



St. Paul Lutheran Church

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July 29, 2020

Dear Members of St. Paul,

On July 28, 2020, two members of the church and the congregation's attorney were part of the hearing with the Honorable Judge Jan Shackelford. This hearing was to grant or object to the "minority group" from St. Christopher's becoming part of the lawsuit with the Florida-Bahama Synod.

The ability to intervene on the lawsuit is nothing new for the courts as they sort out those involved. We fully expected that the minority group would be granted the motion to intervene. Based on the court system, the legal action to intervene is given almost every time. By having the hearing against the minority group, instead of just accepting them into the court filing against the FB Synod, our voice was heard.

This does not change the original filing against the Florida-Bahama Synod. The goal of the minority group and the Synod is for financial gain and property gain. The Congregation Council and the Pastor will continue to protect your assets of both. Are we disappointed about the ruling? Yes. But it was expected also. Our frustration is that because of the ruling, our legal cost will increase as we defend St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Pensacola, Inc., against the Synod and the minority group.

We give thanks for each of you and promise that we will continue to press forward as you have encouraged and supported.

God's Peace,
The Congregation Council Executive Committee