

**UPDATE TO THE CONGREGATION FROM COUNCIL
REGARDING ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENT AND MINISTRY POLICIES**

This update is to share with you some important information that has taken place in the life of our congregation and the wider Lutheran Church since the surveys were sent on September 15.

This is what has taken place since the congregation's open forum.

- **August 30** – Pastor Mark wrote to the Presiding Bishop relating to him the varied concerns and issues raised by members of St. Paul's. Pastor Mark is still waiting for a response.
- **September 14** – There was a forum for clergy and other rostered leaders to meet with Bishop Kusserow.
- **September 23** – Another forum was held with Bishop Kusserow for the lay people of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod. Approximately 15 people from St. Paul attended this forum.
- **September 25-26** – Ron and Donna Struble attended the Lutheran CORE Convention. See "What is Lutheran CORE article in this newsletter."
- **September 25** – The Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod adopted a letter addressed to the ELCA Church Council reflecting the strongly held opinions by many throughout this synod. That letter is included in this newsletter.
- Received 77 surveys from the congregation.
- **October 14** – Ron and Donna Struble reported back to the Congregation Council information they received from attending the Lutheran CORE Convention.
- **October 21** – Council meet to review the surveys received.