

Hilltop United Methodist Church
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2018, 6:30 pm

Present: Allison Bass, Shannon McCuaig, Bonnie Weingartz, Don Putzier, Ginny Norton, Bob Berg, Paulette Booker, Karin Gavin, Wayne Baumgartner, Paulette Adams, Kerry Rausch, Michelle Behsman, Stacy Vanderwerf.

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

Pastor's Report: Allison played a prepared video message from Pastor Kelly, who was not in attendance because of clergy leadership academy. Kelly spoke of two action reminders for council – to be in a small group experience and to worship regularly. He provided an intro to the faith formation exercise taught at a MCCI meeting on breakthrough prayer and indicated that Stacy Vanderwerf would lead the group. He also shared that after his last MCCI meeting he felt that this is absolutely the perfect process for Hilltop right now.

Stacy shared scripture from Ephesians 3:20 - *God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.* She defined breakthrough prayer as an encounter with God. It is an invitation from Him to...come as you are. Author Ruth Haley Barton wrote that our desire for God is the deepest essence of who we are. Breakthrough prayer brings transformation, healing and direction. It is not prayer to get God's attention but rather us giving our attention to Him.

Approval of minutes: Minutes from the December 21, 2017 meeting were available for review. A motion was made by Bob Berg to approve the minutes as presented. Paulette Booker seconded. The motion passed.

Upward: Paulette Booker reported that there would be a worship support team training on Saturday, Jan. 27th from 12:00-2:00 pm with lunch provided.

Inward (Nominations/Leadership): Stacy Vanderwerf presented nominations for Ad Council as follows: Don Putzier for Vice-chair, Outward team – add Steph Putzier and remove Shanna Blomquist and Erin Anderson, Karla Lassonde for Lay Delegate to Annual Conference. A motion was made by Karin Gave to approve the nominations. Wayne Baumgartner seconded. The motion carried.

Outward: Shannon McCuaig reported that the team had met on Sunday. They have narrowed the focus on support for a overseas missionary but they have not yet identified a specific person(s). They plan to support fewer missions in order to give greater support to each. These missions include ECHO Food Shelf, Backpack Food Program, and the Salvation Army. Hilltop has also adopted Kennedy Elementary and the team continues to seek ways to support the school and students. The team will be working on developing a written policy for those asking for assistance.

Trustees: Bob Berg reported that all is running well. An opportunity presented itself to purchase stainless steel tables for the kitchen and they have been installed. Not only will this addition meet food safety requirements but will also add more storage. The old table is free to first person to request and Bob will deliver for free within 20 miles of the church. Bob reported that a connection on the water heater was corroding and they are receiving bids for a new water heater. They have also found someone to remove the dead tree by the parsonage for \$150. Paulette Booker asked about lighting the driveway entrance and Bob said that it was cost prohibitive to add lights but perhaps reflectors would work.

Finance Report: Kerry Rausch reported that December expenses were \$58,641.48 and income was \$84,590.04 with an ending checking balance of \$79,253.81. Less \$58,998.23 in designated funds, we have a working general fund balance of \$20255.58. Approximately \$26,000 of the designated funds set aside for the increase fund was moved to the general fund for 2017 staffing expenses. Giving to the general fund has been at a consistent level in the last three years. Kerry reported that she had met with Kelly and Jeanette Phillips recently to discuss ways to increase general giving. Don Putzier made a motion to approve the finance report with a second by Ginny Norton. The motion carried.

Technology: Don Putzier reported that the sound in the sanctuary was much improved. There will be a training

session for the tech team with Michael Olson to learn how to use the mixer. Bonnie asked about the speaker in the nursery, wondering how to make adjustments so that nursery workers and parents can hear the service.

New Business: A number of building issues were brought up as needing attention. The family bathroom floor needs deep cleaning and could use a shelf for cleaning cloths and diaper supplies. It was also asked if a handrail could be installed in one of the women's stalls. Paulette B. asked if Blinds and More had stopped by to fix the roller shade. Don Putzier reminded the council of the Conversation on a Way Forward meeting on Tuesday evening.

Adjournment/Next Meeting: Stacy closed the meeting in prayer. Administrative Council will meet next on Thursday, February 15, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Behsman