

## Hilltop United Methodist Church

### Church Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

**Present via video conference:** Matt Sipe, Don Putzier, Derrick Galinat, Kerry Rausch, Paulette Adams, Stacy Vanderwerf, Mark Wright and Michelle Behsman.

Don Putzier opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. Kerry Rausch shared a devotional on Matthew 10 by Eugene Peterson. Matt joined the meeting later as he was baptizing Hayden Phillips.

**Approval of minutes:** Church council reviewed the minutes from June. Kerry made a motion to approve minutes, with a second by Stacy. Motion passed. No additions to the agenda.

**Calendaring:** There is a bonfire at the parsonage on Sept. 18. Kerry reported that the Red Cross, scheduled for Oct. 1, has 31 of 38 donors scheduled. There will be a Jesus Food packing event at the end of October or in November.

**Finance Report:** Mark asked if there were any questions about the finance report that was sent by email prior to the meeting. Mark added that there were a couple of projects in the last quarter that require funding; the Operation Christmas Child shoebox program and a Jesus Food packing event. The food pack will be subsidized by the Bighead fundraiser. Stacy made a motion to approve the finance report with a second by Paulette. Motion passed.

#### **Visioning:**

Pastor Matt provided an update on programming. Kids' Connection will be fully digital through the end of 2020 and will launch the first week of October. Matt and Michelle are making phone calls to members next Tuesday to round out the adult prayer partner list. Connect groups will begin in October. Matt is also working on finding hosts for Connect Circles and hopes to launch this initiative sometime in November. Confirmation and RISE youth group are meeting in person the first and third Wednesdays of each month, and will continue unless ISD #77 transitions to fully online learning.

Matt intends to make Advent and Christmas special and meaningful by sending Advent boxes to families and creating professional videos for two of the Christmas worship services. The Advent box will include an Advent devotional booklet written by Hilltop members, Incarnation by Adam Hamilton, and other items. Kerry Rausch offered to help assemble and mail the Advent boxes.

The MCCI sanctuary team met and will move forward addressing the prescriptions in our MCCI plan. Leadership sees this as an opportune time to make necessary changes and will not only improve the sanctuary for current online worship but also improve the worship space for when we can gather together again.

The Children, Youth and Family MCCI team also met recently and will implement the Prayer Partner initiative, as well as other family events that can be done within pandemic guidelines. They hope to offer both fun events and mission minded events. They recognized the need to have Children's Ministry in place when we return to in-person worship.

Matt closed in prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Behsman