

**Hilltop United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**

Present via video conference: Matt Sipe, Don Putzier, Derrick Galinat, Kerry Rausch, Paulette Adams, Jocelin Maine, Dan Marti, Rob Cornelius, and Michelle Behsman.

Don Putzier opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of minutes: Church council reviewed the minutes from April. Jocelin made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by Kerry. The motion passed. Don mentioned a couple of additions to the agenda. Jocelin made a motion to approve the agenda, Paulette seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Bible Study: Pastor Matt said that God has put the topic of reconciliation on his heart and he explained that reconciliation work encompasses not only race issues, but also the mask debate. He read scripture from Ephesians 2:11-21.

Finance Report: Rob Cornelius provided a report of April finances. April plate giving was \$17,919.66. Expenses were \$21,414.47. Net income was -\$2,269.36. The expenses are lower in the first four months of 2021 compared to last few years. Finance will be monitoring giving closely. Kerry made a motion to approve the finance report with a second from Dan. The motion passed.

Committee Updates: Jocelin reported that the Children Youth and Family MCCI team met last week and they discussed current active ministries – Prayer Partners, Youth group, and Confirmation. VBS is in discussion. A youth camping trip is planned for August. The team is looking at what Sunday School will look like in the Fall with the regathering phase changing.

Don reported that Hilltop will be hosting a gathering event for Annual Conference on Wednesday, June 23.

Visioning: Matt opened discussion on the outdoor worship service and thanked those who shared comments via email. There will be no service on holiday weekends – Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day. Matt said that the original plan was to be outdoors the entire summer, but now that recommendations are changing he asked thoughts on whether we should consider moving indoors. It was suggested that we move indoors if weather is severe or too humid. There was a suggestion to use the fellowship hall as a backup. There was a consensus that staying outdoors is still the way we want to worship in this season and all felt comfortable with worshipping in the fellowship hall if weather does not allow us to be outdoors. We will implement this plan beginning June 6. Discussion moved to Fall worship schedule and Matt said that he is still unsure of the path and feels that it may be too soon to decide. There was consensus that online worship is our front door and is important for reaching people.

Don reported that Brunton Architects will have exterior renderings and cost estimates within the next couple of weeks. The team is pleased with the work to date. When the Sanctuary team meets next they will discuss how and when to share this information with the congregation.

The June 17 council meeting will meet via BlueJeans.

Matt closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Behsman