

**Hilltop United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 6:35 p.m.**

Present: Pastor Matt Sipe, Derrick Galinat, Stacy Vanderwerf, Rob Cornelius, Michelle Behsman, Kerry Rausch, Don Putzier, Barb Keith and Paulette Adams.

Pastor Matt opened with prayer. Rob made a motion reaffirm the church council leadership covenant, Stacy seconded, and the motion carried.

Minutes: Don made a motion to approve the minutes from January with a second from Don. The motion carried.

Finance Report: Rob provided a report of January finances. General giving was \$27,929. Expenses were \$33,776.46 and the net income was -\$374.14. Rob noted that a large bill was paid, \$6,107 for this year's insurance. Working general fund balance at the end of January was \$48,923.29. A motion was made by Don to approve the finance report with a second from Paulette. The motion carried. There was a brief discussion about funding of the feasibility study. The first payment of \$5000 was made to Mark Davy & Associates in January. This was covered by funds from building improvement savings.

Calendaring:

- a. Feb. 16-19 and 23-26 – Walks to Emmaus, Fairmont
- b. Feb. 22 - Ash Wednesday
- c. February - Connect Groups have started
- d. Mar. 11-22 - Youth lock-in, and Youth serving soup lunch after Mar 12 worship service.
- e. Mar. 17-19 - Marriage Retreat
- f. Holy Week - Palm Sunday Apr 2; foot washing on the Wednesday evening service
- g. Apr 9 - Easter Sunday – services at 8:00 am and 10:15 am
- h. Apr. 23 - Bishop preaching at Hilltop, with lunch to follow

Visioning:

- a. Short-term
 - i. Matt provided an update on the scheduling of the Mark Davy & Associates feasibility study. He will be making an announcement during worship over the next two weeks and a mailing will be sent to members on March 6. Members will be invited to complete a survey and come for an in-person interview. The feasibility study will provide an estimate of support for the building improvements. We expect to have a completed report by mid-April.
 - ii. There will be a discussion about changing the day of Church Council meetings.
- a. Long-term
 - i. Podcasts have started. The Bishop Gathering was also included and it includes a Q&A with the Bishop that took place after the event.

Pastor Matt asked for prayer concerns and shared an update on Kristin Andrews. closed in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm. Next meeting TBD.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Behsman