



St Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: July 8, 2025

Zoom meeting called to order at 6:01 pm

Opening prayer was given by Father John

Council members attending:

Father John Thetford - rector

Pau Novak – president

Matt Tomac - vice president

Tom Julian – treasurer

Noah Becker – corresponding secretary

Vera Limberopoulos - recording secretary

guests: Jeff Zdrle

Jeff reports that the Sunday's liturgy with Father Tom Miller went well.

The minutes from the June 14, 2025, parish council meeting were reviewed. Paul made a motion to approve the minutes, approved by all. Noah will post the minutes.

Priest's report – Father John Thetford

- Vacation church school went well with a very good program. Father expressed appreciation for the volunteers that came and helped.

- Steve Gilray's funeral will be this Thursday, July 10th. Jeff Zdrle will be doing the music. We need people to help out with the logistics when the caterer arrives at approximately 12:30. Vera will assist with letting them in, etc. The caterer will bring everything (food, plates, utensils, coffee, etc.), and will do all the set up and take down. They are planning for about 75 people.

- This Saturday, July 12th, the men's group will be meeting in Herrick Hall from 12:30 - 2:30. Father will talk with Tom and Paul regarding details and possible potluck. Father will send out an email to clarify.

- On Sunday night, July 13th, Father and Paul will fly to Phoenix for the All American Council and will return on July 18th. Father will be one of 6 people taking minutes at the AAC.

- On August 1st, we will once again be making bagged lunches for the women's shelter in Green Bay. Father will buy the ingredients the week prior.

- Bishop Daniel will come on October 18th.

President's report - Paul Novak



- SMOC will be represented at the All American Council by Father John and Paul Novak. The anticipated expenses for rooms, food, parking, etc, will be approximately \$2,300. For personal protection, they will charge it on their own cards and be reimbursed for their expenses afterwards (per treasurer).

-On July 16th Father will still be away. Matt and Noah will handle Vespers.

Vice-prescient's report – Matt Tomac

-Matt reports that he got a sign for the parking lot, indicating “St Matthew parish parking only”. It will be placed by the driveway on the upslope. He will confirm the setback by measuring the inside of the sidewalk from the curb, on the upper level. We have a post for it and Tom will bring his post driver.

Treasure's report – Tom Julian

- The current financial documents were emailed to the council for review.

-We had an inflow of \$26,286 in June and an outflow of \$18,600. Moved \$4,600 to the L&E Fund. \$1,800 was moved to cover iconography/ memorial. Came out: \$10,164 in operating expenses, \$900 mission. \$1350 building, expenses were paid to Pedro, etc.

- Tom reports that the accounts have his S.S number on them. He is speaking to the branch manager to try to resolve this, removing this information.

new business:

-Paul suggested having an informational summer meeting for the parish. Subjects to be covered would be the annual picnic, AAC, refinancing the mortgage, etc. to be held on July 27th. Father agreed.

-Tom has been looking into the marker headstone for the cemetery. The quote is \$5,600 with installation. A mock up image was shared with the wording “THE FAITHFUL OF ST MATTHEW ORTHODOX CHURCH”. He suggested planting arborvitae behind it. It was suggested an alternate lettering font of “The Faithful of ST MATTHEW ORTHODOX CHURCH”. Tom will send an email to council with both rendering options to be voted on.

- Noah stated that he thought the announcements after liturgy were starting to get long, and that maybe the highlights should just be covered. Other members reported that our announcements seem to be the fastest, compared to other churches.

old business:

-Paul is working on getting the other security cameras installed.

-There is still work being done on painting of the north side of the building.

-Noah reports that there is a decent amount of grant funding available for an AED. There is varying costs for manufacturers. The units run around \$1,500 each with the initial pads and battery. The pads last 2 – 5 years with replacement costs approximately \$70 (for adult pads). The batteries cost about \$100 -\$200 and last 3 – 5 years. The survival rates post cardiac arrest increase dramatically with defibrillation. Defibrillation within one minute of cardiac arrest increases survivability by 90%. For every additional minute in delay in electrical therapy, the



outcome decreases by 10%. Noah also stated that you can't get sued if misused, (The Good Samaritan Law). The AEDs are self-explanatory and they won't shock unless there is a shockable rhythm, (and only when the user is prompted to shock.) Paul asked Noah to look further into the grants.

-Paul spoke with Deacon Spyridon about ST Macrina Chapel.

-Jeff Zdrade donated money for a new tabernacle and it has been ordered. It takes three weeks to produce and it comes from Greece.

- It was suggested that we expand the camp scholarships. Additionally, the kids could assist in raising funds to help other kids go.

- The women's fellowship will tentatively have their next meeting on September 6th. Father will confirm the date.

A motion was made by Paul to adjourn the meeting, approved by all. The meeting was adjourned at 6:51.

Father gave the closing prayer.

Addendum : 7.10.2025

group text to parish council from Father John: July 10, 2025

Father John proposed approval of the original font submitted for the cemetery marker headstone. The council had a majority vote for approval of this font. ("THE FAITHFUL OF ST MATTHEW ORTHODOX CHURCH")