

St Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: April 9, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

1. Opening prayer was given by Father John

Council members attending:

Paul Novak - president

Matt Tomac - vice president

Tom Julian – treasurer (excused)

Mark Massopust - corresponding secretary

Vera Limberopoulos - recording secretary

Minutes from March 12, 2024, parish council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve by Paul, seconded by Mark. Approved by all.

Reports / updates /old business:

2. Priest's report- Father John:

A. Outreach chapels schedule: The March 16th Divine Liturgy at St Macrina Chapel, Waupaca went well. The April 6th Divine Liturgy at Transfiguration Chapel, Door County also went well.

The next scheduled Liturgy at St Macrina Chapel will be on June 1. The next Liturgy at Transfiguration Chapel will be on either June 8th or 9th. Father will confirm the date later.

B. Past events / community:

1. Meal at St John's Shelter was a success as we had teams come together to serve the shelter guests. Our next sponsoring will not be again until fall. Many thanks to all who participated.

2. We will continue to store a few items for a local homeless woman, Ruth. She is making some progress towards getting housing.

C. Lenten retreat:

Tom Julian will provide a reimbursement check for Presvytera Rebecca Luft's lodging expenses. Father will purchase snacks for Friday. Saturday will be potluck.

D. The Liturgy schedule for May has been sent out.

E. Pascha:

1. Flowers and palms are set. There will not be lilies this year due to it being too late in the season. This year we will have hydrangeas and other white flowers.
2. Father sent out an email about reading during Holy Week and put out a list for Reading at the Tomb of Christ. Paul will take care of getting readers for Holy Saturday morning.
3. Sara Tomac is available to direct choir Holy Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Matthew Tomac will help with lesser services. Sara and Matt organized the choir closet.

F. Vacation:

Father will be out of town for a week. He will be leaving on June 9th after liturgy and will be returning on June 17 or 18th. During his absence, Father Tom Mueller from Milwaukee will serve June 15 and 16th. Father will inquire with the diocese for the compensation rate for Father Tom's service.

2. President's report - Paul Novak:

- A. We will have our egg hunt on Pascha Sunday after Vespers. Father reached out to Whitney Massopust and Martha Heid inquiring if one of them would be interested in organizing it. They have done so in prior years.
- B. Paul shared an Orthodox Convert Survey 2023 (prior email) and asked for feedback. Father relayed that there is more online awareness of Orthodox Christians now versus 5 years ago. Also to be aware of what Christianity is about.
- C. The final push for Iconography is a work in progress. No final date for when the flyer will be sent out, probably through email and US mail. If there are comments for input, please forward to Paul. The flyer will be sent out within the next month or so.
- D. Herrick Hall décor:

Melissa McNeil spearheaded getting the images up on the walls (church picnics, etc.).

There were a few collages. These items are not going back up in Herrick Hall. The first collage is of "Bronney and Annabel". Paul made a motion to give it to Joy Jeffers, and seconded by Matt, approved by all. The second collage is of a remembrance of Helen Wadda. The third collage is of Fr Herrick. The fourth collage is of Fr Wheeling. These other collages we will hold onto for now but will inquire about giving them away. The Gravatas award that Jeff Zdrade received will be given to Jeff. It was suggested to scan the images to keep a digital history for the church.

E. AC work was done for Herrick Hall. Misha Mykhaylyuk will do the electrical.

F. Paul has a list for the annual church cleaning. There might also be some outside work that could also be done.

G. Herrick Hall roof:

The roof over the big room is leak has gotten worse due to all the rain and snow over a 48hour period. The leak is currently controlled but necessitates moving forward with replacing the roof. Paul already received two quotes, both estimates approximately \$35,000 (from Security Roofing and Overhead Solutions). Paul will reach out to ARC for a third quote. Misha Mykhaylyuk will inquire about a fourth quote from the company where he works.

Tom Julian has started a discussion with our bank as to what a loan would look like for a speculated \$400 monthly payment. We currently have been making an extra mortgage payment which could cover the new loan payments. Our mortgage is due to renew in 2 years at which time the remainder of this loan would be rolled into the new mortgage payment.

H. AED: John Limberopoulos had gone to the local fire house (down the street) where staff relayed that they have three AEDs in house with two of them on apparatus. Vera had shared data (with Paul) that minutes count when you're having a heart attack. Paul will talk to individuals that like to fund small projects. The cost would be approximately \$1,500. An AED would be beneficial.

3. Vice president's report - Matt Tomac:

The leak in Herrick Hall has a water deviation system in place. Matt expressed concerns over kids getting in there and pulling it down. To avoid problems, it was suggested that we secure or isolate the area. Paul relayed that he could secure the room if needed. Father relayed that kids are not allowed up there without responsible adults.

4. Treasurer's report – Paul Novak (reporting for Tom Julian)

Financially we are doing fine. We are blessed with new people giving to the church. The additional revenue coming in helps.

Additional Notes:

Bonnie Zdrale has been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her and Jeff in your prayers.

A motion was made by Paul to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Matt, approved by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41. Father gave the closing prayer.

