carpet stretching in the sanctuary, however, he doesn't yet have an estimate on the cost.
  - E. Council was informed that on-line giving has gone live and has been advertised in the bulletin, the webpage and Facebook. President Kunz gave Council a demonstration of how the program works. It was suggested that the "button" on the website be bolder so givers can easily find it

- F. Council discussed the recording of worship services. Some members of the congregation have reported that the sound quality isn't very good. Pastor Blaufuss suggested the formation of a Technology Team to study our recording options and find what would work best for our situation.
- G. Mary Binkholder provided Council with a report on the grant we received through the Meramec Planning Commission. We received \$454.90 to cover custodial supplies and at-home internet expense. We also received a check for \$1202.70 for a laptop. Expenses will continue to be sent in for reimbursement.

8. New Business:

- A. Council discussed the Mission Cup donations for the month of December. After discussion, it was decided to designate the December Mission Cup donations to Community Health Care Appreciation. Meals will be sent to local health care facilities to show our appreciation for their service during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- B. Council was informed that the Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for December 7 at St. Paul. Sharen Speckhals will be managing the drive.
- C. Pastor Blaufuss informed the Council that he has been advised by the Conference Minister to go to on-line worship. Council discussed the pros and cons of going back to on-line worship. Pastor Blaufuss said he has finished the daily messages for Advent and is looking to put it into booklet form for members as well as posting it daily on Facebook. The Advent workshop will need to be conducted in a drive thru format if we have to stop in-person events. After discussion Ed Knehans made a motion to move services to on-line only through November 29. In addition, the Advent workshop will be conducted in a drive thru fashion, Sunday School will not be held, and Boy Scout meetings will not be held. Megan Boedges seconded the motion and the motion carried. Office staff will get the message out regarding the suspension of in-person services.
- D. Council decided to table further discussion regarding the carillon.
- E. Council discussed how to handle Christmas Eve services. A suggestion was made to possibly hold three services on Christmas Eve – 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM. Members of the congregation could sign up for the service that they would like to attend.
- F. President Kunz informed Council that a letter had been received from St. Paul's insurance carrier that explained some changes they will be making to our coverage – exclusion of underground water, backflow or overflow of plumbing limitations, fungus/mold, etc.
- G. President Kunz informed Council that he had received an email from Mary Binkholder regarding the church's website. She said the website is not a secure website. Mary has been doing some research on how to remedy this situation. She said a recommendation has been made to use GoDaddy as our web host. It would cost \$1650 for a three-year commitment. After discussion, Dale Maune made a motion that we pay GoDaddy \$1650 for the hosting of our website and email for the next three years. Steve Lenger seconded the motion and the motion carried.

9. Pastor Blaufuss shared his pastor's report with Council. He said the Hermann Ministerial Alliance Thanksgiving service that was scheduled for November 22 at 4:00 PM in the St. George gymnasium has been cancelled. The Alliance will be meeting tomorrow and will discuss an on-line service.

Pastor Blaufuss requested a vacation the week of November 23. This does not include a Sunday. Council approved the vacation request.

10. Council reviewed upcoming events. Dale Maune is in charge of ushers for the month of December. Steve Lenger agreed to be in charge of ushers for March 2021.

11. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

12. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Nichols, Secretary