

Hilltop United Methodist Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: John Phelps, Don Putzier, Derrick Galinat, Stacy Vanderwerf, Pastor Matt Sipe, Kerry Rausch, Debbie Kempton and Michelle Behsman.

The meeting was called to order by Don Putzier, who opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of minutes: John Phelps moved, seconded by Matt Sipe, to approve the January 2020 Church Council minutes. The motion carried.

Bible Study: Pastor Matt presented a study using Luke 14:7-24, with reading and discussion of the passage.

Leadership Book Discussion: Pastor Matt suggested a book study for members of the church council and offered a couple of choices (*Fish or Cut Bait* by John E. Kaiser, *Go: How to Become a Great Commission Church* by Mark R. Teasdale, or *Dare to Lead* by Brené Brown)

Leadership Focus Question: Council members discussed the question, “What do I/we need to do in the next month to be more outward/outreach focused,” which led to discussion on the importance of prayer, the role of discipleship and attention to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Leadership Covenant: The covenant was reviewed by council members. Pastor Matt moved to accept the covenant as presented, with a second from Derrick Galinat, the motion carried. Don Putzier will have the document ready for signatures at the March council meeting.

MCCI Updates: The Master Facilities coach will be onsite March 12. In preparation for this meeting, Pastor Matt asked the Children’s Ministry team what they envisioned for Hilltop if barriers were removed and they spoke of full Wednesday night programming; with nursery, kids’ programming, adult classes, and parents’ groups.

Kerry Rausch reported that the Signature Ministry team was compiling data collected when they visited Hilltop’s neighboring community.

Debbie Kempton shared that the Guest Welcome Team met with their coach in January and that they received the report and have already begun to implement some of the prescribed changes, like using nametags and developing a system for ushers and greeters. They also met with the Signage team because of overlapping roles. Pastor Matt said that some of the changes involving the facility will take time because of financing, and he spoke of the importance of communicating these changes with the membership of Hilltop.

Calendar: Ash Wednesday is February 26, February Townhall is February 29, District Gathering is March 2, Connect Academy begins March 4, Palm Sunday is April 5, Good Friday Cantata is April 10, Easter is April 12, Pastor Mark Teasdale (speaking on Missional Leadership) will be holding a workshop on April 25 and preaching on April 26, Confirmation is May 3 for one student.

Finance Report: The finance committee met and approved the 2020 budget. As of the end of 2019 general giving was \$286,345 and expenses were \$271,569. Stacy Vanderwerf made a motion to accept the January finance report, seconded by John Phelps. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Necessary reports were shared via email with no further discussion at the meeting. Derrick Galinat mentioned that there was a delay in setting up the TD Ameritrade account, due to the MN Nonprofit Corporation listing with Secretary of State not matching the paperwork that was sent to the broker, but it has been resolved.

Townhall meetings: Pastor Matt reported that the two February townhall meetings went well, with the final townhall to be held on February 29.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Behsman