

**Hilltop United Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Matt Sipe, Jocelin Reynolds, Rob Cornelius, Don Putzier, Stacy Vanderwerf, Derrick Galinat, Paulette Adams, Karla Lassonde, Kerry Rausch and Michelle Behsman.

Pastor Matt opened with prayer.

Approval of minutes: The May minutes were reviewed. Don made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by Jocelin. The motion passed.

Bible Study: Pastor Matt read from Colossians 4: 1-6. Matt gave a short plug for the fall sermon sermons with accompanying connect group on *How Not to Read the Bible*. He asked council to prayerfully consider leading a group, if asked. He saw these verses as timely in the way that we conduct ourselves. He felt the importance of heeding the spirit and praying and acting upon the moments when God is nudging us. As well, he noted that we should also not be afraid to ask for prayer.

Finance Report: Rob provided a report of June finances. Worship service offerings were \$ 16,701.66. Total Income was \$16,955.35 and expenses were \$19,844.33, for a net income of -\$2,888.98. The working general fund balance on 6/30/22 was \$56,702.02. Derrick had questions about trustee initiatives and June giving. Don made a motion to approve the finance report, with a second by Derrick. The motion passed. Matt briefly explained the Employee Retention Credit, a program of the CARES Act, and made a motion to apply. Jocelin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Committee Updates: The trustees ordered couches for the welcome area. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the old couches should be removed now.

Calendaring:

- a. July 27 – Night at the Ballpark
- b. August 8-15 – Pastor Matt leads Canadian Fishing Trip
- c. August 25 – Fall Connect Group sign up
- d. August 31 – Hilltop Carnival
- e. September 11 – NEW worship time at 10:15 am
- f. September 14 – Wednesday worship at 6:30 pm

Visioning:

- a. Facilities update—Don provided the results from the Church Facility Survey and asked for input and thoughts. Overall, the response was supportive of the plan. Don asked if we should move ahead with feasibility study on church facility upgrades and it was agreed that this was the next step in the facility plan.
He also talked about recent tech problems, especially with the projector. He believes that the projector could give out at any time and we should be thinking about replacement now. We need to consider how replacement may work with a potential sanctuary remodel. The tech team is looking at options and getting quotes. The big question is whether we look at a quick fix or combine these needs with our long range plan and MCCI recommendations for sanctuary upgrades. Jocelin commented that there is a delay on receiving products and we need to consider this as we look to replace the projector.
- b. Fall worship schedule – Council discussed the Sunday worship time first and it was suggested that we look at 10:15 am, rather than 10:00 am, in order to accommodate Choir warm up time before worship. A small group could meet at 9:00 am. A draft of the Wednesday program was shared via email and Matt repeated the schedule. Council was asked for input. Matt felt that it was important to stick to the 6:30 pm worship time and if we felt that the meal time was too short, we could start community meal at 5:45 pm. It was noted that there may be some who will not stay for worship and perhaps those individuals can eat later and perhaps stay and help with clean up. Small groups could also meet at 6:30 pm or 7:00 pm.

Next meeting will be August 18 at 6:30pm.

Council closed with individual request for prayer and Pastor Matt lifting up those prayers. Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm. Respectfully submitted, Michelle Behsman