

**Hilltop United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Matt Sipe, Rob Cornelius, Dan Marti, Derrick Galinat, Paulette Adams, Jocelin Reynolds, and Don Putzier

Dan opened with prayer.

Approval of minutes: Church council reviewed the minutes from January and February. Don made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by Rob. The motion passed.

Bible Study: Pastor Matt read from Mark 9:14-29. This passage talks about Jesus healing the boy who was robbed of speech and had seizures. The disciples were unable to help the boy. After the father offered a prayer to Jesus in the form of a request, the boy was healed. Jesus noted that everything is possible for one who believes. Jesus also noted that prayer was needed, which may have accounted for the disciples' inability to help the boy.

Finance Report: Rob provided a report of February finances. Worship service offerings were \$23,851.66. There was a net income of \$5,362.97. Derrick would like to see a monthly budget to see how items are being tracked. Matt made a motion to approve the finance report, with a second by Don. The motion passed.

Committee Updates: Matt reported that the SPRC committee is looking to recognize employees and volunteers for their services at the church. Don reported that Annual Conference will be held in-person in St. Cloud from May 24 to 25. He also reported that General Conference has been rescheduled to 2024, and will be in another location other than in Minneapolis.

Calendaring:

- a. April 9—Spring cleanup will take place starting at 8 a.m.
- b. April 10—Palm/Passion Sunday
- c. April 14—Maundy Thursday worship at 7 p.m.
- d. April 14 to 15—Youth retreat, starting after the Maundy Thursday worship service.
- e. April 14 to 15—Good Friday Prayer Sign-up
- f. April 17—Easter Sunday services at 9:15 (blended) and 10:45 (contemporary)
- g. May 1—Pastor Dan Ziegler from Koronis ministries will be our guest
- h. May (later in the month)—Volunteer recognition
- i. June 5—Graduation recognition

Pastor Matt asked for ideas of activities to take place after the Wednesday evening meals.

Visioning (long term):

- a. Facilities update—Don presented three schematic boards which will be used in conjunction with a town-hall program regarding the current MCCI facilities plans. It was suggested that the town hall meetings take place after a church service on either April 3 or 10, and also on a Wednesday evening after the meal.
- b. Summer plans—There will be one church service, most likely at 9:15 a.m. There was also discussion about having a church picnic, a BBQ cook-off, and a child-oriented activity during the summer. These could possibly be held monthly in June, July, and August.
- c. Future of the United Methodist Church—With a recent public announcement in the Free Press regarding the future of our denomination, and a group's plan to split off from the denomination, Pastor Matt and the Council felt a town-hall meeting regarding these issues is appropriate. Pastor Matt will look at an upcoming Wednesday evening.
- d. Volunteering at church—Pastor Matt encourages prayer and ideas for encouraging more volunteers to help with needed church activities. Dan suggested that a list of needed duties and activities in various areas be put together to aid in assessing the scope of the situation.

Matt closed in prayer. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. Respectfully submitted, Don Putzier