

Hilltop United Methodist Church
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 16, 2017, 6:30 pm

Present: Kelly McCuaig, Allison Bass, Robin Staloch, Wayne Baumgartner, Don Putzier, Karin Gavin, Holly Aasen, John Phelps, Eric Mundt.

The meeting was called to order by Allison Bass. Allison thanked everyone for attending and stated that several members were absent due to the Walk to Emmaus. She reviewed the two reminders for 2017. The first reminder is the Mission Statement of the United Methodist Church: The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The second reminder is "Take care of the rising generation." - John Wesley

Approval of minutes: Minutes from the meeting of October 19th, 2017 were available for review. A motion was made by John Phelps to approve the minutes as presented. Wayne Baumgartner seconded. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Kelly shared that we are moving forward on the Missional Church Consultation Initiative (MCCI) process. Sunday, November 19th will be the first training session in the Twin Cities. Pastor Kelly reports that this will be a breakthrough prayer workshop and that four Hilltop church members are confirmed to attend.

Pastor Kelly stated the next Town Hall meeting will be December 17th, 2017 following the 10:30 church service. He plans to explain the MCCI concept to members attending for the first 15 minutes. The remaining time will be open for topics and comments presented by the members attending.

Inward (Nominations/Leadership): Pastor Kelly reported that voting for nominations will occur in December. Pastoral compensation will be approved on Saturday, November 18th at the Church Conference.

Trustees: Eric Mundt reported that several of the fall projects have not been addressed due to weather.

Finance Report: Due to her absence, Kerry Rausch provided the following written report: October expenses were \$27,742.00 and income was \$45,537.35 with an ending checking balance of \$65,111.62. Less \$45,144.32 in designated funds, we have a working general fund balance of \$19,967.30. As of November 9th, 52 commitments were received for \$171,585 pledged to the general fund, \$8,945 to the increase fund, and \$9,090 to the tech fund.

SPRC: Pastoral compensation for 2018 was presented by SPRC. John Phelps moved to accept the pastoral compensation package for Pastor Kelly and Pastor Ashley as per the requested changes to continuing education for Pastor Ashley. Eric Mundt seconded. The motion carried. The SPRC team is working closely with Pastor Kelly and Pastor Ashley in the pastoral evaluation and goal setting.

Kids Connection & Nursery: Robin Staloch reported that anywhere from 20-40 children on a given Sunday are attending Kids Connection with 3-4 volunteers needed per week. Curriculum is going well and is appropriate for the time allotted. The Christmas Program is planned for Dec. 17th during the 10:30 church service. She is continuing to recruit volunteers for leading small groups.

The nursery is currently staffed for Nov. 19th at the 10:30 service. She needs 2 volunteers for each Sunday. She is recruiting volunteers via e-mails and facebook messages. Safe Sanctuary guidelines were discussed.

Youth & Campus: Pastor Kelly reported that all aspects of Youth & Campus ministries are going well. Both events are having good turnouts of participants. A progressive dinner is planned for college students at the end of the quarter. Youth group recently shopped for Operation Christmas Child.

Pastoral Care: Paulette Adams reported that Hilltop members recently sang hymns with Norm and Darlene Gullickson at Pathstone. Knitting group is meeting and making prayer shawls on Monday afternoons with varied attendees. Communion visitation is going well and varies month to month on members served. A potluck brunch is planned after the first church service on Dec. 17th. The brunch will serve as a bridge between the early service and the Town Hall meeting.

Endowment fund: John Phelps reports that this fund is not performing as well as it has historically. John will check on this.

Technology: Don Putzier reports that the new sound system will be installed November 20-22. An iPad was requested to be used as a control system from afar. Don shared that it would be important to have an iPad available while the company is here installing so that they could program it. Pastor Kelly suggested utilizing an iPad from Kids Connection. Robin Staloch will provide Don Putzier with the required information and access to the iPads for this purpose. Discussion was held regarding a second portable projector. Pastor Kelly stated it would be desirable but not currently needed.

New Business: Paulette Adams reported that Operation Christmas Child is going well. Sunday, Nov. 19th the boxes donated by Hilltop members will be blessed during the church services. November 20th the boxes will be shipped.

John Phelps asked how we as a church are dealing with security in light of the recent church shooting in Texas. Pastor Kelly reported that the Conference office is actively pursuing a resource to help churches deal with this concern.

Holly Aasen asked how do we as a church monitor what is presented by outside groups to the congregation during church services. Several church members were uncomfortable with the recent interpretive dance that portrayed graphic details. It was stated that this was a performance geared to an adult audience. Pastor Kelly responded by stating that this was a genuine concern. Future performers will be asked what the group will be doing for a presentation. The recent experience has heightened the awareness that not all performances may appropriate.

Adjournment/Next Meeting: John Phelps closed the meeting in prayer. Administrative Council will meet next on Thursday, December 21, 2017 for a church conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin Gavin