

**Hilltop United Methodist Church  
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 22, 2018, 6:30 pm**

**Present:** Allison Bass, Bonnie Weingartz, Robin Staloch, Kerry Rausch, Kelly McCuaig, Stacy Vanderwerf, Paulette Adams, Don Putzier, Bob Berg, Paulette Booker, Ashley Swoboda, Terry Berg, Karin Gavin, Wayne Baumgartner.

The meeting was called to order and opened in prayer by Allison Bass.

**Pastor's Report:** Kelly shared that in the past month he has met with 30 individuals, who filled out the spiritual formation survey, for one-on-one discussion about their survey. Kelly then invited the Ad Council to join in a prayer walk around the building, to pray for breakthroughs as we approach Holy Week. Council members moved throughout the building and grounds, praying for lives to be changed through our ministry. Kelly invited everyone to do this more often in our church and in our daily lives.

**Approval of minutes:** Minutes from the last meeting on February 15, 2018 were available for review. A motion was made by Don Putzier to approve the minutes as presented. Bob Berg seconded. The motion passed.

**Upward:** Paulette Booker requested prayers for the artistic illustration team as they prepare for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. She also mentioned the need for volunteers to be stationed at the Welcome Center during Stations of the Cross.

**Inward (Nominations/Leadership):** Stacy Vanderwerf reported that the Connect Academy had met the previous weekend for a one-day retreat. She is working on the summer and fall Connect Groups. Don Putzier mentioned that the Walk to Emmaus takes place next month.

**Outward:** Shannon McCuaig reported that Hilltop served the noon meal at the Salvation Army on February 18th. The team is working on developing a policy to address the unexpected calls or visits to the church from people in need who are seeking financial assistance (help with gas, food, or rent).

**Trustees:** Bob Berg reported the platform leveling project behind the altar is now finished. Dan Rivers is building a removable handicapped accessible ramp that can be added as needed. A new heater was added in the women's bathroom and the thermostat was moved to this space as well. The new water heater has been installed and the trustees re-purposed a metal TV cabinet to be used in the utility room for storing cleaning and maintenance supplies. The dead tree by the community garden has been removed. A garage cleaning will take place Saturday, April 14th at 8:00am. Bob asked all teams to inventory anything they may have stored in the garage and that items to be disposed of should be placed by the overhead door. Bill Scherer found a cabinet suitable for the family bathroom and he and Bob will install in the next couple of days. Alec Scherer would like to do a building improvement project at Hilltop for his Eagle Scout project. He is looking to raise the soil grade around the building and garage.

**Finance Report:** Kerry Rausch reported that February expenses were \$28,606.33 and income was \$24,851.76, with an ending checking balance of \$58,764.30. Less \$15,747.08 in designated funds, we have a working general fund balance of \$43,017.22. Kelly added that we will be live-streaming a stewardship seminar from the MN Annual Conference on Thursday, April 12th from 9:30am -2:30pm. We will invite other churches in the district to attend. Paulette Booker made a motion to approve the finance report. Karin Gavin seconded. The motion carried.

**SPRC:** There was no report from SPRC, but it was shared that Mike Juni's mom had passed away that morning and the Juni family was lifted up in prayer.

**Children's Ministry:** Robin Staloch reported that the children's worship was going well with 22 in attendance the previous Sunday. She plans to distribute an evaluation form in April, to be collected in May. She will review the evaluations and make changes over the summer if necessary.

**Youth/Campus:** Ashley Swoboda spoke about the district youth retreat that had just concluded. Sixteen Hilltop youth attended the retreat, mostly 6th & 7th grade and a few 8 - 10th grade students. She felt that the event really helped our Hilltop group to bond. The plan is to have a retreat next year and she is seeking adults to help with the planning. She is also actively recruiting members for youth mentorship.

Ashley and Wesley Foundation board of directors met and nominated Paulette Booker as interim president and recording secretary. There were two students in attendance, and the plan is to have student representation on the board of directors. The students shared information about an event that the Wesley Foundation will participate in during Welcome Week on campus this fall. They will also have a presence at the Annual Conference session in St. Cloud.

**Pastoral Care:** Terry Berg reported that there will be a brunch on March 25th at 10:00am (Palm Sunday). She also said that the team had been doing visitations and providing communion. There are a few women who meet on Monday afternoons to knit prayer shawls - 20 have been gifted in the last year.

**New Business:** Allison asked all Council members to share their ideas for sharing Jesus with community, as they were tasked with at the last Ad Council meeting. Below is a list of the ideas:

- Tim Tebow Foundation—host a prom for kids with special needs (ages 14 ↑). Would need 3 volunteers per participant. Could host at Kato Ballroom.
- Big community block party with bounce house.
- Celebration/Reunion - sharing testimonies.
- Fall festival (MN Style) - music & bounce house. Tie into missional focus.
- 1 week Mission Blitz in the summer
- Connect with mobile home park between here and Bassett Dr.
- Weeklong work week/mission outreach
- Serve community the day of the Mankato Marathon. Wear Hilltop shirts.

Allison Bass closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kerry Rausch