

## St. Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

**Meeting:** May 09, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. **Father John** - currently attending Clergy Convocation in Chicago.

**Council members attending:**

Paul Novak – president  
Matt Tomac – vice president  
Tom Julian – treasurer  
Pedro Sarsama – corresponding secretary  
Elaine Gavaras – recording secretary

**Guests:** Jeff Zdrale, Mark Massopust

Minutes from April were reviewed. A motion was made to approve by Paul, seconded by Matt.  
Approved by all.

### Reports and updates:

**Priest's report – Father John:**

**Events:**

1. Liturgy was in Door Co on May 06. There was a nice gathering. Thanks to Cathy Mangan and Julie Schaffer for hosting us and thanks to Tom and Cheryl Julian for bringing the main course. Fr Elijah Mueller was able to attend. He wanted to come because he is thinking that he could serve a liturgy there too since he is good friends with Russell and Alessandra on Washington Island.
2. Typica in Waupaca May 7. Twelve people attended. Dn. Spyridon and Father had a conversation Sunday evening and agreed that we should go to the bishop and see if the bishop will bless Dn. to do a liturgy at his home on a Saturday a few times a year. The Parry's and Elsinger's and Maddy Faldet consistently attend along with the Roegners. The Parry's and Elsinger's really are too far to make it to St. Matthew's on Sundays, so they are appreciative of this opportunity.
3. There will be a baptism on Saturday, May 13 of Antonia Parry. Will need help getting the font filled by 12:30pm.
4. Crowning of Alaric and Angelica Pfitzinger evening May 18 - they were married in a protestant church 10 years ago, but now they want to have an Orthodox crowning service (the second half

of the wedding service which is the “sacrament” proper). This is not a requirement but something they would like. It is not necessary for any couple to do this who was married outside of the Orthodox Church.

5. Kaine Bernarde and Evelyn Kizewski’s wedding will be on May 20.
6. Ukraine Bake Sale is set for May 6. We will need to change the door code soon. Whoever changes it, please share the new code among council members as soon as you change it by text or email.
7. Vacation church School Garden/Landscaping Project. We will find a Saturday to work on this. It will go to the right of the church balcony’s emergency exit door. We could use another 1 or 2 volunteers to prepare the spot as it will involve moving gravel.
8. Men’s Group. Would like to get this going again but now with the Siding project resuming it involves many of the same people. Will look meeting toward the end of the summer.
9. Youth and Young Adult event on Saturday July 22, 10 am - ~3 pm- Fr Elijah Mueller and Father John arranged for our youth/young adults meet halfway with the youth/young adults from Ss Cyril and Methodius in Milwaukee at the Kohler Dunes State Park just south of Sheboygan on Lake Michigan. We will enjoy the dunes, have lunch, and have some discussion and end with Vespers.

**Other:**

10. Regarding commissioning New Sheet Music with correct words for Holy Week - no progress yet.
11. Byzantine Chant group (Matt Hanson, Pedro Sarsama and Noah Becker) will lead liturgy for Ascension (served on the evening prior). Sarah will lead vespers and then right away they will sing liturgy. They did well for the Annunciation. There are no plans for integrating this into the parish beyond a couple occasional services like this.
12. Martha Heid suggested to me that perhaps we could fence in the small grass lot between Herrick Hall and the parking lot. This way the kids could play outside without going onto the parking lot or by the street. Will continue to discuss.
13. Mark Massopust is starting the St. Macrina Diocesan Program. He is going to start taking classes for the diaconate through the Diocese’s St. Macrina Program. This will be a multi-year process and of course the classes themselves do not guarantee ordination. There will be other things to do like in person trainings about twice a year. He will likely go to the national DVP training next year.

14. PC Corresponding Secretary role: Pedro gave his resignation from this role as he is leaving to start seminary. Paul voted to accept resignation, seconded by Tom, and approved by all. Paul made a motion to accept Mark Massopust as the new PC Corresponding Secretary role, seconded by Pedro and approved by all.

**New business:**

**1. Vice President's report – Matt Tomac:**

The odor in the church has improved.

This year, Prebble Park will not be opening their buildings on Sunday's due to lack of employee availability. Therefore, the pavilion will be closed, and we will not have a shelter for the annual church picnic. Tom proposed to consider other park options and Matt will investigate that. August 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> would be good dates for the picnic as the other Sunday's are during the Dormition fast.

**2. Treasurer's report – Tom Julian:**

The Diocesan check has not been cashed from April. Will continue to monitor.

We received another \$1300 toward the Chapel for a total of \$10,400. Tom met with Cathy Mangan and Julie Schaffer and discussed the vision for the Chapel. Cathy does not have any plans to leave the house currently. There is discussion to approach the Village of Sister Bay and apply for an easement and walkway for the Transfiguration property. They also discussed building a deck around the Chapel and replacing the door. The Chapel also needs caulking and painting. May also consider asking for donations for the Chapel, but not as a campaign for raising money.

Iconography fund is currently \$10,117. The interest is credited quarterly on the CD. Pedro asked for an update of the phases. Phase 3 is the summer of 2024.

**Old Business:**

1. Planning on restarting siding on May 26.
2. Will be talking to Deacon Spyridon regarding the Narthex wall.
3. Chuck Bayerl is ordering the glass for the St. Matthew icon.
4. The new candle box in the Narthex looks nice.
5. There continues to be a conversation regarding digitalizing the music.

6. Tom is in conversation regarding recommendations for roof improvements.
7. Sunday school cleaning will be end of August.
8. There are still conversations regarding installing icons on the Royal Doors.
9. We continue to work on the damage that was made by the snow plowing company. They came to do some repairs but needed more. More dirt and seed were added to the damaged areas. Will continue to monitor.
10. Pedro mentioned that the siding and windows will be replaced on Herrick Hall. Pedro will be building a cabin and was hoping to be able to have the old windows. There was no opposition to this and he will gladly take the old windows. Paul made a motion that upon the removal of the windows in Herrick Hall, they are donated to Pedro. This was seconded by Matt and approved by all.

The next Council meeting will be June 13, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made to adjourn by Paul and seconded by Tom, approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.